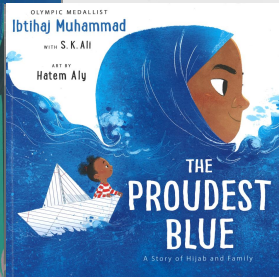
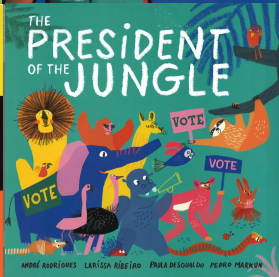
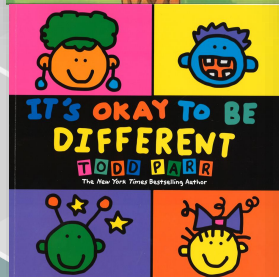
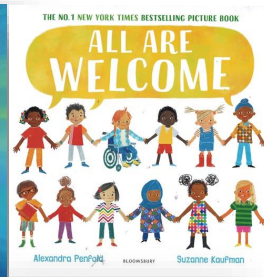
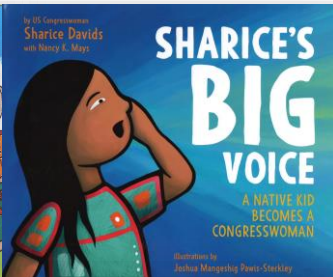
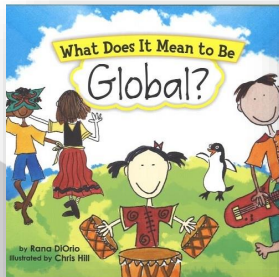
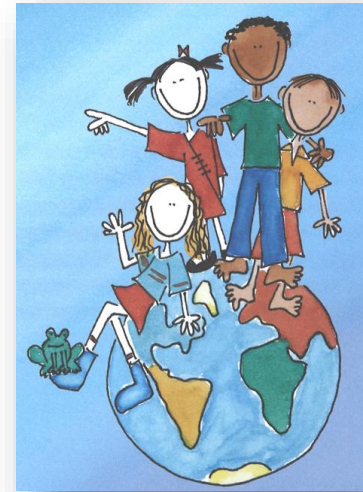


# Teaching *Democracy and citizenship* through picture books



**Språkdagkonferanse 2022**  
Fremmedspråksenteret & Høgskolen i Østfold

**Ingebjørg Mellegård**  
(Associate professor in English linguistics and didactics)  
E-mail: [ingebjorg.mellegard@hiiof.no](mailto:ingebjorg.mellegard@hiiof.no)  
Phone: 69608315 / 99749156

## Today's session:

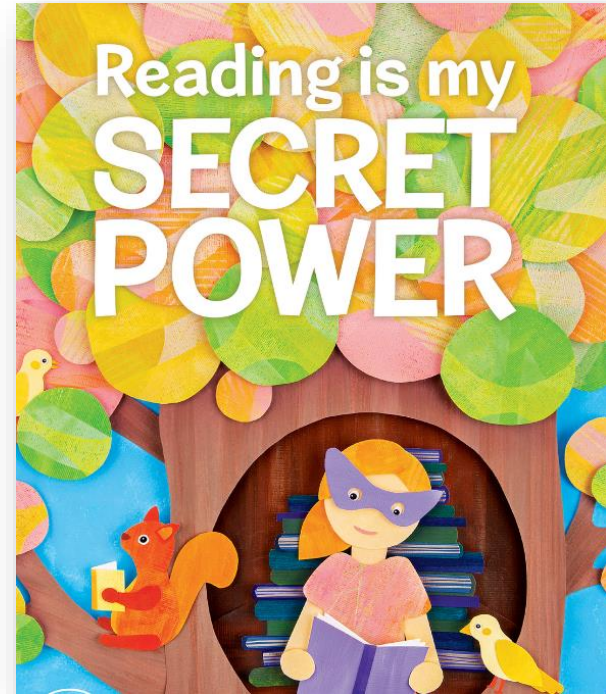
*Democracy and citizenship in the Curriculum in English*

Picture books and the *Curriculum in English*

Some typical features of picture books

Looking into picture books connected to different aspects of *Democracy and citizenship*

Teaching resource





# Who are picture books for?

John Lennon  
**IMAGINE**

An inspiring story of peace, set to the world's best-loved song



Illustrated by  
Jean Tullien

With a foreword from  
Yoko Ono Lennon

My Two Grannies



Hoffman • Karin Littlewood

The Colour  
of Home

CELEBRATING  
10  
YEARS!



THE NO.1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING PICTURE BOOK

ALL ARE  
WELCOME



Teaching All Ages With  
**PICTURE  
BOOKS**

UNDER MY HIJAB

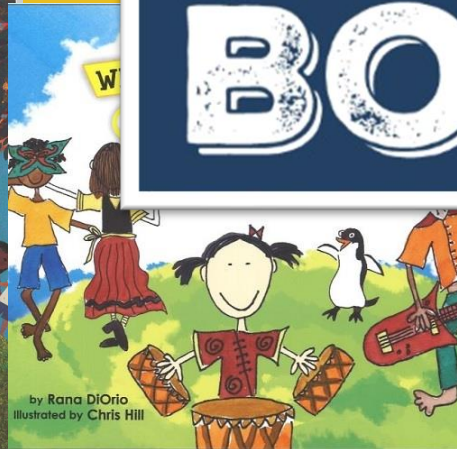
by  
HENA KHAN

illustrated by  
AALIYA JALEEL



We Are Together

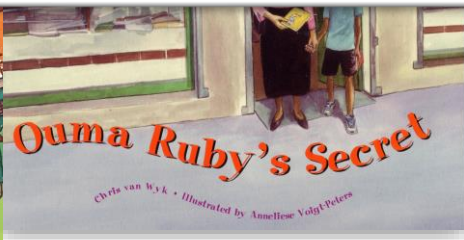
Brigitte Teckentrup



by Rana DiOrio  
Illustrated by Chris Hill

Ouma Ruby's Secret

Chris van Wyk • Illustrated by Annelise Volz-Peters



# Democracy and citizenship in LK 20

The legal right to be a citizen of a country & the obligations and responsibilities you have as a citizen

Knowledge about the basic tenets of democracy

**Democracy and citizenship**

Understanding the relationship between democracy and key human rights

Learning to deal with conflicts of opinion and respecting disagreement

Training students' ability to think critically

Becoming active citizens



# Picture books in the *Curriculum in English*

## Competence aims after Year 2:

- *listen to, read and talk about the content of simple texts, including picture books*
- *learn words and acquire cultural knowledge through English-language literature for children*

## Competence aims after Year 4:

- *read and talk about the content of various types of texts, including picture books*
- *learn words and phrases and acquire cultural knowledge through English-language literature*

## Competence aims after Years 7 and 10:

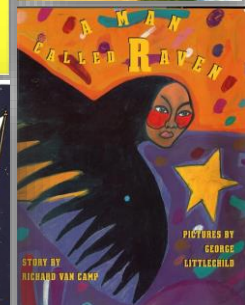
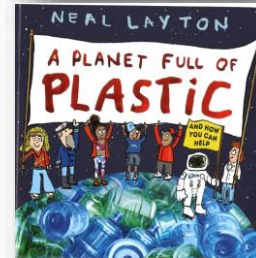
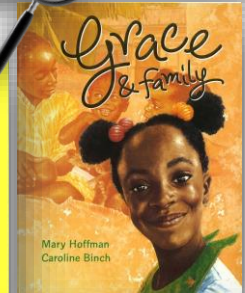
- *read and present content from various types of texts, including self-chosen texts* (Year 7)
- *read, discuss and present content from various types of texts, including self-chosen texts* (Year 10)

### Curriculum in English

This is a translation from Norwegian Bokmål of the official Norwegian subject curriculum text.

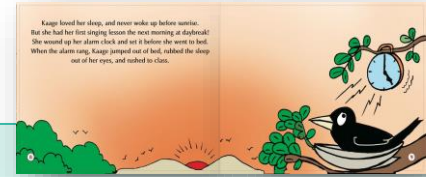
Established as a Regulation by the Ministry of Education and Research, 15 November 2019.

Valid from 01.08.2020





# Typical features of picture books



**Picture books** provide students with **multiple constructions of meaning**:

The unique character of picture books as an art form is based on the **combination of two levels of communication: the visual and the verbal.**

(Nikolajeva & Scott, 2006; Williams & Normann, 2021)

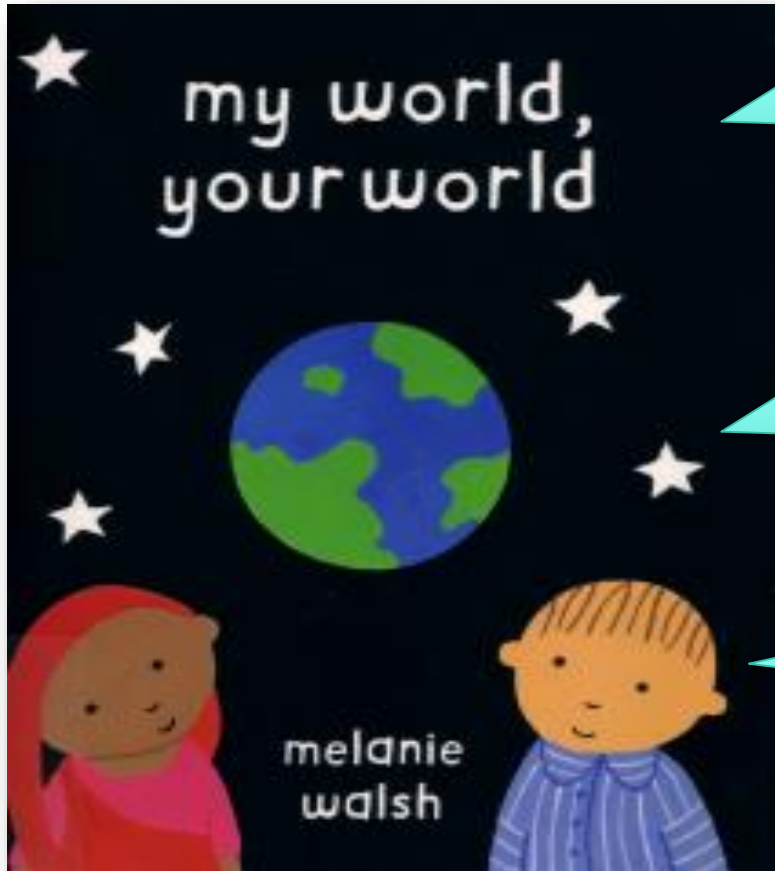
**Picture books** give students access to **stories**: The story structure helps students to **draw relationships between the world and their personal world**. Stories can help children view **issues from multiple perspectives** and, hence, be a **catalyst for critical thinking and reflection**.

(Bradbery, 2012)

**Picture books** open the door to a **dialogic way of teaching**: Pictures speak to us without words; we **respond with our thoughts and emotions**. Hence, picture books **facilitates for diverse interpretations and good talk** with students.

(Tørnby, 2020; Wolk, 2004)

## Democracy and citizenship: *Respect and tolerance*



Encourages young students to investigate differences and similarities between children around the world

Encourages talk about differences to prevent prejudices

Suitable for students in years 1-4

*My world, your world* by Melanie Walsh

# Democracy and citizenship: *Respect and tolerance*



**IT'S OKAY TO BE  
DIFFERENT**

**TODD PARR**

The New York Times Bestselling Author



*It's okay to be different*  
by Todd Parr

Suitable for students in  
years 3-4

It's okay to  
wear glasses.



It's okay to have wheels.



It's okay to be  
proud of yourself.



It's okay to have different  
moms.

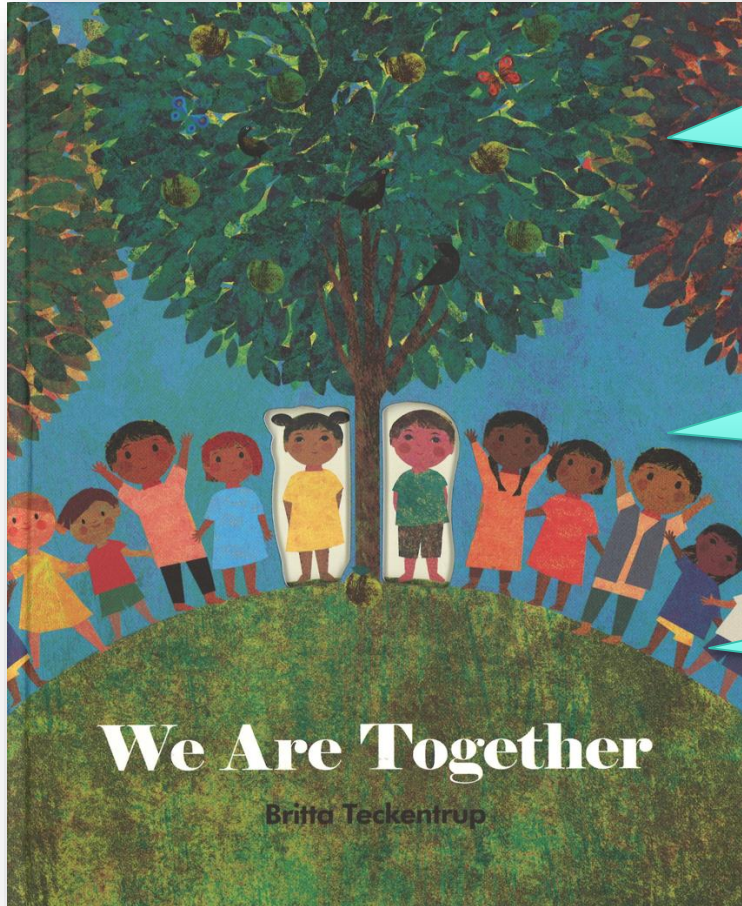


It's okay to have different  
dads.





## Democracy and citizenship: *Appreciating cultural diversity*



Helps students see themselves as human beings being bound together by ties of recognition and concern.

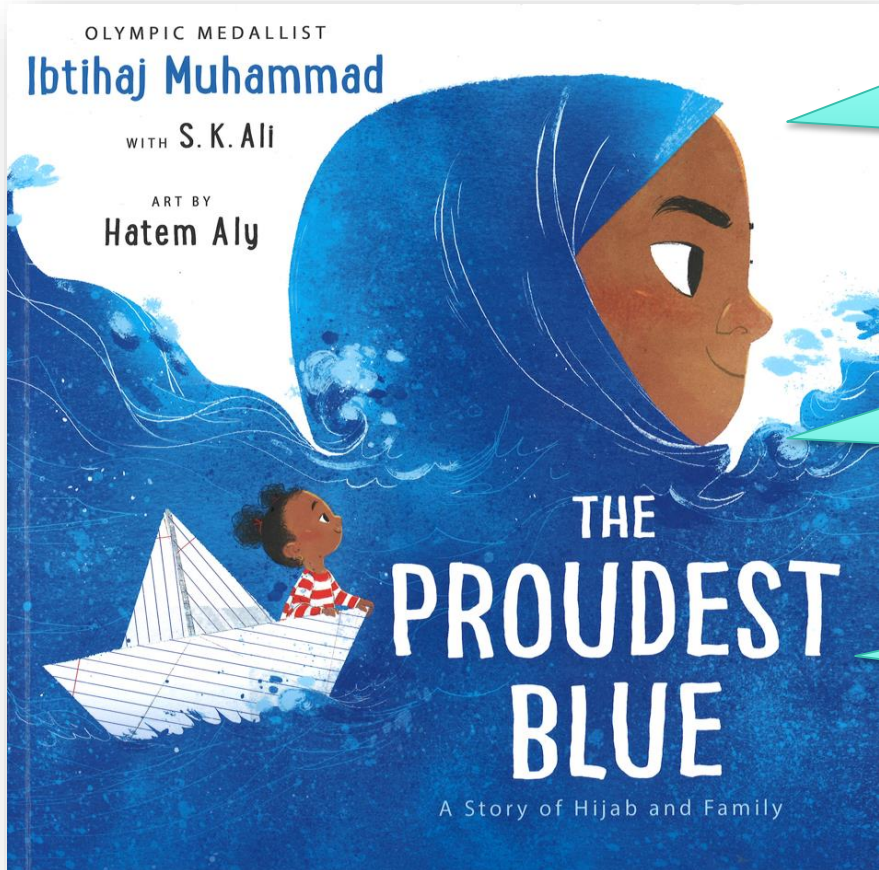
(Bradbery, 2012)

Nurtures diversity and encourages a sense of global citizenship: *human connectedness*

Suitable for students in years 6-10

*We Are Together* by Britta Teckentrup

Democracy and citizenship: *Appreciating cultural diversity*



We are rich in cultural diversity; yet we suffer from deeply rooted plight of intolerance in some areas.

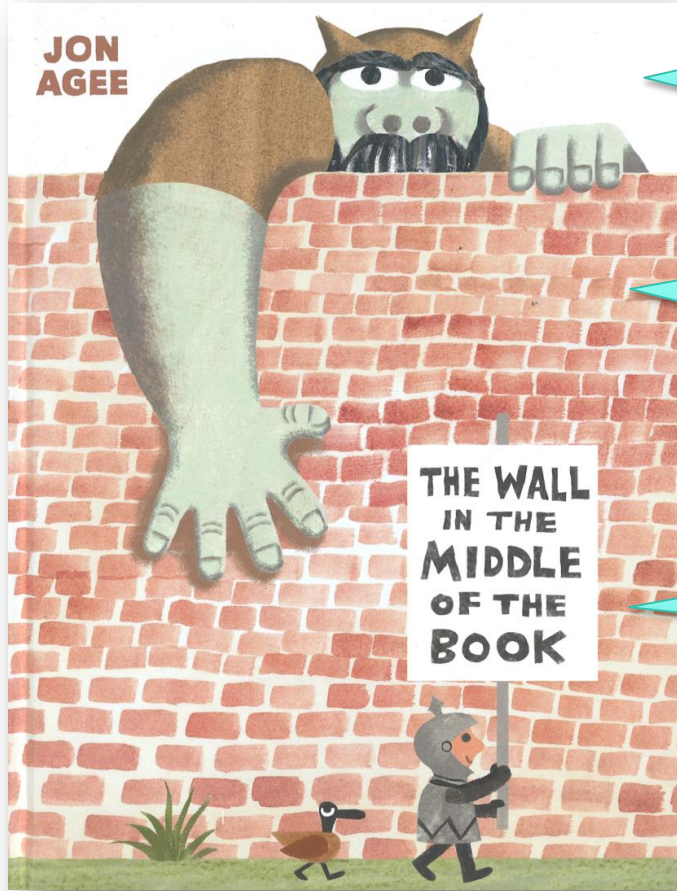
(Wolk, 2004)

Develops an understanding of the meaning behind the hijab and what it signifies for Muslim girls.

Suitable for students in years 5-7

*The Proudest Blue* by Ibtihaj Muhammad & S. K. Ali

## Democracy and citizenship: *Preventing the formation of prejudices*



Encourages talk about stereotypes and prejudices

Initiates reflection on own prejudices: what feeds them and what breaks them down?

Suitable for students in years 5-10

*The Wall in the Middle of the Book*  
by Jon Agee



## Reading picture books creates a community of readers who.....

**...share an experience**

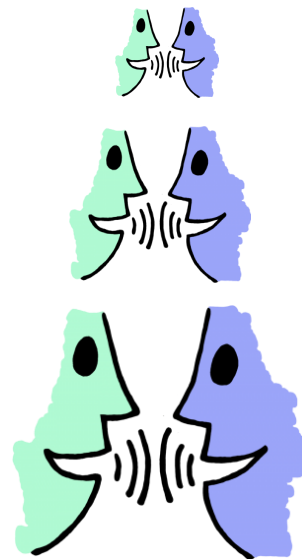
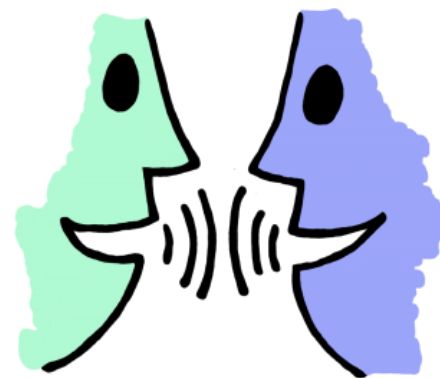
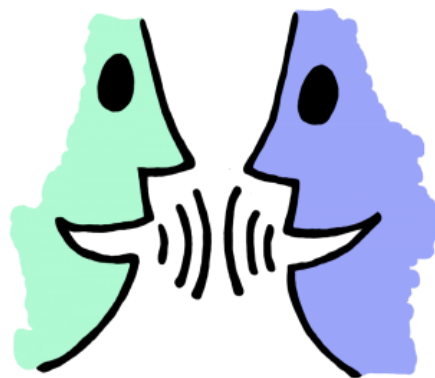
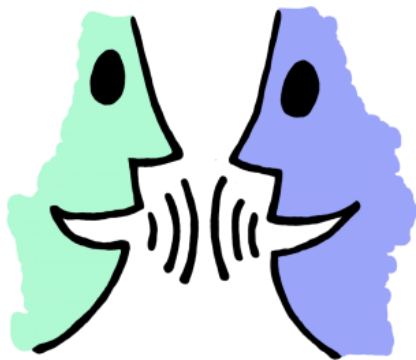
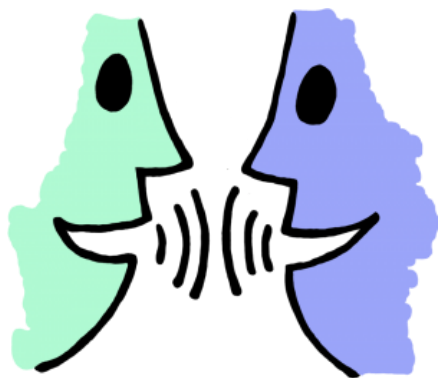
**...experience how others react to books**



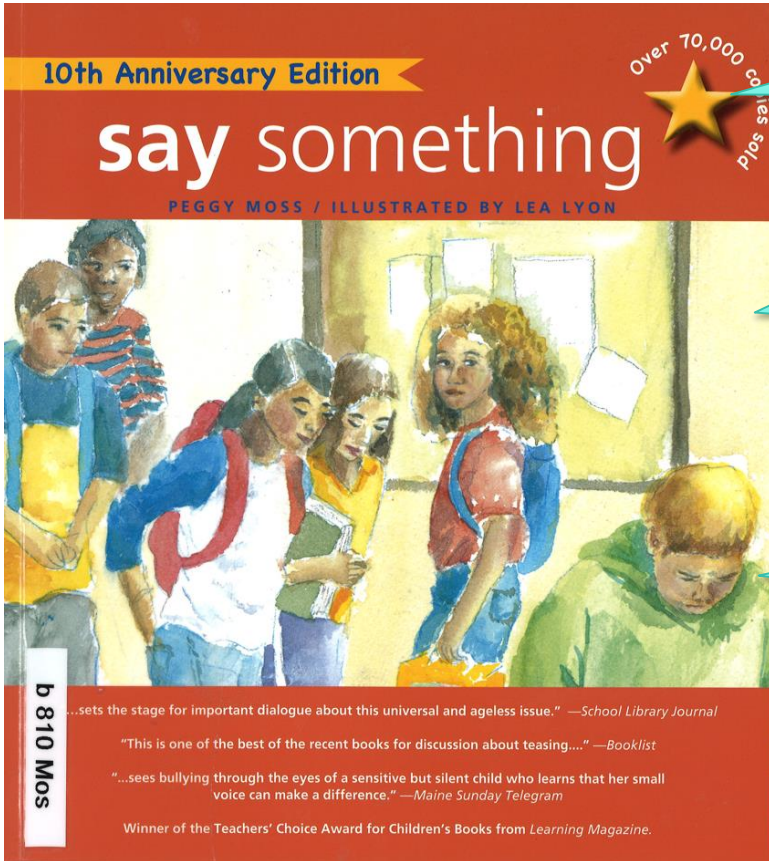
**...feel connected to others**

**...learn to value and respect other peoples' opinions**

Share **your** thoughts



## Democracy and citizenship: *Moral decision making*



From being a silent by-stander to taking action

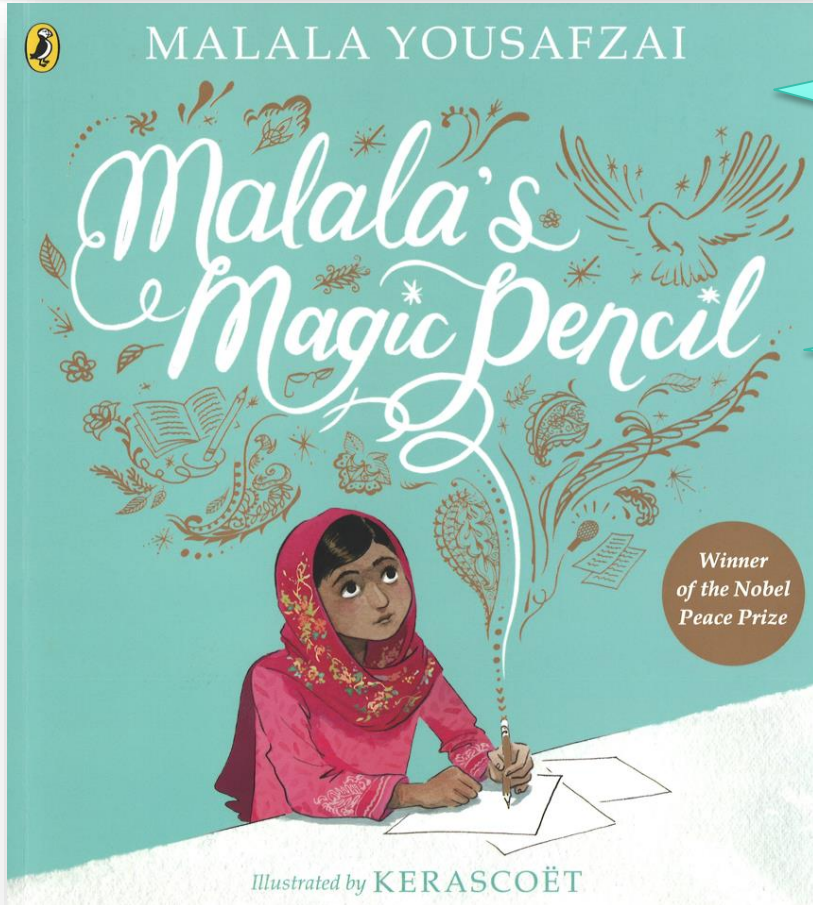
The personal investment in the well-being of others  
(Berman, 1997)

Suitable for students in years 5-10

*Say something*  
By Peggy Moss



## Democracy and citizenship: *Social responsibility and activism*



Our moral decisions shape our personal visions of what is good and bad, just and unjust.

(Wolk, 2004)

The right to utter one's voice

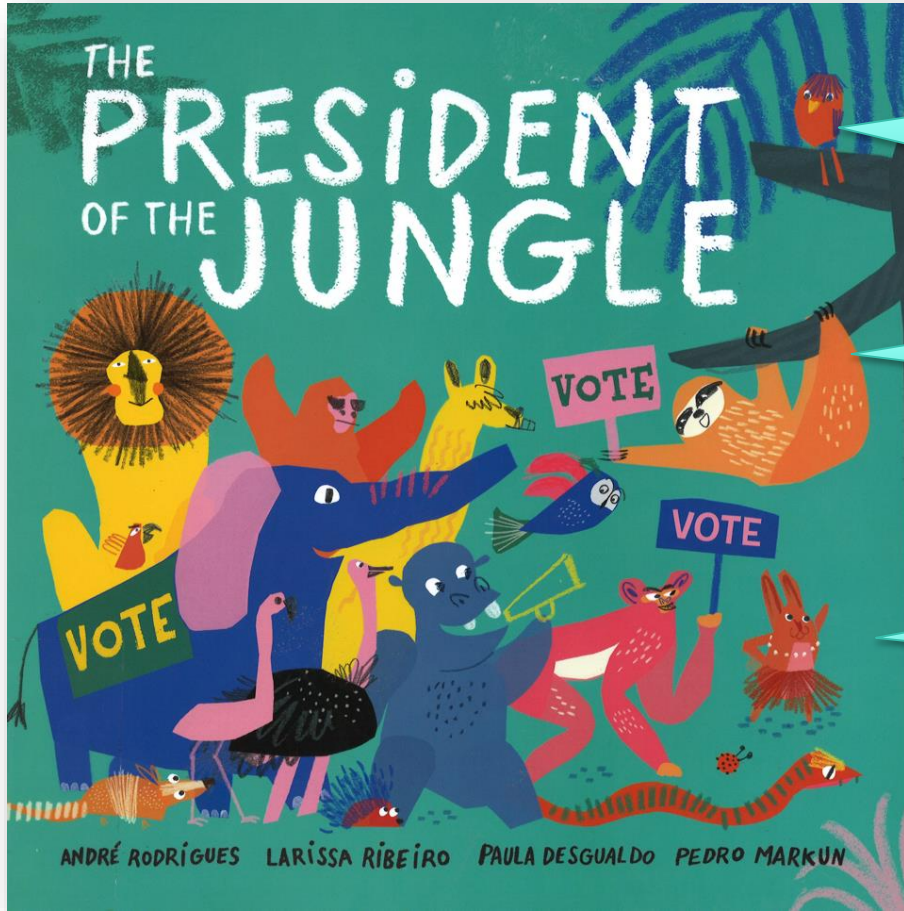
Suitable for students in years 6-10

*Malala's Magic Pencil*  
by Malala Yousafzai

«When we are young, we feel powerless. We rely on adults to do the serious work. However, when real danger threatened my right to go to school, I felt stronger than ever, and I found power in my voice. Once, I wished for Sanju's magic pencil. Now, I know that when you find your voice, every pencil can be magic.»



## Democracy and citizenship: *The right to vote*



Gives knowledge about the basic tenets of democracy  
(Core curriculum)

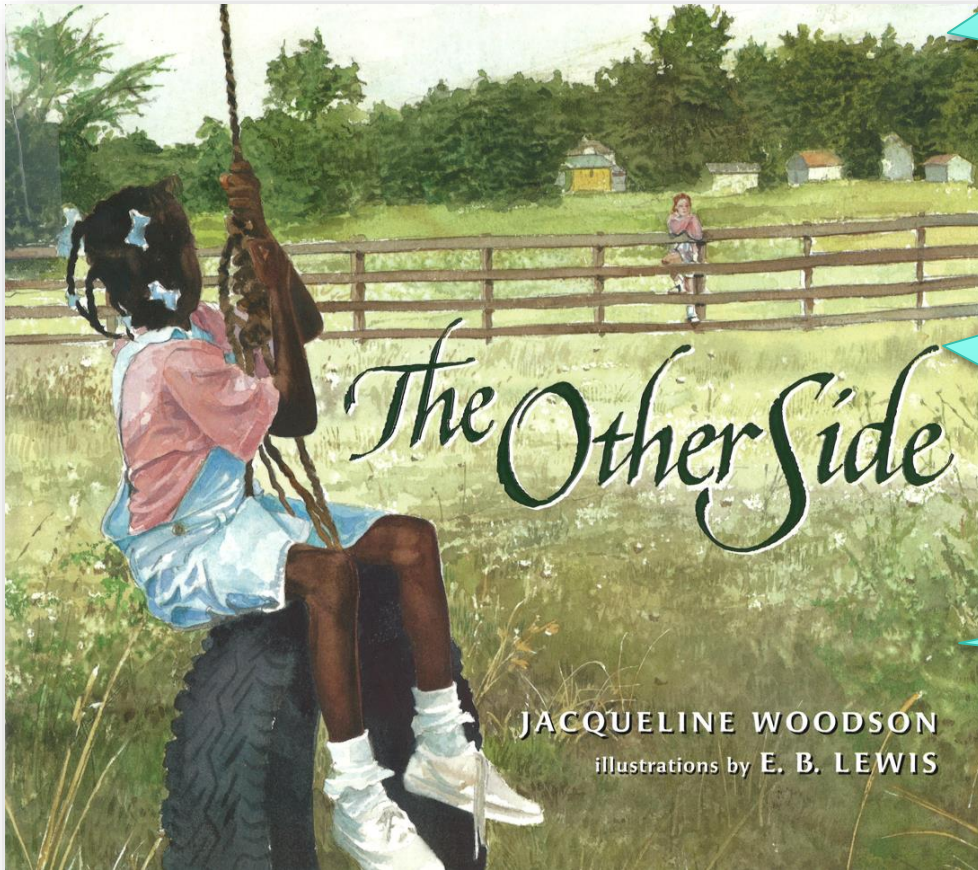
The process of a democratic election

Suitable for students in years 6-10

*The President of the Jungle*  
by André rodrigues, Larissa Ribeiro, Paula Desgualdo  
& Pedro Markun



## Democracy and citizenship: *Human rights*



Pupils shall learn why democracy cannot be taken for granted and understand that it must be developed and maintained.

(Core curriculum)

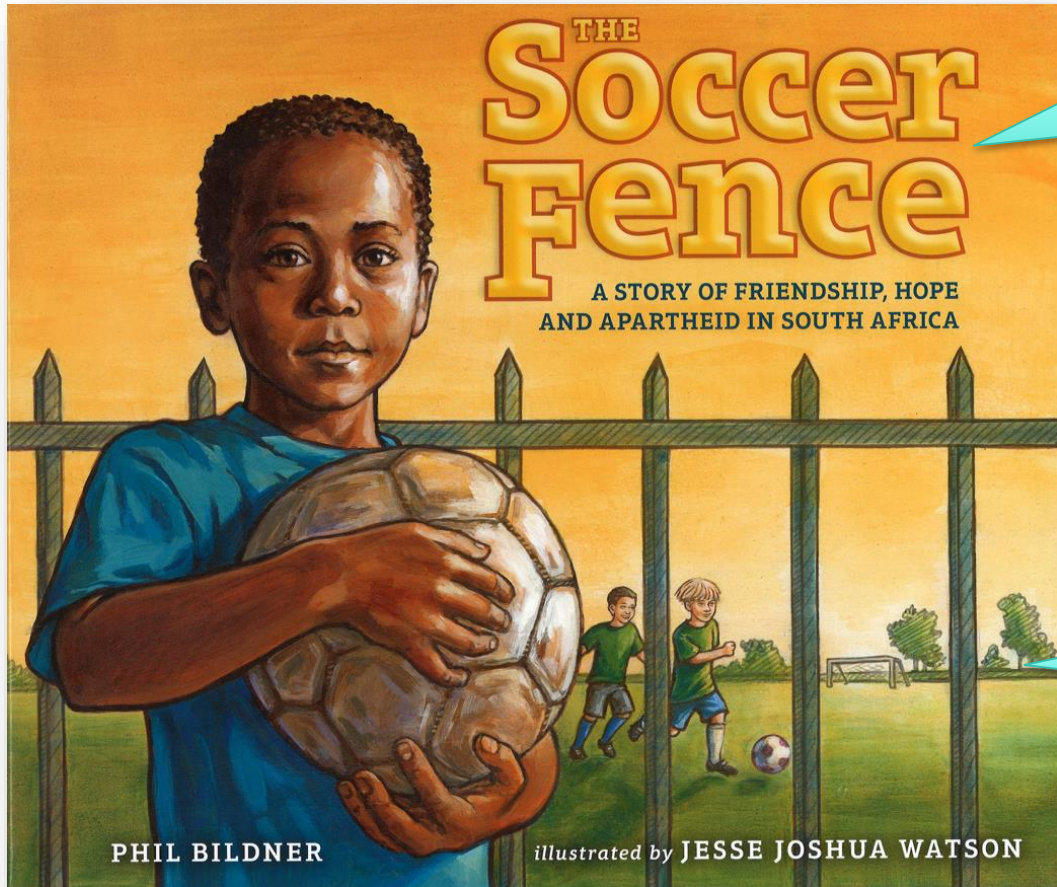
A story about the ways in which young people change the world each day through their simple acts of resistance

(Woodson, 20019)

Suitable for students in years 6-10

*The Other Side*  
by Jacqueline Woodson

Democracy and citizenship: *Human rights*

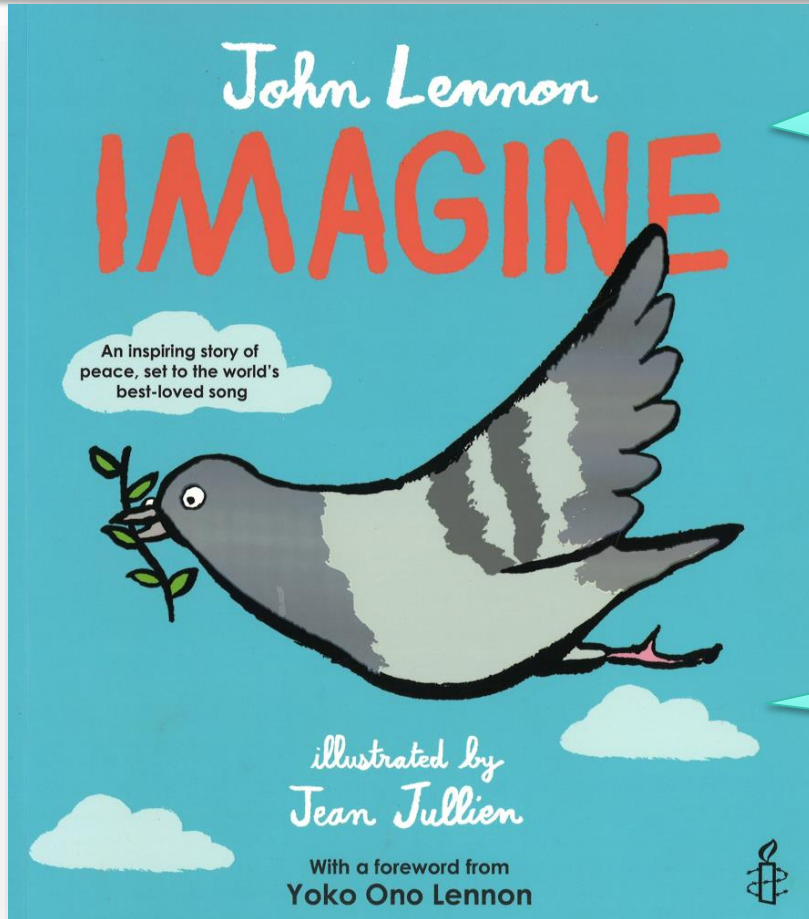


Provides knowledge about apartheid in south Africa

Suitable for students in years 8-10

*The Soccer Fence* by Phil Bildner

# Democracy and citizenship: *Dreaming of a better world*



Picture books can empower children to imagine a better world.

(Wolk, 2004)

Suitable for students in years 5-10

*Imagine* by John Lennon  
Illustrated by Jean Jullien



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# Picture Books in the English Classroom - A Goldmine for Everyone!

This website provides English teachers in Norway with a variety of picture books carefully chosen to support the teaching of English in primary and lower secondary school. All books are presented with themes, connections to the *Curriculum in English*, a summary and recommendations for age groups.

Good luck with using picture books in the English classroom!



<https://www.hiof.no/english/services/knowledge/picture-books/>