

Social Justice Literature

Title of Book: It Takes a Village

Author: Jane Cowen-Fletcher

Publisher/year: Scholastic 1994

ISBN: 0-590-46598-8

What social topic/s does this book address:

- Race
- Culture
- Ability
- Family composition
- Environment
- Bullying/friendship/self-concept

Brief synopsis of the book: When Yemi's mom goes to the market, she is to look after her younger brother. She is excited to do it on her own, because it means she is growing up. Her brother gets restless when Yemi is purchasing food from a vendor. She fears that he is lost and in need of all the basics. When she finds him she realizes that another member of the village was taking care of him. Yemi learned that she didn't help on her own, that it takes a village to raise a child.

Is this story authentic in regard to:

- story line
- social topic
- characters

Is this story:

- Respectful
- Engaging
- Honoring

Does this story directly talk about the social topic or does it tell a story using a social topic as a subtle background?

Subtle background

Would you read this story to your class? yes

Would you want your child's teacher to read this story? Yes

What big ideas or questions do you see emerging from this book?

Who am I? Cultural Diversity: similarities and differences. Would this happen where we are?