

WEEK

16

# Opportunity



*"Look to the day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character" – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Throughout this Racial Equity Challenge, we have examined our complex history of structural racism and its ongoing impact. What we do with this information is up to each of us.

We can start by talking about, expressing, and sharing our experiences. It cannot be said enough that racism and discrimination begin to take shape in childhood, and so it is important to talk with children about race early and often. These conversations help children understand, respect, and appreciate differences between people, and help them speak up when they see something unjust. These conversations are also important for adults. One resource compares anti-racism to brushing and flossing teeth—look at your reflection, commit to regular practice, and do something good for your health and the health of our community. Talking about race and racism can be uncomfortable, and mistakes may be made, but we have to make an effort.

A good practice is to define yourself and others not by challenges but instead by strengths, positive assets and aspirations. We often assign labels to people that do not align with how they see themselves. How might it feel to be defined by your hopes and dreams, instead of your hardships? Check out the resources below for helpful information and tools to move forward.



## ACTIVITY ONE

**READ/WATCH: Talking to Kids About Race and Racism**



## ACTIVITY TWO

**WATCH: Define People By Their Aspirations, Not Their Challenges**



## ACTIVITY THREE

**READ/WATCH: Hey, You Got a Little Racism Stuck in Your Teeth**

Share your reflections and any resources that help further the discussion on today's topic on social media using the hashtag #UWLIEquityChallenge

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