**Equity-Inclusive Picture Book Guide**

This guide includes recommended picture books that celebrate diversity, equity, inclusion, and student identity. Each listing includes key themes, a brief description, discussion questions, and extension ideas for classroom use.

📘 The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family by Ibtihaj Muhammad & S.K. Ali

\*\*Themes:\*\* Identity, Hijab, Bullying, Family, Pride

\*\*Summary:\*\* A young girl named Faizah watches her sister wear her hijab for the first time. Asiya walks with pride, despite teasing from classmates. The story highlights strength, cultural pride, and the power of representation.

\*\*Discussion Questions:\*\*

• How does Asiya feel when she wears her hijab?

• What does the color blue represent in the story?

• Why is it important to stand up for your identity?

• How do Faizah’s feelings change throughout the story?

\*\*Extension Ideas:\*\*

• Invite students to draw or write about something that makes them feel proud.

• Compare this story to another book that explores identity or culture.

• Create a class mural showing all the ways students celebrate who they are.

📚 Additional Equity-Focused Picture Books to Explore:

• \*Eyes That Kiss in the Corners\* by Joanna Ho – celebrating Asian identity and beauty

• \*Julian is a Mermaid\* by Jessica Love – gender expression and individuality

• \*Our Class is a Family\* by Shannon Olsen – classroom community and belonging

• \*I Talk Like a River\* by Jordan Scott – speech difference and acceptance

• \*Fry Bread\* by Kevin Noble Maillard – Indigenous culture and food traditions