Addressing Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion with Young Children (providers and families):
https://360.coradvantage.com/equity

As our country engages in national conversations about structural racism, our children are watching and listening. They have questions and if they haven’t already, they will ask them. What they learn and how they think about topics like identity, race, differences, and racism depends on the ways in which we choose to engage with them. Below are resources specifically for child care providers in their work towards creating an anti-bias classroom.

- **Talking Race With Young Children**: A Podcast by NPR – a 20 minute podcast from NPR
- **Coming Together: Standing Up to Racism** - National experts and your favorite Sesame Street characters joined together to answer kids questions about racism, fairness, protests, and managing big feelings. Hosted by CNN
- Healthy Children.Org offers families tips and strategies on how to talk with their children about racial bias and links to additional resources: **Talking to Children About Racial Bias**
- **Talking about Race: Our Children Are Not Colorblind** resources from the National Museum of African American History & Culture and the Smithsonian Museum
- Conversations that Matter: [Talking with Children About Big World Issues](https://360.coradvantage.com/equity) from the National Association of the Education of Children (NAEYC)
• **Don’t Look Away: Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms**, a recorded webinar. The goal of this edWebinar is to ensure that participants understand and embrace anti-bias and anti-racist teaching approaches by creating affirming culturally-rich classroom environments that protect children from psychological trauma and heals them from the inside out.

• **Zero to Three: Racism and Violence: Using Your Power as a Parent to Support Children Aged Two to Five**: This resource provides thoughts and guidelines for talking about the complex issues of racism and equality in age-appropriate ways with children aged two to five years of age.

• **Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) Webinar (recorded): Racial Injustice, Equity and the role of Child Care**: Learn how to create an equitable system to support providers, children and families.

• **Black Voices Kidcasts**: Podcasts for Black Children created by Melissa Victor so that young Black children could hear themselves reflected in audio stories.

• **Developing Culturally Responsive Approaches to Serving Diverse Populations**: A Resource Guide for Community-Based Organizations. This resource guide is designed to help community-based organizations to serve the needs of their diverse populations by using culturally thoughtful and responsive approaches. Along with an overview of existing instruments, tools, and resources, this document offers evidence-based insights, including ways to examine collaboration through a diversity lens.

• **The Diversity-Informed Tenets for Work with Infants, Children and Families** - The Tenets role is to empower individual practitioners, agencies and systems of care to identify and address the social justice issues intricately intertwined with all infant mental health work. The Tenets are rooted in belief that self-awareness and intentional action are the cornerstones of principles of equity and inclusion.

• **CNN/ Sesame Street Racism Town Hall** - Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms takes questions along with CNN's Van Jones and Erica Hill about how to combat racism, and shares a message with kids about how to make a change. Sesame Street's Abby Cadabby shares a story about how her fellow Sesame Street friend Big Bird was a victim of prejudice, and how she stood up for him. A college professor defines white privilege. Two children from a heartwarming viral video catch up with each other over video. Former Philadelphia Police Chief Charles Ramsey shares a message to children of color.
New Book for Families

*Something Happened in Our Town* is a new book for families to read with their children to initiate or respond to questions the children may have about current events involving violence and racism. The story follows two families — one White, one Black — as they discuss a police shooting of a Black man in their community. The story aims to answer children's questions about such traumatic events and to help children identify and counter racial injustice in their own lives. It includes an extensive Note to Parents and Caregivers with guidelines for discussing race and racism with children, child-friendly definitions, and sample dialogues.

- Read a press release about the book
- Read an interview with the authors on the Magination Press blog
- Listen to a Speaking of Psychology podcast interview with author Marianne Celano
- On the Same Page: A Podcast from Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

This book is part of the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Social Emotional Learning Collection


[https://www.parentcenterhub.org/talk-about-race/](https://www.parentcenterhub.org/talk-about-race/)
4 things providers can do with these resources:

1. View the Child Care Aware of America (CC Ao A) Webinar (recorded): *Racial Injustice, Equity and the Role of Child Care* with staff. Discuss how the information relates to their child care program. Address concerns of staff and discuss ways to support and educate the children and their families going forward.

2. Discuss with teachers and staff the effects of racial injustice on children and their families. Use the webinar, *Don’t Look Away: Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms*, in a staff meeting to start the conversation.

3. Examine the *Diversity Informed Tenets for Work with Infants, Children and Families* with staff. Discuss how self-awareness and intentional action promote equity and inclusion for young children.


4 things families can do with these resources:

1. Use information from Zero to Three’s *Racism and Violence: Using Your Power as a Parent to Support Children Aged Two to Five*, to talk in age-appropriate ways with their children about the complex issues of racism and equality.

2. The National Association for the Education of Young Children’s *Conversations that Matter: Talking with Children about Big World Issues* has suggestions for families to help them address questions their children may ask about the news stories or activities they see in their communities.

3. Families can use the resources from the National Museum of African American History and Culture, *Talking about Race: Our Children are Not Colorblind*, to discuss their heritage, race and racial identity.

4. View the recording of the *Sesame Street and CNN Town Hall on Racism* and discuss questions their children have about racism.
During tough times—both everyday challenges and more serious experiences—support from caring adults can offer children comfort and reassurance. But, sometimes we need help showing we care in ways that help kids really feel it. It can help to reflect on how love was expressed to us growing up, so we can make choices about how to express it to our children now. These resources from Sesame Street in Communities provide ways for everyone to say thank you. They also offer support to help families cope... and even thrive.

**Offering Comfort**

Families will find videos and activities from Sesame Street to help comfort their children during stressful times.

**Heroes for Help**

During this health emergency, everyone’s working to keep themselves and others healthy. Some families, such as those of essential workers—pharmacists, doctors, nurses, grocers, childcare providers, first responders, and others—need to work extra hard. These “super families” face unique challenges and opportunities.

https://youtu.be/PZJCcyVycHU
Health Emergencies

A health emergency brings many changes and much uncertainty for young children and their families, but there are things they can do to face each day with optimism and hope. They can practice healthy habits like handwashing and coughing into the bend in their arms. They can offer comfort, connect with, and care for others safely. They can keep learning and growing at home through everyday routines and simple activities. These resources from Sesame Street will help families cope during challenging times. [https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/health-emergencies/](https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/health-emergencies/)

Families can find resources to use to say thank you to essential workers and their families.

Staying Safe in the Neighborhood

Businesses and communities are starting to open up after being on “pause.” Children (and grown-ups) may be excited to return to favorite activities and places, but these things aren’t quite the same and everyone will need to do some things differently. But there are ways to navigate this transition—consider the ideas in this bundle.

[https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/](https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/)
Your friends on Sesame Street are here to support you during the COVID-19 health crisis. We know that these are stressful times, and families everywhere are creating a new sense of normalcy. Their site is filled with content you can use to spark playful learning, offer children comfort, and focus a bit on yourself, too. Use their resources to help your family play, learn, and breathe deeply together. Sesame Street will continue to add more resources in days and weeks to come, including new messages from your Sesame Street pals. Stay tuned and sign up for their newsletter for more information! #CaringForEachOther: https://www.sesamestreet.org/caring

Community Violence

Community violence is violence that happens around you, but not to you. Sadly, our world is full of scary, disturbing news about people harming others, such as school shootings and acts of terrorism. It’s hard to know how to explain such events to young children, or how much to share. Whether children have been exposed to traumatic events in your neighborhood or across the world, you can help them feel safer and more secure...and build hope and healing for a more peaceful, kinder future.

Read Circle of Good

Page | 7
4 things providers can do with these resources:

1. Use a different resource from Sesame Street each week to address with children in their programs and share the resources with families.
2. Celebrate the Heroes for Health. Read stories to children about healthcare workers and first responders. Have props or costumes related to health care workers in the dramatic play area to encourage children to role-play interactions with health care workers.
3. Discuss with the children ways to stay safe when going out with their families in their community. Use the Hooper's Store Reopens materials to stress the need for protective measures to take when out in public places. Set up a store in the dramatic play area and have the children practice safety while shopping in the store.
4. Use the Count, Breathe, Relax Video and the Monster Meditation Video to practice relaxation exercises with the children. Share these and other resources from Sesame Street with the families of the children in your program.

4 things families can do with these resources:

1. Use information from Sesame Street’s Caring for Yourself and Family to find activities and information that help them relax and have fun as a family.
2. Find ways to offer comfort to their children during stressful situations
3. Families can use the resources to encourage their children to practice healthy habits at home.
4. Have their children make Thank You notes to send to their “Heroes for Help” using the Sesame Street templates.
The **State of Babies Yearbook: 2020** compares national and state-by-state data on the well-being of infants and toddlers.

The current state of babies tells an important story about what it is like to be a very young child in this country, and where we are headed as a nation. The 2020 Yearbook sought to break down the indicators by subgroups because of two realities that reflect the nation’s changing demographic landscape:

- More than half of America’s infants and toddlers are children of color.
- Two of every five infants and toddlers live in families with low income, meaning they do not have the financial resources to make ends meet.

The data shows that the experiences of individual babies within these groups, as well as babies in rural areas, are often different from the averages. The harmful and life-altering effects of these disparities begin even before they are born.

The lessons from the story of America’s babies demand our attention: When babies and toddlers do not have the support they need to thrive, their development can suffer and lead to lifelong consequences. The 2019 Yearbook found that the national profile of our infants and toddlers contained warning signs that we are not giving our youngest children the fundamental ingredients for a strong foundation. The **State of Babies Yearbook: 2020** tells us that when we look at racial and ethnic groups as well as children who lack economic resources, some of these warning signs become sirens that we must grapple with as a nation if our future is to be secure.

To create a brighter future for all, we must implement policies based on science and budgets that make babies a priority: [https://stateofbabies.org/](https://stateofbabies.org/)


4 things early learning coalitions can do with these resources:

1. Use information from the **State of Our Babies Yearbook 2020** to examine practices and policies at the coalition and state level that support families with infants and toddlers.
2. Form additional community partnerships to offer resources to families of infants and toddler in stressful situations.
3. Make health and security for families with infants and toddlers a priority goal in the upcoming year.
4. Have meetings with child care providers and community partners to discuss ways to offer more support and resources to families with infants and toddlers.