As you think about choosing Black history lessons, activities, literature, resources, etc, we challenge you to be thoughtful, intentional, and reflective. What is your purpose? Whose voices and experiences are you centering? What may the impact be on your learners, and in particular on your Black, multi-racial students? If you are not practicing self-awareness and social-awareness, you will, very likely, cause harm. Unintentional harm is still harm - and the impact matters much more than the intention.

Read and Discuss Black literature

Select books from varying genres that centers and celebrate Black voice, experience and history. Follow readings with a discussion. Discussion prompts include:

- What did you notice?
- What did you feel?
- What did you connect with?
- What would you change?
- What are you still unsure/curious about?

Create a “discussion ball” by writing the discussion prompts on a beach ball and toss to students for engagement. Or number questions and have students roll a die. The number they get will be connected to their question.

Further this activity by having students write book reviews, act out a scene from a play they read, write their own story or poem, create a drawing or collage that illustrates their favorite part or engage in a dialogue journal with a book buddy.

SEL skills: Self-Awareness, Social awareness, Relationship skills