



THE BIG CHILL. ©

Kimberly A. Crafton, M.Ed.

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Time to Reflect

Learning environments must be safe and brave spaces!



What emotions did you notice when you read the “memo”? How would you respond?

Sometimes we have big emotions. Noticing and naming those feelings can help us take action to feel empowered.

Objectives

1. Discuss how an anti-bias approach can enrich active learning.
2. Discuss the skills to achieve anti-bias goals for educators.
3. Identify strategies to reinforce ABE goals with families.
4. Identify strategies to engage with allies.



HighScope Recognizes the Value of Anti-Bias Education


“All children deserve a high-quality, research-based early education that tackles problems of racial and cultural inequity, so that they can grow into successful, confident and well-rounded adults.”

HighScope Statement on Developmentally Appropriate Practice, 2023

Anti-Bias Education for Young Children and Ourselves,
2010 by L. Derman-Sparks & J. Olsen Edwards

Anti-Bias Education (ABE) Goals for Each Child/Active Learner Who Will...

1. **Demonstrate self-awareness, confidence, family pride, and positive social identities.**
2. **Express comfort and joy with human diversity; accurate language for human differences; and deep, caring human connections.**
3. **Increasingly recognize unfairness, have language to describe unfairness, and understand that unfairness hurts.**
4. **Demonstrate empowerment and the skills to act, with others or alone, against prejudice and/or discriminatory actions.**



Let's explore how daily pursuit of ABE goals enrich the active learning experience for children.

1. Child Language & Thought
2. Child Choice
3. Materials
4. Manipulation of Materials
5. Adult Scaffolding/Verbal Interactions

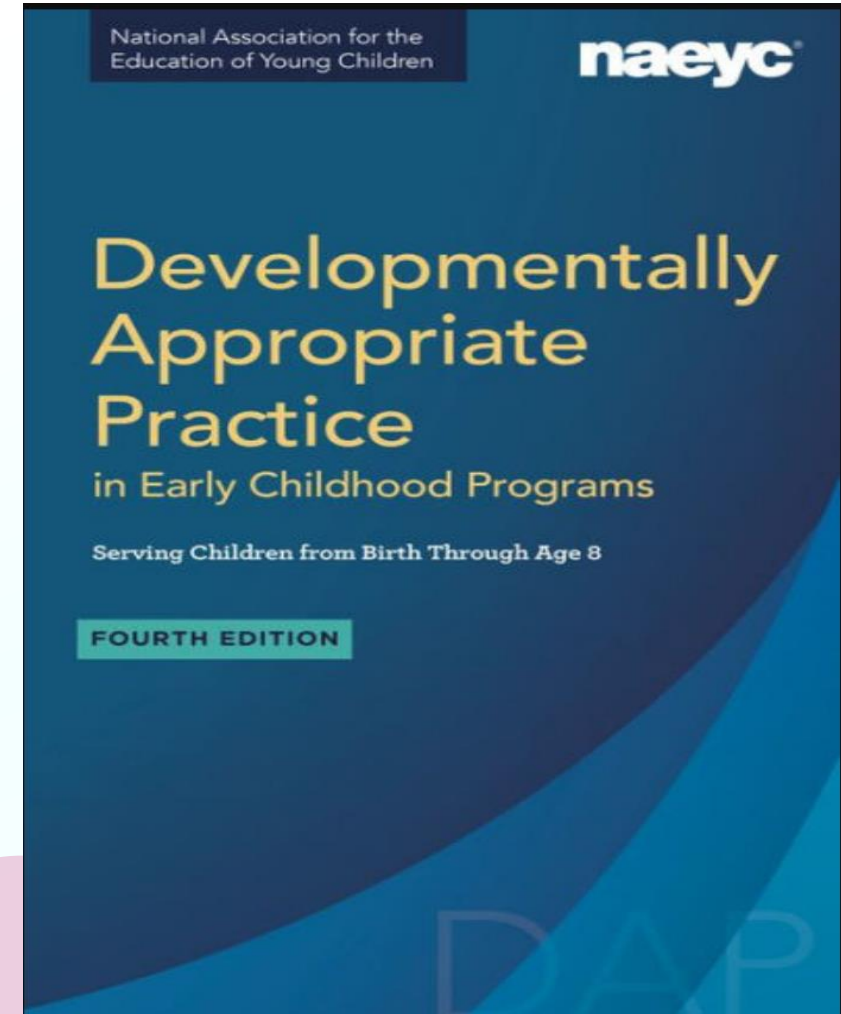
Engage Families in Anti-Bias Education

How are families engaged in understanding and valuing Anti-Bias Education within the context of HighScope's active learning approach?



HighScope Statement on Developmentally Appropriate Practices, 2023

“All children deserve a high-quality, research-based early education that tackles problems of racial and cultural inequity so that they can grow into successful, confident, and well-rounded adults.”



What prompted HighScope's response to research-based early education and DAP?

KAY IVEY PUSHES ALABAMA EARLY CHILDHOOD SECRETARY OUT



Barbara Cooper was appointed by Gov. Kay Ivey in 2020. (Photo courtesy of Gov. Kay Ivey's office)

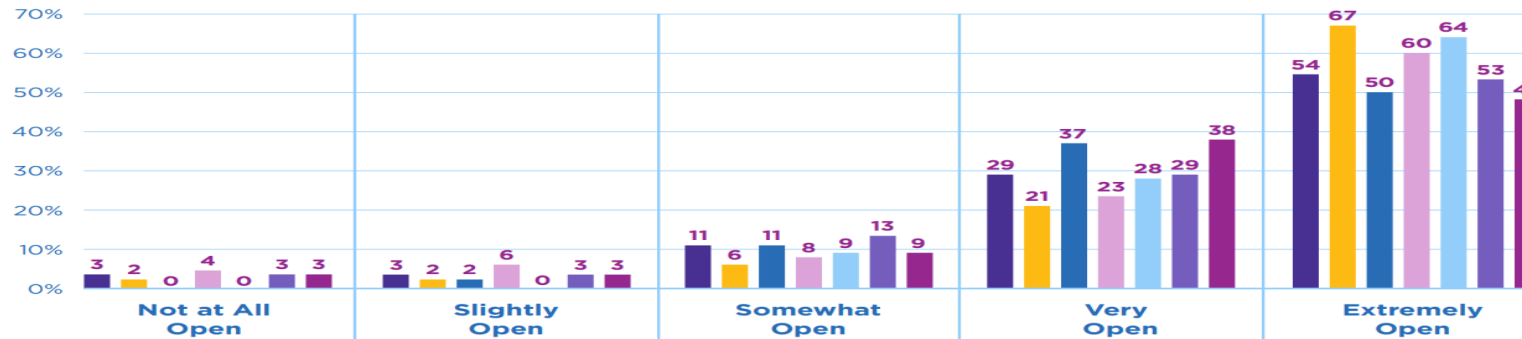
Ivey said Barbara Cooper's office should not have used a preschool training curriculum from NAEYC because it promotes “woke concepts.” Cooper resigned April 21.

Parent Survey – Helping Children Learn About Racism

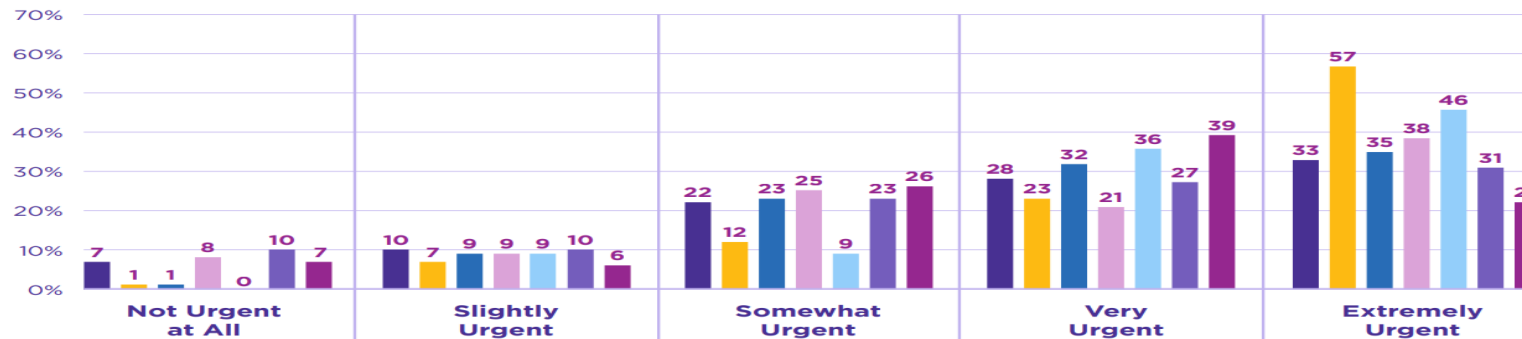
■ Total (n=1000)
 ■ Latine (n= 126)
 ■ Native (n= 11)
 ■ Asian American Pacific Islander (n= 69)

■ Black (n= 89)
 ■ Multiracial (n= 53)
 ■ White (n=649)

How open are you to helping your child(ren) ages 0-13 learn about race and racism? (Page 11)



How urgent is it to teach children about race in light of what's happening in the U.S. today? (Page 14)



Self-reflection is a necessary skill for implementation of anti-bias education.



Self Reflection: ABE Goals for Educators

1. You will increase your awareness and understanding of your own social identity in its many facets (gender, racial, ethnic, class, family structure, abilities/disabilities, sexual orientation) and your own cultural contexts, both childhood and current.

2. You will examine what you have learned about differences, connection, and what you enjoy or fear across lines of human diversity.

3. You will identify how you have been advantaged or disadvantaged by the “isms” and the stereotypes or prejudices you have absorbed about yourself and others.

4. You will explore your ideas, feelings and experiences of social justice activism.

5. You will open up dialogue with colleagues and families about all these goals.

Self Reflection: Nadia Jaboneta, Educator



"I am still on my journey. I use the goals for my lens in everyday teaching."

"The children will bring it to you. They will share their ideas about fairness and unfairness...use these opportunities to listen to them and think with them to make unfairness fair."

Luis A. Hernandez, M.A.



“Current political and cultural clashes inevitably filter into our programs – whether we like it or not. As citizens, as neighbors, and as families in our communities, we are impacted by the larger dynamics happening in our nation and world.”

“Up Front and Center: Reflecting on Leadership Approaches to Current Issues and Topics”, McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership (2024)



Educators Know and Value Books to Serve Children as...

Mirrors



Windows



Sliding doors



Magnifying lens



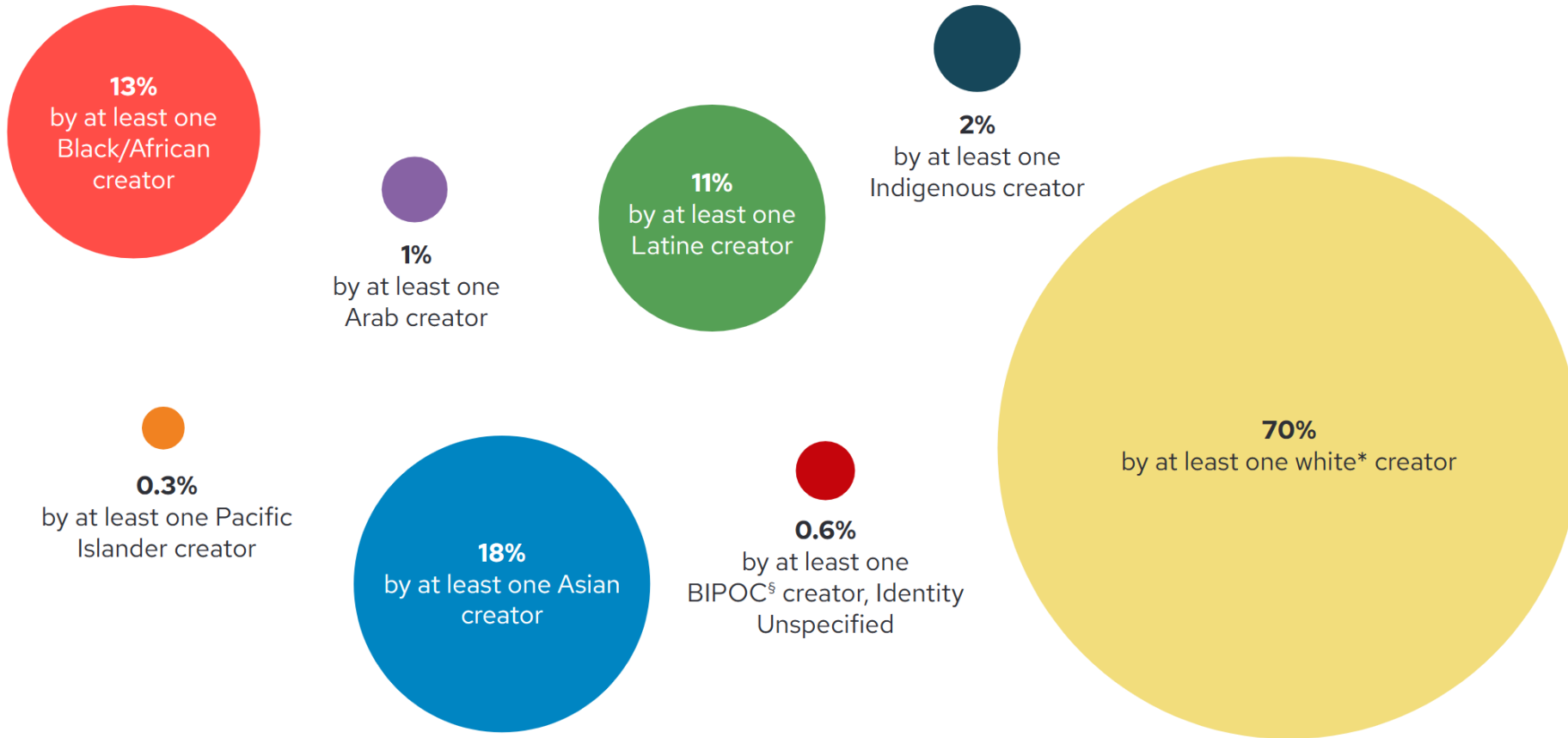
Educators Know the Value of Books for Critical Literacy

Critical literacy encourages children to engage with text and illustrations, make meaning and connections, share perspectives, question assumptions, make predictions, think critically about the world, and foster empathy.



2023 CCBC Diversity Statistics: BY (Author/Illustrator/Compiler) Race/Ethnicity

40% of 3,491 total books received have at least one creator who is BIPOC[§].



Multiracial individuals are counted in each applicable race/ethnicity category with the exception of white* (e.g., Afro-Latine). Percentages cannot be combined to calculate the total of the whole.

Last updated: 04/02/2024

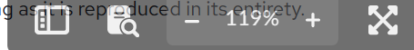


©2024 Cooperative Children's Book Center

Please see our media kit to access the most recent version of this image, and for additional information about our work documenting diversity. The most recent version of this image available can be used without permission as long as it is reproduced in its entirety.

* "White" is not counted for multiracial creators so as not to misrepresent a BIPOC[§] individual as white.

§Black, Indigenous, and People of Color



Support Diverse Books

37%

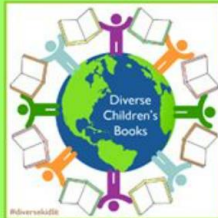
of the US population are people of color

11%

of children's books in the past decade contain multicultural content

52%

of books challenged or banned in the past decade contain multicultural and/or diverse content

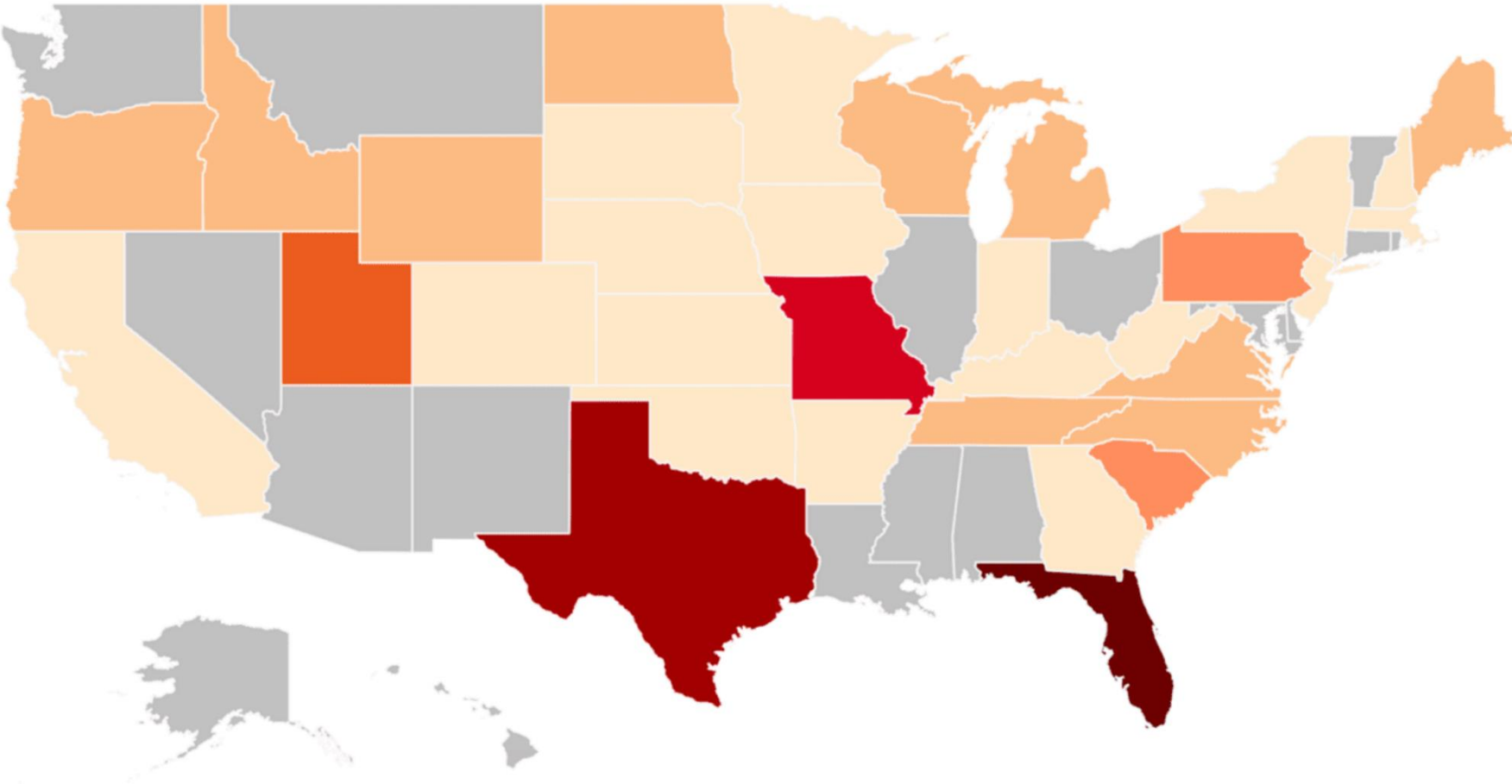


Statistics from CCBC and Lee & Low



School book bans by state

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023



- 1401-1500 bans
- 701-1400 bans
- 601-700 bans
- 401-600 bans
- 301-400 bans
- 201-300 bans
- 101-200 bans
- 11-100 bans
- 1-10 bans
- 0 bans

**There are no states with 401-600 bans and 701-1400 bans*

Data from PEN America Index of School Book Bans.

Book Bans in Michigan School Districts, 2022

Total books banned by five Michigan school districts

16 books are on the banned list; one title is banned by three districts.

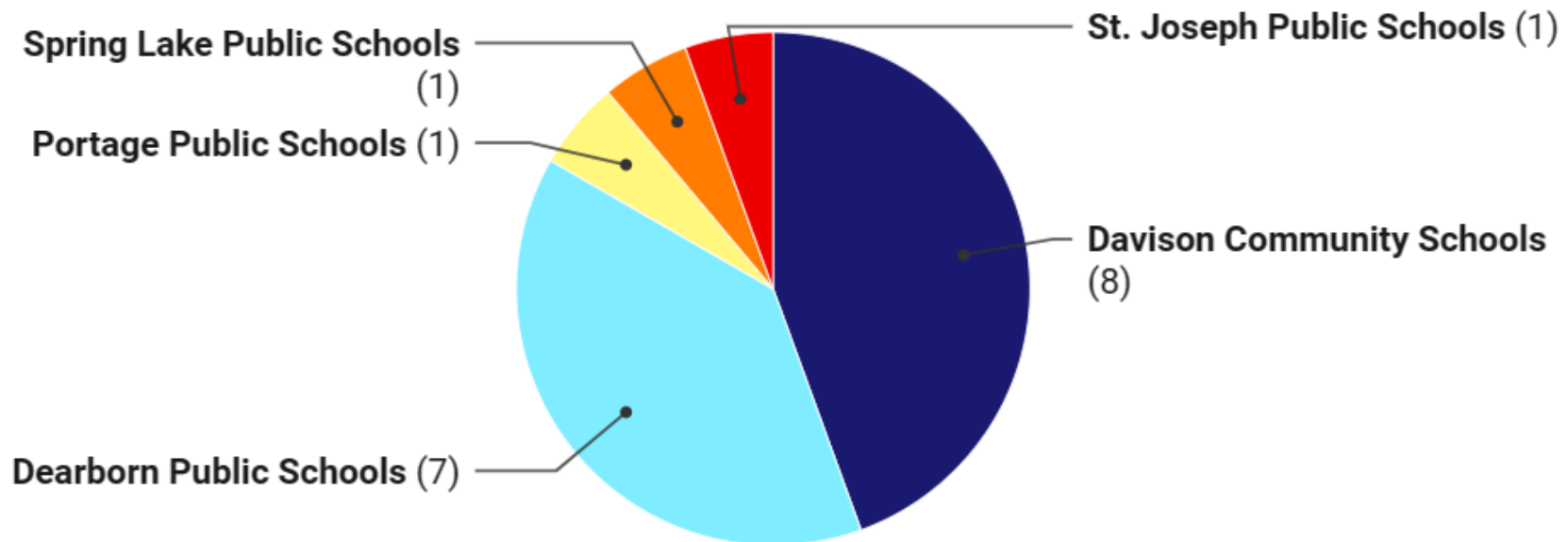


Chart: Scott Levin | slevin@mlive.com • Source: PEN America's index of school book bans, Fall 2022 • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Kasey Meehan, Program Director at PEN America



“There’s legislation out there that could lead to felony offenses and criminalization, decertification...we see educators responding in an overly cautious approach...”

www.pen.org

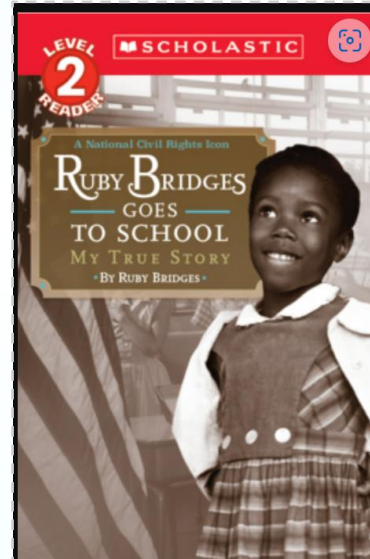
Educators are feeling the chill of a “criminalization” of diversity/ABE through book bans and stifling what educators can say.

First Book Survey Results

“Nearly two-thirds (2/3) of educators said that book banning is having a negative impact on their ability to teach.”

71% of 1500 surveyed educators, regardless of whether their district has faced book bans, believe book banning undermines their expertise, makes them feel distrusted, and increases their stress.

Ruby Bridges, Activist and Author

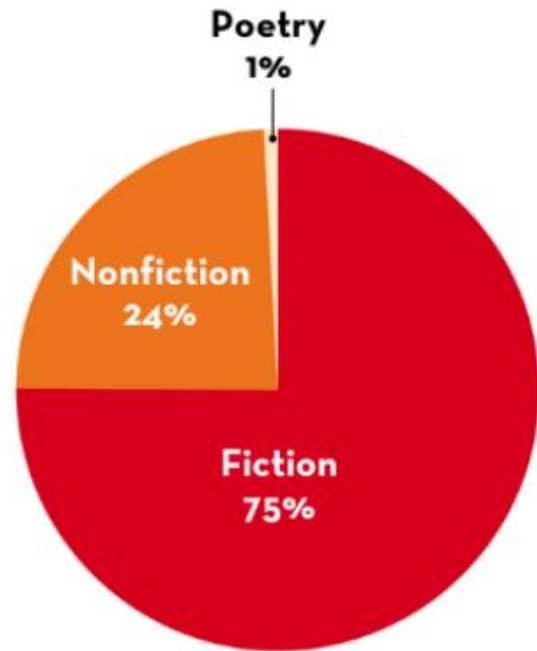


“Perfect level for my 4-year-old and I think a good introduction for kids her age because it’s about something she understands – school.”

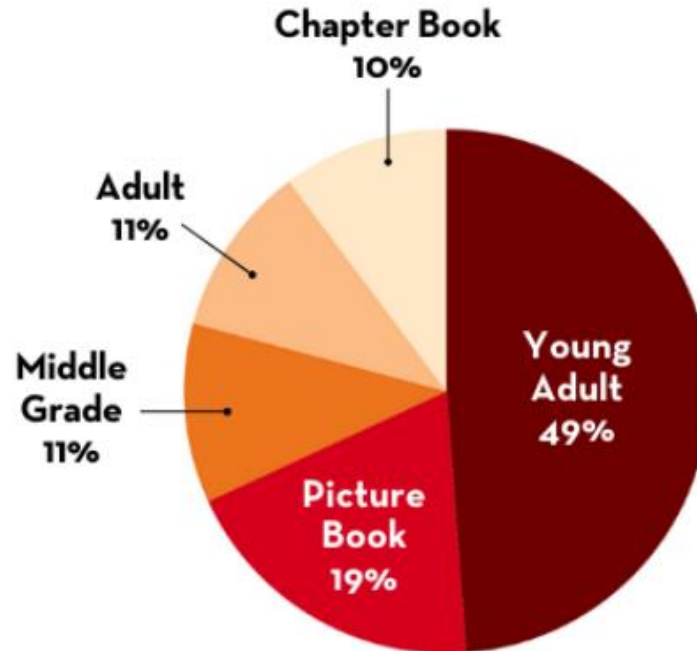
Parent Review of *Ruby Bridges Goes to School*

Types of Books Banned

By Percentage of Unique Banned Titles, July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022



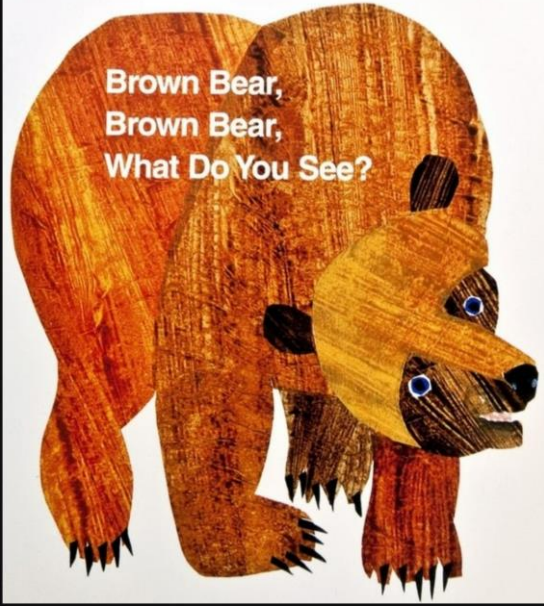
Type of Material



Intended Readers

Data from PEN America Index of School Book Bans, July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.

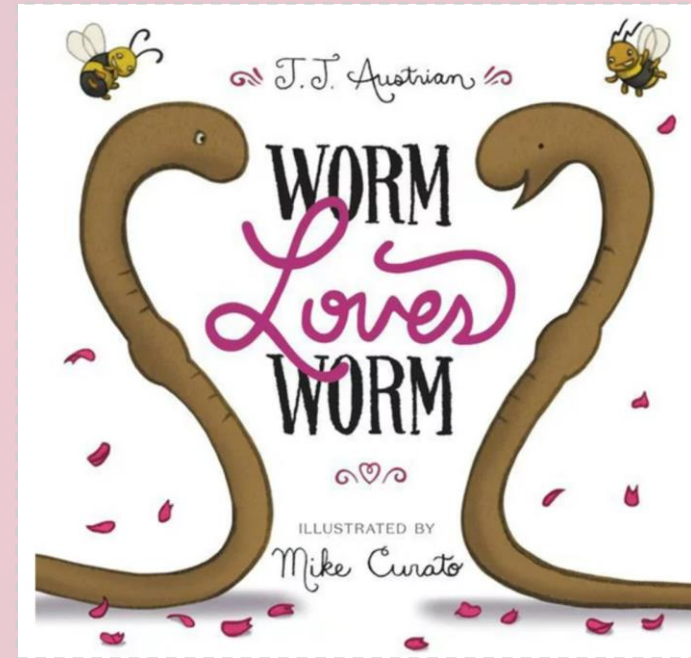
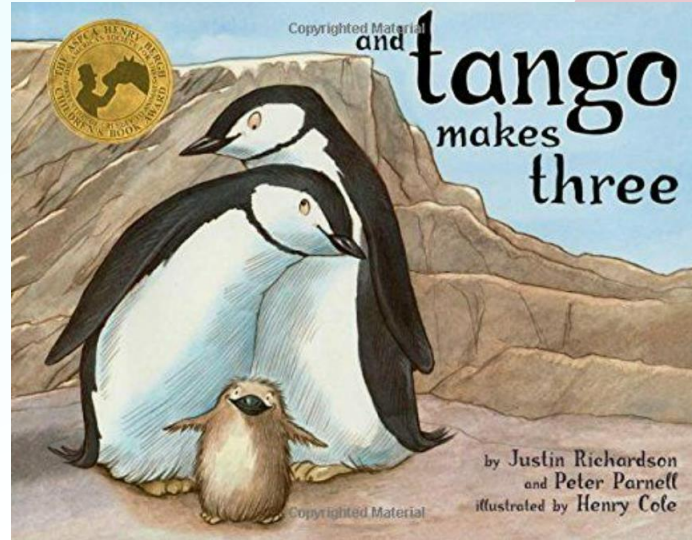
Bill Martin Jr / Eric Carle



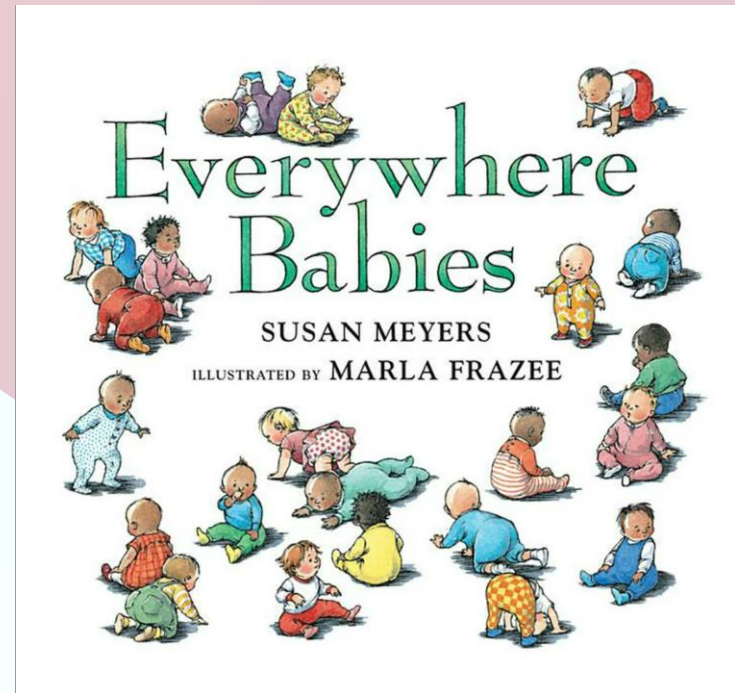
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE



STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK



Alexandra Penfold * Suzanne Kaufman



NUMBER OF UNIQUE TITLES CHALLENGED 2021-2023

1,651 —2021

2,571 —2022

4,240 —2023

First Book Research and Insights

Over 1500 educators were surveyed and results cited...

“...book bans have a chilling effect whether or not teachers are facing book bans in their districts. The survey found that 71% of educators, regardless of whether their districts has faced bans, believe book banning undermines their expertise, makes them feel distrusted, and increases their stress...nearly 2/3 of educators said that book banning is having a negative impact on their ability to teach.”





How can Early Childhood professionals *“shake off the chill”*?

“..gather a baseline of understanding and knowledge about issues and topics. Dust up a sense of curiosity and inquiry by reading, asking others, listening to a podcast, or speaking with a trusted source. In other words, as you face a difficult conversation – **know your stuff!**”

Luis A. Hernandez



Examples of Developmentally Appropriate Practices

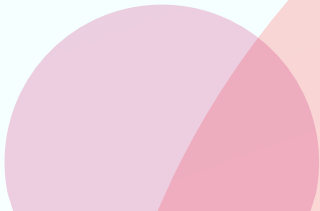
“Educators actively incorporate principles of anti-bias education, which include listening to the ideas and perspectives of others and collaborating with others to make a positive difference.”



Examples of Practices to Avoid

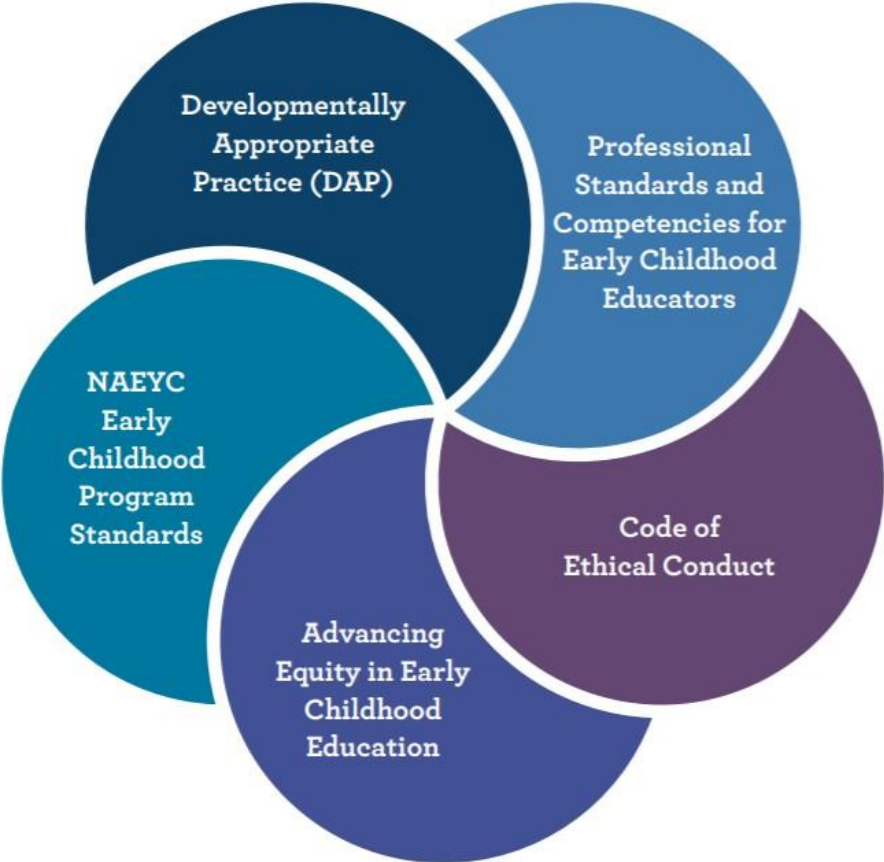
“Avoiding conversations about cultural differences and questions about diversity that could be used to strengthen empathy, understanding, and inclusive practices.”

Seek Out Your Allies!



Seek Out Your Allies!

NAEYC's Foundational Documents



Seek Out Your Allies!



EMBRACE RACE ACTION GUIDE

“We have studied how White parents approach anti-racism and color-brave caregiving. We have seen where they get stuck and what helps them feel more confident and effective. Here are our suggestions for White parents of White children.”



Seek Out Your Allies!

Anti-Bias Leaders ECE

A GUIDE TO CHANGE. FOR CHANGE.

With Louise Derman-Sparks, Debbie LeeKeenan, John Nimmo



Barefoot Books

TEACHING FOR CHANGE

Building Social Justice Starting in the Classroom



ABOUT EVERYONE • FOR EVERYONE

LEE & LOW BOOKS



amazeworks

— EDUCATION —



PERSONA DOLLS

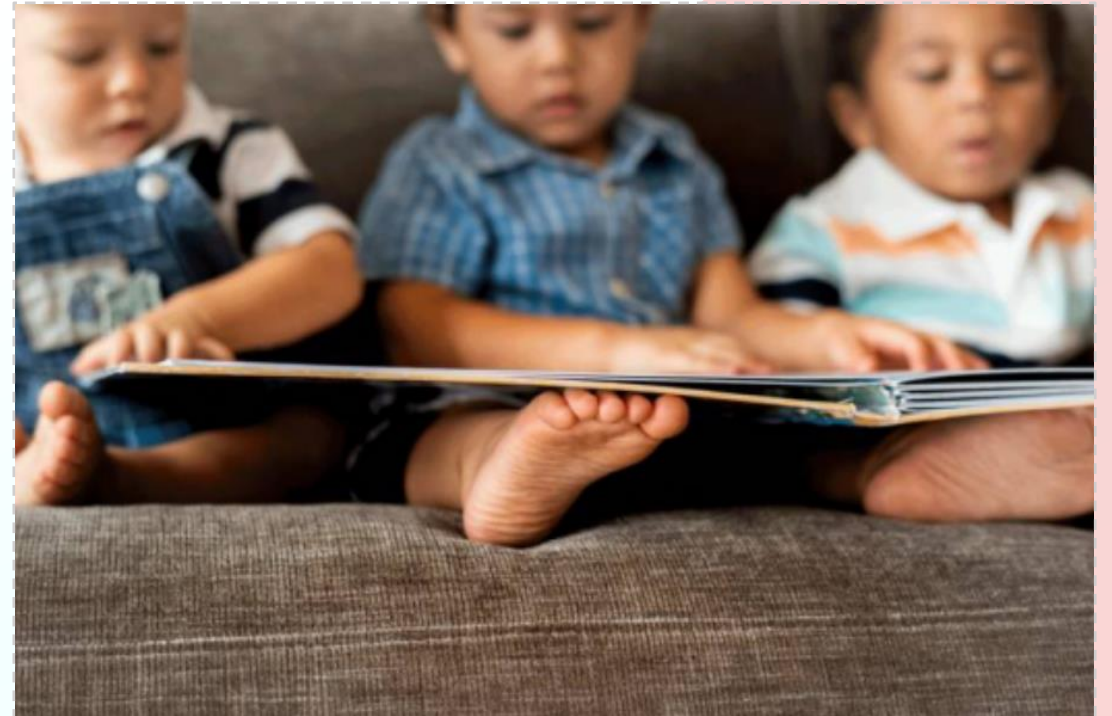
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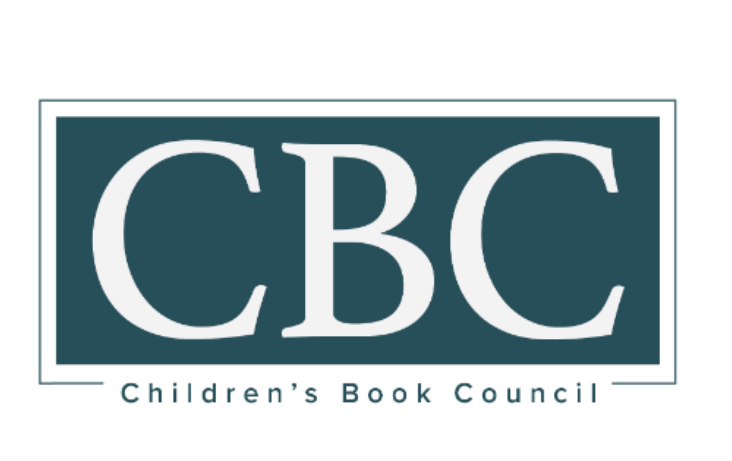
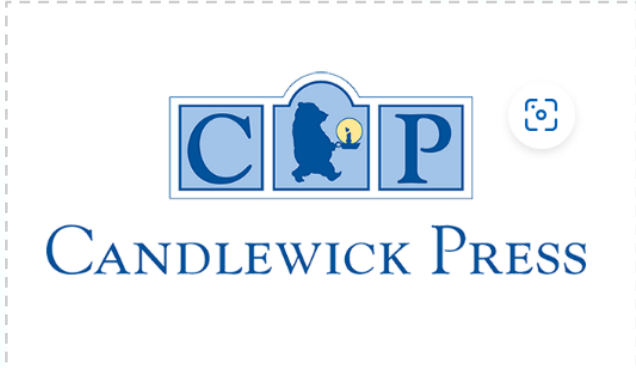
ZERO TO THREE
Early connections last a lifetime



CONVERSATIONS™



Seek Out Your Allies!



***“We are the
leaders we’ve
been looking for.”***

***Grace Lee Boggs
(1915 – 2015)***

