

White Socks Only

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



Written by Evelyn Coleman

Illustrated by Tyrone Geter

THEMES

Inclusion & Disability

Community

SUB-THEMES

Racial segregation and injustice

Collective resistance

Apartheid

Story Discussion Guide

- Understand Segregation: Identify how unfair rules based on race impacted children and families.
- Explore Courage and Resistance: Examine how the girl's innocent act challenged injustice and inspired others.
- Analyze Bias and Assumptions: Recognize how prejudice is rooted in external factors such as skin color, not ability or worth.
- Reflect on Inclusion Today: Connect lessons from segregation to current issues of fairness, respect, and community solidarity.

Lesson plan

This lesson introduces students to disability inclusion, resilience, and sportsmanship.

Zanele's story becomes a platform for encouraging empathy, ambition, and self-worth.

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- Why was the girl told she couldn't drink from the fountain?
- What did "Whites Only" really mean, and why was it unfair?
- How does the girl's misunderstanding of "white socks" show the silliness of prejudice?

During Reading :

- What do you think the townspeople learned from the girl's actions?
- How could her innocence and courage change the way others thought about segregation?
- How would the story be different if everyone had stood up together from the beginning?

After Reading:

- What examples in the story show people being judged for things they cannot control?
- Have you ever seen someone treated unfairly because of how they looked? How did it make you feel? What are some ways we can stop judging people based on appearances

Activities:

- How can we use our own actions to challenge unfairness, even in small ways?
- What can we do in our schools or communities to make sure everyone feels welcome?
- Why is it important to stand with others when they are treated unfairly?

Expected Outcomes

Children will understand how prejudice is based on external differences and how courage, even from a child, can expose unfairness. They will reflect on their own role in creating inclusive, fair environments where kindness and equality matter more than appearances.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 4: Quality Education – by helping children learn about equality and justice.
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities – addressing systemic racism and prejudice.
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions – focusing on fairness and equity

SDG Explanation

- SDG 4: Quality Education – by helping children learn about equality and justice.
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities – addressing systemic racism and prejudice.
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions – focusing on fairness and equity

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences.

Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.