

Healthy Living Spaces: *Top 10 Hazards Affecting Your Health* by Daniel Stih (*Healthy Living Spaces*). Stih details the ten most common things that negatively affect our health, from mold and pesticides to fragrances and electrical wiring. He also includes tips on how to reduce these toxins and live healthier lives. Stih advocates “green cleaning” and shows how to get a home clean and free from bacteria without the use of chemicals or bleach. ISBN: 978-097946850-6.

Children’s Literature of the Harlem Renaissance by Katherine C. Smith (*Indiana University Press*). To write in dialect or in “proper English”? To mention the topic of slavery in a children’s book? These were questions that Harlem Renaissance literary figures—W.E.B. Du Bois, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, and Langston Hughes, for example—grappled with. This book illuminates that the Harlem Renaissance was not just a cultural flourishing belonging to adults, but that many writers were paying close attention to the youngest generation. Children’s literature was an important way to convey ideals, history and spirit to a new generation. This book offers rare and intelligent insight into African American literature of this period, and would be useful reading for any conscientious person who reads to children. The book affirms the importance of the child, reminding us that children are crucial parts of cultural revolutions too. ISBN 978-0-253-21888-9.

Telling Our Story: *The Arab American National Museum* (www.arabamericanmuseum.org). On May 5, 2005, the Arab American community celebrated the opening of the first Arab American National Museum. It is located in the heart of the Arab American community in Dearborn, Michigan. It documents, preserves, celebrates and educates the public on the history, life, culture and contributions of Arab-Americans. A resource to enhance our understanding of the Arab Americans. Upper grades. ISBN: 978-0-9767977-1-5.

What Kids Really Want to Ask: *Using Movies to Start Meaningful Conversations* by Rhonda A. Richardson and A. Margaret Pevec (www.VandB.com). What do kids need from their parents? High quality time! This guidebook offers ways for engaging in a rich relationship with kids. For all parents with children aged 10 to 14. ISBN 978-1-889242-31-6.

Two Goats On a Bridge: *Stories to Promote Peace and Protect the Planet* by Yvonne Young (www.truthtales.com). The DVD contains six stories from Margaret Read MacDonald’s book, *Peace Tales and Earth Care*. Ms. Young, a retired educator, offers a wonderful re-telling of the stories that bring nature awareness and human values while providing entertainment. Appropriate for showing in kindergarten through fourth grade classes.

Three Girls I Know... (DVD with a study guide) by Paula Mozen (*no excuses productions, www.3girlsiknow.com*). This is an engaging documentary for high school students. The three young women profiled in the video speak from their personal experiences offering insights and suggestions about sexuality, HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy and sexual orientation. While approximately 42 million people live with HIV/AIDS worldwide, in the U.S. there are about 887,000 diagnosed cases of AIDS. Around 800,000 to 900,000 teens aged 19 or younger become pregnant each year in the U.S. This documentary offers an important discussion tool to increase awareness of these issues.

Tak for Alt: *Survival of a Human Spirit* by Laura Bialis. 58 mins. (www.sirenafilms.com). An award-winning documentary (and a study guide) about the touching story of Holocaust survivor and Civil Rights activist Judith Meisel. The film helps young people connect with Judith on a very personal level, to relate to her as a little girl with the same fears, hopes and dreams as any other child in the world. The story highlights that we are all responsible for speaking out against intolerance, and that each of us can make a positive contribution to the struggle for human freedom. The discussion questions and post-viewing activities help further deepen the understanding of tolerance in today’s world.

The Refugees of the Blue Planet (*National Film Board of Canada*) is a documentary (54 min.) that brings us to the heart of environmental issues confronting humanity. Each year, millions of people are driven to forced displacement. Global warming and exploitation of natural resources, such as oil and natural gas by mining, are degrading the life-supporting environments of rural populations. This film sheds light on the plight of “environmental refugees” from Maldives to Canada. Suitable for middle grades and up.