



Today we begin our summer children's Christian Education program, Lessons in Love. Each week you will receive a constant contact email that will contain a video with music and a story, talking points for a discussion between you and your children, a craft and a snack. The lessons will be released weekly on Wednesday morning.

In this email:

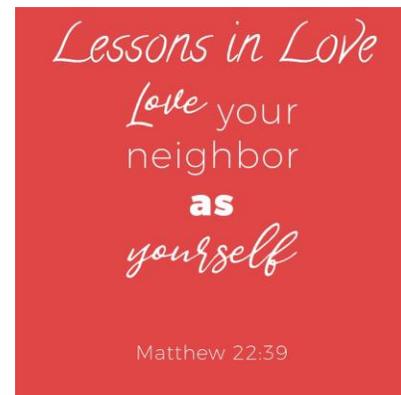
- Why Lessons in Love? What is Lessons in Love?
- 8 minute video with Amy Clark singing and Jennifer Taylor reading [Brian the Brave](#)
- Playdough People
- M&M sorting and tasting
- Egg experiment
- Camp in a box
- Two resources for discussing race with your children
- Free music and art camp offered by Christ Cathedral

Power Pack and Our Daily Bread Mission Projects extended through June 24!

Lessons in Love

Lessons in Love will be focused on social justice issues that will be taught through picture books and Bible based stories. I simply read the story and leave the conversation up to each family. This week the book is [Brian the Brave](#). Your child may enjoy the book because it is about sheep that become friends or you may choose to discuss issues of race with your child. This is entirely your choice. As always, your child's questions should guide your conversation.

Over the last two years, I have felt called to address social justice and inclusion with the children, but I didn't know exactly how to start. In January, I attended the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators conference where the focus of the meeting was social justice. We heard from one of the Little Rock Nine, Elizabeth Ann Eckford, toured Central High School, enjoyed listening to Theresa Cho share her experience as Korean Pastor at a white church and we learned about racism in America from Lisa Sharon Harper. I selected workshops that taught me to how to teach about social justice through children's literature. After returning home from the conference and discussing what I had learned with the Christian Education committee, we decided that we would use children's literature as the base for



the summer curriculum. Little did we know how much we would need a way to explain current events to our children this summer.

Lessons in Love Home Video

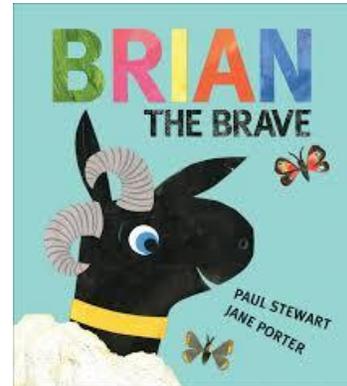
Music with Amy Clark

Storytelling with Jennifer Taylor

[Click here for Story and music](#)

Author Paul Stewart uses a group of sheep friends to relay messages of tolerance, acceptance, and non-judgment. . . . The illustrations are distinctive and vivid; fans of Eric Carle will find the textured, collage like pictures reminiscent of his classic work.

[Click here to make your own Brian the Brave Puppets](#)



Skin Tone Playdough People

Make your own play dough (it is super easy and the recipe is below) or order skin tone play dough from Amazon.

Supplies:

flour

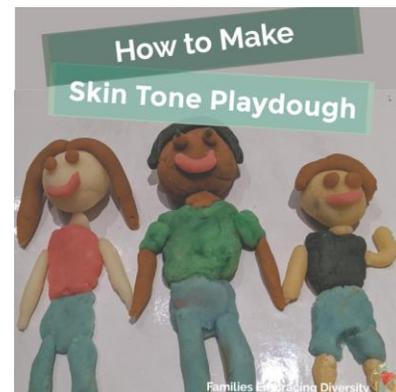
salt

Cream of Tartar

water

vegetable oil

Food coloring (can mix your own colors together)



How to use skin tone play dough to talk with kids about race

You could do this activity and have a great time making play dough people. OR you could also intentionally talk about the skin tones and differences of your play dough people to make the experience even more meaningful.

Here are some conversation starters:

While making the play dough ask:

Did you notice how all the different colors had the same ingredients?

The only reason that they look different now is because of the color we added at the end. People are kind of like that too, we all have the same ingredients inside but the colors we show on the outside determine how we look and how we are perceived.

While playing with the play dough ask:

- Which color looks most like your skin?
- Did you notice how none of our people look the same? Why do you think that is?

- Do you know anyone who has this color of skin (choose a color that doesn't look like yours)? Have you ever wondered why they have that color of skin?

Source: Families Embracing Diversity

[Playdough People link](#)

M&M Exploration

Supplies:

M & M candies



Step 1: Open a pack of M&Ms and ask your child to explore them. How many different colors are there? How many total M&Ms are there?

Step 2: Have your child separate the candies by color.

Step 3: Conduct a taste testing of each color.

Step 4: Ask your child, do the different colors have different tastes? Why not?

Step 5: Explain that people are similar. Although we all look different on the outside, we are made of the same ingredients on the inside. The M&M is made of chocolate. We are made of skin, bones, blood, organs, etc. No matter what someone looks like on the outside, they have the same (biological) ingredients as you do on the inside.

Source: Multi Cultural Kids Blog

The Egg Experiment

This is a great science-related activity about racial diversity.

Step 1: Purchase white eggs and brown eggs. (Turner Farm has boxes of eggs in a variety of colors in the farm store.)



Step 2: Place one of each on the table and allow your child to explore the eggs using their five senses.

Talk about:

Why do you think one is brown and one is white?

Is there any difference in how they feel, smell, and taste?

Do you think they look different on the inside?

Step 3: Break the eggs and again use the five senses to explore.

Step 4: Cook the eggs and taste them.

Talk about:

Do you know why some eggs are brown and some are white? Eggshells get their color from the breed of chicken they come from. Breeders have found that many white-feathered chickens with white earlobes lay white eggs, and red-feathered chickens with red earlobes lay brown eggs.

People have different colors of skin, but we are all the same on the inside. The color of our skin is determined by how much melanin we have. On the inside, we all look exactly the same.

Source: Multi Cultural Kids Blog

Books & Teaching Tips On Race And Racism

The following list was created by the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary.

When using these books, it is important to remember that the books are written for children. Adults should be cautious to avoid projecting their own experiences and anxieties. Instead, allow children to respond and process freely. So often as adults, we sense the need to tell children how they are supposed to feel. These books can provide the space for children to express their feelings and their own sacred stories.



Question Prompts For Children And Tweens:

At the same time, adults can help guide children in responding and processing. To engage conversations, we recommend the following prompts and questions:

Ages 3-5: What was important in this story? What bothered you about the story? What did you like about the story?

Ages 5-8: Have you ever felt like one of the characters? Have you had an experience or seen something like this happen – how did it that make you feel?

Ages 8-12: What feelings did you have about this story? I wonder why you felt _____. I wonder what you would do in this situation. I wonder how this story could have been different. I wonder what made this happen.

Books With A Historical Context

I Have A Dream (ages 7 and up)

Martin Luther King Jr, illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Gordon Parks: How The Photographer captured Black and White America (ages 6-10)

Carole Boston Weatherford & Jamey Christoph

White Flour (ages 8-12)

David LaMotte

Relationship Building & Anti- Discrimination

The Judgmental Flower (ages 4-8)

By: Julia Cook

Using flowers, this book discusses differences and helps us to learn how to value differences by exploring how we might feel when excluded and how we should treat one another.

[Giraffes Can't Dance](#) (ages 3-7)

By: Giles Andreae

[The Crayon Box that Talked](#) (ages 3-7)

By: Shane DeRolf (Anti-Discrimination)

[Strictly No Elephants](#) (ages 6-8)

By: Lisa Mantchev

[Chinese Eyes](#) (ages 6-9)

Marjorie Ann Waybill and Pauline Cutrell *Out of print but widely available used

Faith Based Books

[God's Dream](#) (ages 3-7)

By Archbishop Desmond Tutu

[The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights](#) (ages 8-12)

Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Tim Ladwig

Online Resources

[Click here for Almighty Girl link](#)

The website will refer you to various books that address discrimination, race, and racism.

[Click here for Story Path Link](#)

A Bibliography from Union Presbyterian Seminary that encompasses resources on prejudice, tolerance and diversity.

31 Children's books to support conversations on race, racism, and resistance.

Research from Harvard University suggests that children as young as three years old, when exposed to racism and prejudice, tend to embrace and accept it, even though they might not understand the feelings. By age 5, white children are strongly biased towards whiteness. To counter this bias, experts recommend acknowledging and naming race and racism with children as early and as often as possible. Children's books are one of the most effective and practical tools for initiating these critical conversations; and they can also be used to model what it means to resist and dismantle oppression.

Beyond addressing issues of race and racism, this children's reading list focuses on taking action. It highlights resistance, resilience and activism; and seeks to empower youth to participate in the ongoing movement for racial justice. These books showcase the diverse ways people of all ages and



races have engaged in anti-racist activism, and highlight how race intersects with other issues, such as capitalism, class and colonization. The majority of books center activists of color, whose lives and bodies have been on the front lines of racial justice work, yet whose stories often go untold. The essential work of white activists is also included — to underscore that anti-racist work is not the responsibility of people of color; and exemplify the ways white allies have stood up against racial injustice.

[Click here for list of books](#)

Christ Church Cathedral Free Virtual Music and Art Camp

Art Camp
Ages 7-12
Mondays & Fridays JUNE 15 – JULY 3

Campers will be introduced to a new art project via Zoom every Monday and Friday from noon to 1:00 PM. They will be able to work on their project over the course of the program, using materials from a box of supplies delivered to their home. Campers will be divided by age for appropriate instruction. The process will be explained in full during an orientation for campers and parents on Friday, June 12, 12:00 PM.

Music Camp
Ages 8-12
Mondays, Wednesday, & Fridays JUNE 22 – JULY 1

This year's music camp will be held online. Campers will meet via Zoom for check in and sharing on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, June 22 through July 1, from noon to 1:00 PM. Camp activities will be sent electronically and will include recording instructions. Campers will also have an opportunity to meet individually with the camp leader via Zoom. The bulk of the instruction will be preparing music for a 10:00 AM service.

[Cathedral Art and Music Camp registration](#)



The graphic features a colorful, abstract background with brushstrokes in shades of purple, pink, yellow, and blue. At the top, it lists activities: "Interactive Games", "Engaging Conversation", and "Rich Experience". The main title is "Virtual Summer Art Camp 2020" with "CAMP CREATE" written vertically. Below the title is a small photo of children painting. The dates "Mondays & Fridays JUNE 15 JULY 3" are prominently displayed. Registration information includes: "Ages 7-12", "Register: cincinnaticathedral.com/2020-camp-registration", "Deadline: June 11", and "This is a FREE offering. Enrollment is limited to 20 children." A paragraph describes the program: "Campers will be introduced to a new art project via Zoom every Monday and Friday from noon to 1:00 PM. They will be able to work on their project over the course of the program, using materials from a box of supplies delivered to their home. Campers will be divided by age for appropriate instruction. The process will be explained in full during an orientation for campers and parents on Friday, June 12, 12:00 PM. For more information, contact Hannah Teetor at hteetor@cccath.org." At the bottom, there are two photos of children working on art projects, labeled "Discovery" and "Contemplation". The footer includes the Christ Church Cathedral logo and address: "Christ Church Cathedral 318 East Fourth Street • Cincinnati, OH 45202-4299 • cincinnaticathedral.com".

Camp In A Box

Pre-order your box by Friday, June 5

Cost: \$45 per box (Scholarships available)

This summer we will be partnering with Ferncliff camp to provide 5 days of summer camp at home. Amy Clark and Jennifer Taylor will be providing a short video of camp music and the story of the day. The rest of the activities will **NOT** require a screen and will encourage your child to engage with nature outside. The boxes and videos will be ready in early July for you to view/ use as it fits your family schedule.



The Camp in a Box curriculum is Deep Roots, New Leaves. In their 5 day experience, campers will discover that God is always doing a new thing. While God offers stability and safety, like a tree's deep roots, God is also working for good in each new moment, like a tree sprouting new leaves.

Each day includes:

A daily guide with Scripture, reflection questions, a prayer, and several activities that relate to that day's theme.

- A focus object related to the day's theme.
- One Square Yard: an activity that encourages kids to get outside and observe something new every day.
- A 5 day project that kids can work on each day.
- Family Challenge: activities, table talk questions, and a mealtime prayer that kids can do with their parents and siblings.
- Instructions and supplies needed to complete every activity

To order your box, please email Jennifer Taylor (christianeducation@indianhillchurch.org).

IPM (Inter Parish Ministry) Power Packs

[Click here to watch a Power Pack Assembly Video](#)

IPM (Inter Parish Ministry) is collecting "Power Packs" in gallon-sized Ziploc bags that are distributed to school-age children. IPM distributes 200 Power Packs each week.

You can sign up to make Power Packs via sign up genius. You are also welcome to drop off completed Power Packs at anytime to volunteer houses listed below.

[Click here to sign up on Sign Up Genius](#)

What makes a good power pack?



1. Look for a **meal** for each bag (microwave mac and cheese, microwave ravioli, soups with pull tab, canned chicken/tuna lunch kits, Hormel shelf stable meals).
2. Add other items such as individual cereals, applesauce, fruit cups, shelf-stable puddings, oatmeal, peanut butter crackers, JIF peanut butter to go cups, raisins, chips, juice box, granola bar, pretzels, microwave popcorn, cheese crackers).
3. Seal items in a gallon Ziploc bag.
4. It is great when the bag is full of items.
5. Feel free to add an encouraging note to the child receiving the Power Pack.

Power Packs can be dropped off anytime at one of three church member houses. These members have volunteered to have a bin at the front porch for power packs.

Church Member Drop off locations:

Michael and Jennifer Taylor's house: 6305 Graves Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243

Walt and Holly Dewees' house: 9310 Old Indian Hill Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243

Phil and Suzanne Beck's house: 9983 Walnutridge Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45242

IPM Drop Off Locations:

Monday and Tuesday 10:00 am-12:00 pm at the Newtown Pantry 3509 Debolt St., Cincinnati, OH 45244

You may also donate items to be assembled into Power Packs by an IPM volunteer.

[Click here to donate items for Power Pack Assembly](#)

"In His name, lending a helping hand to others."

Our Daily Bread

Sandwiches

June 10, June 17 and June 24

Indian Hill Church is providing sandwiches, fruit and desserts every Wednesday in June.

Desserts can be homemade or store bought, but must be individually packaged. Sign up to help by emailing Jennifer Taylor or signing up on signup genius.

[Sign Up Genius Link](#)

"In His name, lending a helping hand to others."

