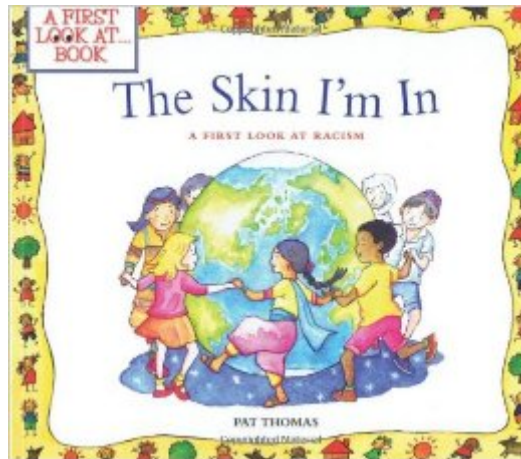


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# The Skin I'm In: A First Look At Racism (First Look At...Series)



## Synopsis

Racial discrimination is cruel—and especially so to younger children. This title encourages kids to accept and be comfortable with differences of skin color and other racial characteristics among their friends and in themselves. A First Look At... is an easy-to-understand series of books for younger children. Each title explores emotional issues and discusses the questions such difficulties invariably raise among kids of preschool through early school age. Written by a psychotherapist and child counselor, each title promotes positive interaction among children, parents, and teachers. The books are written in simple, direct language that makes sense to younger kids. Each title also features a guide for parents on how to use the book, a glossary, suggested additional reading, and a list of resources. There are attractive full-color illustrations on every page. (Ages 4-7)

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850L (What's this?)

Series: First Look at...Series

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series (March 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764124595

ISBN-13: 978-0764124594

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #212,570 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Multiculturalism #218 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #759 in Books > History > Americas > United States > African Americans > Discrimination & Racism

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

This book is an excellent addition to a child's library. I have a different perspective from the previous reviewers, in that I think it is correct to say that although all people can express prejudice - "racism"

is an oppressive act committed within a dominant culture and creates real barriers our institutions as well as our personal lives - and has a very different effect on peoples lives than hurtful personal expressions of prejudice from members of minority communities. Although prejudice and racial teasing and bullying are certainly hurtful and destructive - I think the book, and its direct questions to the readers, and its illustrations do an excellent job describing such complicated subjects to young children. There are illustrations of kids of color looking at magazines of blond-haired, blue eyed princesses, there are images which show an Islamic man uncomfortable with his grandson playing with children of Euro-american children, there are illustrations which depict subtler forms of racism other than explicit racist bullying (a man giving more ice cream to a child of the same race) I am a clinical social worker who works with adoptees, and a white adoptive mother to Korean American children, and my kids found this book extremely helpful through pre K and kindergarten, when awareness of difference and race begins to be experienced on the playgrounds. They often asked to read it, and both asked for help from a grown up right away when they were teased about their race in pre-school. Our family has been very grateful for this book and I highly recommend it.

I'm disappointed with this book . This book focuses on individual "racists" (a lot), rather than systemic racism that oppresses. It also states that "anybody of any skin color can be a racist" - wrong! Racism requires power and privilege. We can all be prejudiced, but we can't all be racist.

I got this book to open up discussions with my children about race and discrimination. They are both very young and are just now learning that people can really be mean for no reason other than how you look. My son was a victim of bullying- which I believed stemmed from the way he looked. )This book is a great starting point. I like that it does talk about how racism can be from any race/ religion to any race/religion and is always wrong. It helps give them a voice when they see it happening to someone else and I hope a voice when it happens to them. It does happen to ALL races, and we need to educate our children to help stop it.

I like the fact that this book gives an example of how to address a hidden racist behavior while at the same time teaching how to seek for advice and help. My 4 year old loves this book.

The book was a straightforward, easy read. But it pointed out, pictured and labeled certain people as being a "racist". Any one is susceptible to dealing with racist attitudes. I would like to see the attitude of racism being dealt with rather than labeling another human. This seems to promote the

very exclusionary attitude the book is supposedly trying to deal with.

Great way to introduce topic of racism to kids in grades K-2. In response to the review bemoaning the lack of reference to systematic racism--Isn't that topic a bit too complicated for the intended audience??? In response to the review about mostly black kids being treated unfairly--um, would it make sense to show white kids being victims of racism? It's a touchy subject. A book can't please everywhere. I think it's age appropriate and a good way to start ongoing conversations about an important topic.

great little text to get children thinking and appreciating other cultures my class thoroughly enjoyed listening to the book and many activities can be integrated into the story

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