Books that incorporate culturally relevant pedagogy:

- [A Mighty Girls 2020 Book List](#)
- [Children’s Books about Women Scientists](#)
- [2020 Math Books for Kids (SLJ)](#)
- [Culturally Responsive Books for Students](#)
- [Diversify Your Classroom Book Collection](#)
- [10 Nonfiction Books that Humanize Mathematics](#)
- [#BlackinSTEM: 17 Nonfiction Books That Spotlight Black Scientists, Thinkers, and Inventors (SLJ)](#)

Indigenous Resources

- [*The Gift is in the Making*, by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson](#)
- [*Injiaq’s Gift of Sugar: Traditional Native Sugarmaking. We Are Still Here: Native American’s Today Series*, by Laura Waterman](#)
- [*The Birchbark House*, by Louise Erdrich](#)
- [*My Name is Seepeetza*, by Shirley Sterling](#)
- [*We are Water Protectors*](#)

[Here is a search of Native American Authors and Illustrators: Picture Books](#)

#STEMAZingPictureBook Collection

- *Ish* by Peter H. Reynolds which we then use with lessons on the REAL primary colors (which are not red, yellow, and blue) and have students eventually paint a Rainbow-ish.
- *Everything* by Andrea Beaty - Rosie Revere, Engineer; Iggy Peck, Architect; Ada Twist, Scientist; Sophia Valdez, Future Prez. These are all also beautifully translated into Spanish.
- And don’t forget classics likes *Caps for Sale* (also available in Spanish) by Esphyr Slobodkina.
- *The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires (great social emotional lesson)
- *Going Places* by Peter and Paul Reynolds (great for engineering and biomimicry connection at the end)
- *Those Darn Squirrels* by Adam Rubin (great for engineering design process)
- *Violet the Pilot* by Steve Breen
- *Sun, Earth, Moon* books by Stacy McAnulty

[Links here: https://stemazing.org/books-and-picture-books/](#)
High School Biology

*Microbe Hunters*, by Paul deKruif (originally published in 1926); Chapter 1 on Leeuwenhoek's discovery of microbes and his crafting of magnifying lenses captivated my sophomores; we also used this reading to explore the characteristics of successful scientists.

*T. rex and the Craters of Doom*, by Walter Alvarez (1997); a great adventure and scientific detective story about the extinction event that wiped out the dinosaurs and many other species, told by the detective himself. Shows the complexity of science in action and how scientific knowledge is advanced. Another book that fits in this category is *A Fish Caught in Time*, by Samantha Weinberg (2000).

*Rosalind Franklin and DNA*, by Anne Sayre (1975). An account of the contributions of Franklin to the discovery of the DNA helix structure, told from her perspective. I used this to balance the perspective of James Watson, after showing "Life Story," aka "Race for the Double Helix," a BBC production from 1987 [starring Jeff Goldblum and based on Watson's bestseller *The Double Helix* (1968)] in class. Another thrilling tale of how science works, told by the participants and their biographers, and another opportunity to explore the characteristics of successful scientists and equity themes.

*When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals*, by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and Susan McCarthy (1995). New York Times bestseller; I had juniors and seniors in a second-year biology elective course read passages from this book when we were studying animal behavior and the techniques used by scientists to study animal behavior. This generated great discussions about Western science (and other) perspectives on other species.