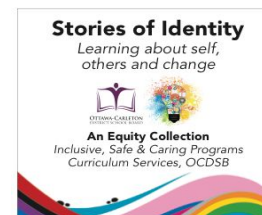
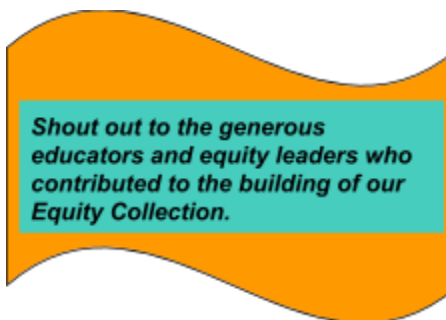


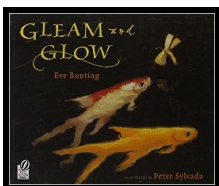
Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change (2017-2018)



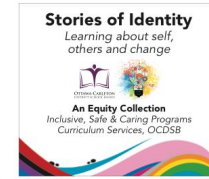
[Blank Blueprint Lesson Template](#)

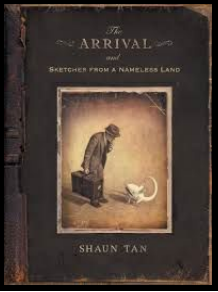
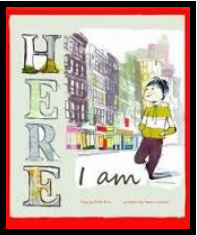
Teachers please feel free to use this Blank Blueprint Lesson Plan to create your own lesson plans based on these Stories of Identity. If you would like to add your work to the collection, please contact Sue Rice (sue.rice@ocdsb.ca), Equity program. To give feedback on these lesson plans and extensions, please fill out this [form](#).

| English Stories | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Title Author Illustrator/Artist | Synopsis | Themes/ Key Search Words | Lesson plans and extensions. Pedagogical document |
|  Gleam and Glow Eve Bunting | <p>Author Eve Bunting uses a true story from Bosnia to weave a tale of loss and hope in <i>Gleam and Glow</i>. Eight-year-old Viktor and his little sister, Marina, miss their father when he goes off to fight with the underground, and their mother knows they too must soon leave. Another refugee leaves the children two golden fish, and Marina, especially, is enchanted and names them Gleam and Glow. When the family depart, leaving their home and garden, Viktor puts Gleam and Glow in the pond by their house. They cross the border and live for many months in a camp, where their father eventually finds them. Find out what they discover when they return home.</p> | <p>war, hope, family, change, resilience, refugee experience</p> <p>Primary/Junior/Intermediate</p> | <p>Gleam and Glow Lesson Plan</p> |

Stories of Identity

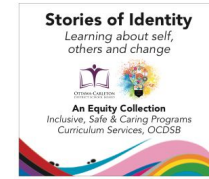
Learning about self, others and change (2017-2018)


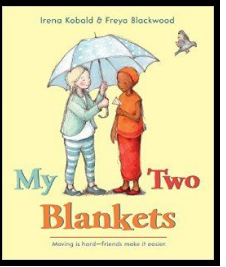


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|  | <p><i>The Arrival</i> is a migrant story told as a series of wordless images that might seem to come from a long forgotten time.</p> <p>With nothing more than a suitcase and a handful of currency, the immigrant must find a place to live, food to eat and some kind of gainful employment.</p> <p>He is helped along the way by sympathetic strangers, each carrying their own unspoken history: stories of struggle and survival in a world of incomprehensible violence, upheaval and hope.</p> | <p>resilience, migration, identity, empathy, community</p> <p>Primary/Junior/ Intermediate</p> | <p>The Arrival video 4:57 sec Making visual narratives</p> |
|  <p>Here I am Patti Kim Sonia Sanchez</p> | <p><i>Here I am</i> tells the story of a boy and his family, newly arrived from their faraway homeland. How will he once again become the happy, confident kid he used to be? Walk in his shoes as he takes the first tentative steps toward discovering joy in his new world. The illustrations in this dazzling wordless picture book depict their experience entering into the lights, noise, and traffic of a busy American city. Language is unfamiliar - food, habits, games, and gestures are puzzling. The boy clings tightly to his special keepsake from home and wonders how he will find his way.</p> | <p>migration, identity, change, language</p> <p>Primary/Junior</p> | <p>Here I am youtube</p> |

Stories of Identity

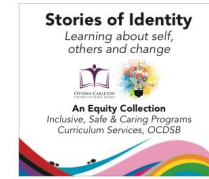
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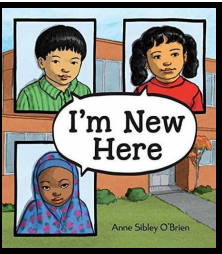
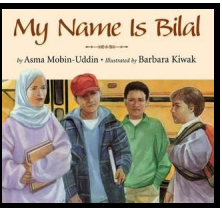


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|  <p>The House on Dirty Third Street Jo S. Kittinger Thomas Gonzalez</p> | <p>In <i>The House on Dirty Third Street</i> a mother and child move into an old house and are overwhelmed by the repairs necessary. They both learn that when you reach out, you can find help for yourself and others as well as a real sense of home.</p> | <p>community, resilience, perseverance, new beginnings</p> <p>Primary/Junior</p> | <p>The House on Dirty Third Street Lesson Plan</p> <p>The House on Dirty Third Street Highlights and Teacher Reflection</p> |
|  <p>My Two Blankets Irena Kobald Freya Blackwood</p> | <p><i>My Two Blankets</i> is the story of a young girl called Cartwheel who has arrived in a new country. She is daunted and scared in her foreign surroundings and no longer feels like herself. Cartwheel seeks comfort in a metaphorical blanket of her own words and sounds. When she meets another young girl at the local park, a friendship is formed and she begins to learn new words. Soon, Cartwheel feels a renewed sense of belonging and her new 'blanket' is full of hope, warmth and familiarity.</p> | <p>resilience, friendship, language, hope, identity, art</p> <p>Primary/Junior</p> | <p>A virtual reading Intercultural Communication resource</p> |

Stories of Identity

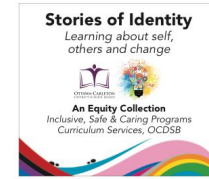
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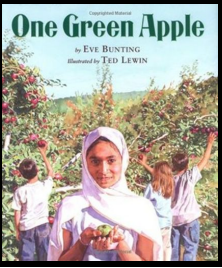
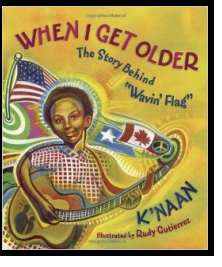


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|  <p>I'm New Here Anne Sibley O'Brien</p> | <p><i>I'm New Here</i> portrays three newcomers to an American elementary school. Maria is from Guatemala, Jin is from Korea and Fatima is from Somalia. All three have trouble speaking, writing, and sharing ideas in English.</p> <p>Through self-determination and with encouragement from their peers and teachers, the students learn to feel confident and comfortable in their new school without losing a sense of their home country, language, and identity.</p> | <p>community, identity, change, perseverance, language, expression</p> <p>Primary/Junior</p> | <p>I'm your Neighbour Books</p> <p>I'm New Here Lesson Plan</p> <p>I'm New Here Highlights and Teacher Reflections</p> |
|  <p>My Name is Bilal Asma Mobin-Uddin Barbara Kiwak</p> | <p>In the picture book, <i>My Name is Bilal</i>, the classrooms and playgrounds of Average Town, U.S.A. are the backdrop for this story about religious prejudice and tolerance.</p> <p>When Bilal and his sister Ayesha arrive at a new school, Bilal is sure that he and Ayesha are the only Muslim kids around, and some of the boys have already bullied Ayesha because of her traditional dress. Bilal wants so badly not to stand out in his new environment, that he initially introduces himself as "Bill." Lucky for him, his teacher is also Muslim (and a family friend) and provides some support—along with an interesting book about a famous Muslim hero whose name was also Bilal. Soon Bilal reconnects with his pride in his religious identity and also makes new friends.</p> | <p>identity, prejudice, tolerance, expression</p> <p>Junior/Intermediate</p> | <p>Social Justice Lesson</p> |

Stories of Identity

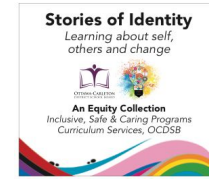
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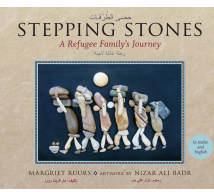
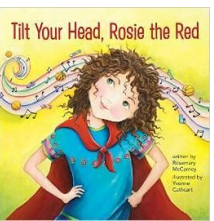


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|  <p>One Green Apple Eve Bunting Ted Lewin</p> | <p>Farah, the central character in <i>One green Apple</i>, feels alone even when surrounded by her classmates. She listens and nods but doesn't speak.</p> <p>It's hard being the new kid in school, especially when you're from another country and don't know the language. Then, on a field trip to an apple orchard, Farah discovers there are lots of things that sound the same as they did at home, from dogs crunching their food to the ripple of friendly laughter. As she helps the class make apple cider, Farah connects with the other students and begins to feel that she belongs.</p> | <p>identity, belonging, community, language</p> <p>Primary/Junior/Intermediate</p> | <p>Inclusive classrooms project</p> <p>One Green Apple Lesson Plan</p> <p>One Green Apple Photo Documentation</p> |
|  <p>When I Get Older K'Naan</p> | <p>Poet and rapper K'naan describes how his family fled civil war in their native Somalia to forge a new life in <i>When I Get Older</i>.</p> <p>The challenges of different customs, strange clothes, a difficult new language and snow are experiences many refugees to Canada experience. Though the challenges were many, K'naan's passion for music and poetry helped him persevere.</p> <p>This book unveils the inspiration behind K'naan's best-known song, "Wavin' Flag."</p> | <p>refugee experience, war, migration, bravery, emotions, language, poetry, music, art</p> <p>Primary/Junior/Intermediate</p> | <p>When I get Older Lesson Plan</p> <p>When I Get Older Photo Documentation</p> <p>When I Get Older Highlights and Teacher Reflection</p> |

Stories of Identity

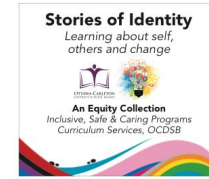
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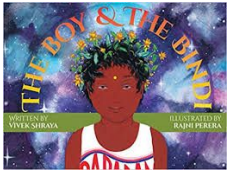
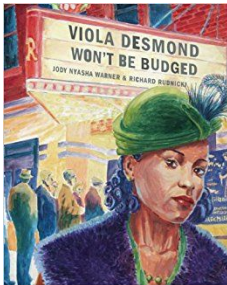


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|  <p>Stepping Stones Margriet Ruurs Nizar Ali Badr</p> | <p>This unique picture book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr, discovered by chance by Canadian children’s writer Margriet Ruurs. The author was immediately impressed by the strong narrative quality of Mr. Badr’s work, and, using many of Mr. Badr’s already-created pieces, she set out to create a story about the Syrian refugee crisis. <i>Stepping Stones</i> tells the story of Rama and her family, who are forced to flee their once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of the civil war raging ever closer to their home. With only what they can carry on their backs, Rama and her mother, father, grandfather and brother, Sami, set out to walk to freedom in Europe. Nizar Ali Badr’s stunning stone images illustrate the story.</p> | <p>refugees, refugee crisis, stone art, family, war, civil war, escape, humanitarian crisis, family</p> <p>Primary/Junior/Intermediate/Secondary</p> | <p>Stepping Stones Lesson Plan</p> <p>CBC - Interview with author - how book was created</p> <p>BBC - story about Nizar's work with pictures</p> <p>Stepping Stones Highlights and Teacher Reflections</p> |
|  <p>Tilt Your Head, Rosie the Red Rosemary McCarney Yvonne Cathcart</p> | <p>Arriving at school, Rosie is dismayed to see the kids on the playground taunting her classmate Fadimata, who is Muslim and wears a headscarf. Rosie comes up with a plan. Rosie has a red cape she likes to wear, so she asks Fadimata if she would turn the cape into a headscarf for her. The other kids in their class don’t want to be left out, so they ask Fadimata to make them headscarves as well. The experience confirms Rosie's belief that if you tilt your head and look at things differently, you can see the world through someone else's eyes.</p> | <p>Identity, expression, creativity, sensory perception, culture, community, belonging, individuality, perspective, connection, change</p> <p>Primary/Junior/</p> | |

Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change (2017-2018)

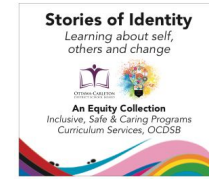


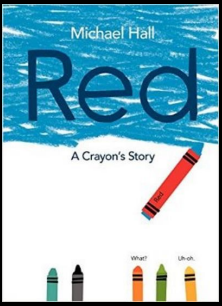
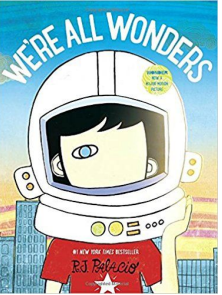
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| | | <i>Intermediate</i> | |
|  <p>The Boy & The Bindi Vivek Shraya Rajni Perera</p> | <p>This story is a joyful celebration of gender and culture.</p> <p>A five-year-old boy becomes fascinated with his mother's bindi, the red dot commonly worn by South Asian women to indicate the point at which creation begins, and wishes to have one of his own. With his mom's help, the boy discovers that wearing a bindi allows him to joyfully explore and express his difference - and that even a little "spot" can be meaningful and magical.</p> | <p>Culture, change, poetry, art, curiosity, identity, belonging, values, gender, connection, intersectionality (multiple intersecting identities)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Primary/Junior</i></p> | |
|  <p>Viola Desmond Won't Be Budged Jody Warner Richard Rudnicki</p> | <p>In Nova Scotia, in 1946, an usher in a movie theatre told Viola Desmond to move from her main floor seat up to the balcony. She refused to budge. Viola knew she was being asked to move because she was black. After all, she was the only black person downstairs. All the other black people were up in the balcony. In no time at all, the police arrived and took Viola to jail. The next day she was charged and fined, but she vowed to continue her struggle against such unfair rules. She refused to accept that being black meant she couldn't sit where she wanted.</p> | <p>Racism, racial discrimination and segregation, injustice, African-Canadian history, black community, bravery, inspiration, resilience, change</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Junior/Intermediate</i></p> | |

Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change

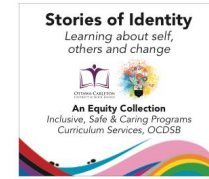
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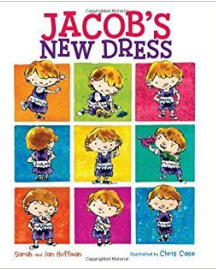



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|  <p style="text-align: center;">Red Michael Hall</p> | <p><i>Red</i> illustrates a crayon with a bright red label when he is, in fact, blue.</p> <p>His teacher tries to help him be red (let's draw strawberries!), his mother tries to help him be red by sending him out on a playdate with a yellow classmate (go draw a nice orange!), and the scissors try to help him be red by snipping his label so that he has room to breathe.</p> <p>But Red is miserable. He just can't be red, no matter how hard he tries! Finally, a brand-new friend offers a brand-new perspective, and Red discovers what readers have known all along. He's blue!</p> | <p>Identity, courage, judgment, perseverance, community, individuality, connection, change, intersectionality, empathy, encouragement</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Primary/Junior/Intermediate</i></p> | |
|  <p style="text-align: center;">We're All Wonders R.J. Palacio</p> | <p>So many people have fallen in love with Wonder and have joined the movement to Choose Kind. Now, through this picture book, readers can meet Auggie Pullman, an ordinary boy with an extraordinary face, and his beloved dog, Daisy. This story shows what it's like to live in Auggie's world—a world in which he feels like any other kid, but he's not always seen that way.</p> <p><i>We're All Wonders</i> taps into the longing to belong, and to be seen for who we truly are.</p> | <p>Empathy, kindness, diversity</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Primary/Junior</i></p> | |

Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change (2017-2018)

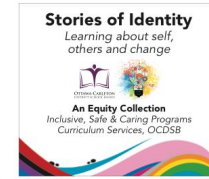


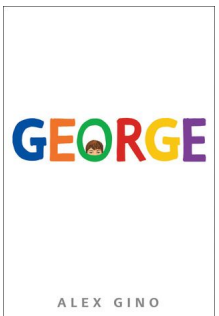
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|  <p>Jacob's New Dress Sarah and Ian Hoffman Chris Case</p> | <p>Jacob loves playing dress-up, when he can be anything he wants to be. Some kids at school say he can't wear "girl" clothes, but Jacob wants to wear a dress to school. Can he convince his parents to let him wear what he wants? This heartwarming story speaks to the unique challenges faced by boys who don't identify with traditional gender roles.</p> | <p>Gender, belonging, empathy</p> <p><i>Primary/Junior</i></p> | |
|  <p>The Many Faces Of Zainabu Kathy Knowles</p> | <p>Once upon a time - - time, time, there was a giving girl. At seven years old, she had a gift, a special gift, a gift beyond her years. Her face could show both smiles and frowns and everything in between. Now Zainabu, if you are ready, please show us your many faces...</p> | <p>Emotions, empathy</p> <p><i>Primary/Junior</i></p> | |

Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change

(2017-2018)



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|  <p>George Alex Gino</p> | <p>More than anything else, George wants to play Charlotte in her fourth-grade class production of Charlotte's Web. The problem is, her teacher won't let her, because George is a boy. But George isn't about to let that squash her dream. With the help of her best friend, George must learn to stand up for her wish - and brave a few bullies along the way.</p> | <p>Gender, belonging, empathy</p> <p><i>Junior/Intermediate</i></p> | |
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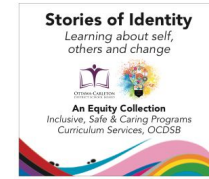
French Stories of Identity Kit is in development


| Histoires en français | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|
| Titre Auteur Illustrations/ Artiste | Synopsis | Themes/ Key Search Words |
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Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change

(2017-2018)



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|  <p>Boris Brindamour et la robe orange Christine Baldacchino, Isabelle Malenfant</p> | <p>Boris est un petit garçon qui aime utiliser son imagination. Il rêve d'aventures spatiales, peint de belles images et aime chanter très fort pendant les comptines. Surtout, Boris aime le coin des déguisements de sa classe. Il aime porter la robe orange. Les enfants de sa classe ne le comprennent pas. Les robes, disent-ils, sont pour les filles.</p> | <p>Identité, expressions, arts, sentiment d'appartenance, bien-être</p> <p><i>Primary/Junior</i></p> |
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Looking for more Stories of Identity resources? Explore our previous kits (English & French)

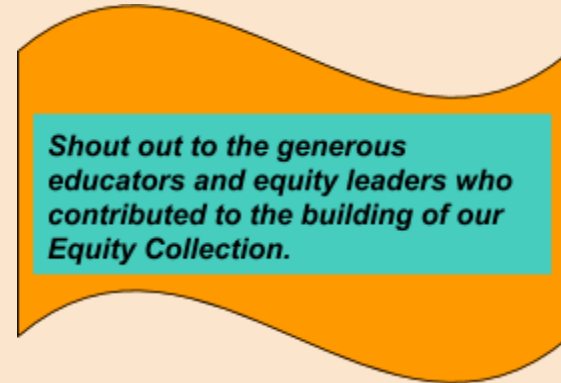
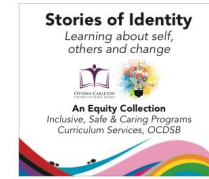
Additional Stories of Identity kits available:

- 2014-2016 kit
- 2013-2014 kit

Stories of Identity

Learning about self, others and change

(2017-2018)



| 2016-2017 Team: Equity Leader - Site | | 2017-2018 Team: Equity Leader - Curriculum Services | |
|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Carol Ann Burrows - ISC Programs | Katie Ritter - CS, ESL/ELD | Carol Ann Burrows - ISC Programs | Kristin Douglas - ESL/ELD |
| Jessica Munharvey - Sir Winston Churchill | David Coyne - Featherston | Dina Talhouk - ESL/ELD | Rachel Collishaw - Cross-Curricular |
| Nicholas Janna - Featherston | Quenet Ghebretacle - OT | Jessica Munharvey - ESL/ELD | Martha Mackenzie-Vezina - ESL/ELD |
| Dianne Morris - Henry Larson | Sara Spicer - OT | Jennifer Boudewyn - Arts | Antonia Cetin - FSL |
| Catherine Finn - Half Moon Bay | Jimmy Pai - Woodroffe H.S. | Margaret Elson - Library Coordinator | Joelle Rudick - FSL |
| Rebecca Shields - Lakeview | Chantel Smith - Alta Vista | | |

An Equity Collection
Inclusive, Safe & Caring Programs - Curriculum Services, OCDSB