

September 18-24 is Banned Books Week!

READ. RESIST. ACT! READ. RESIST. ACT!



What can you do as a parent, community member, book lover?

- WRITE** or contact your local, state, or federal representative about the rise in censorship.
- ATTEND** school and library board meetings!
- BUY, SUPPORT, and READ** books by BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ creators. A recent report by PEN American on the rise in book bans found that of the 1,145 books challenged in the last 9 months:

Ask us for a postcard to write your representatives!

467
(41%)

included protagonists or prominent secondary characters who were people of color

247
(22%)

directly address issues of race and racism

379
(33%)

explicitly address LGBTQ+ themes, or have protagonists or prominent secondary characters who are LGBTQ+

EVERY READER DESERVES TO SEE THEMSELVES IN A BOOK.

RESIST. ACT! READ. RESIST. ACT! READ. RESIST. ACT! READ. RESIST.



EVERY READER DESERVES TO SEE THEMSELVES IN A BOOK.

Banned Books Week is Sept. 18–24, 2022.



The rise in book censorship and challenges to intellectual freedom is a crisis that demands action. For Banned Books Week, join Penguin Young Readers in that action by inviting your community to write to your local, state, or federal representatives. This kit provides 25 postcards for you to hand out or use while hosting a letter-writing event during Banned Books Week. Those pushing censorship and attacking intellectual freedom are organized, and the fight for the right to read resides not just in supporting books by reading, but by engaging with school and library boards, local elections, and contacting government representatives to help preserve intellectual freedom.



Get full
resources for
you, your school,
library, and/or
community.

What you can do:

- HOST** a banned books event at your school, library, or bookstore. Discuss the rise in censorship and how to participate in your community.
- CONTACT** your local, state, and federal representatives (using the included postcards).
- BUY, SUPPORT, and READ** books by BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ creators.
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- GET A TITLE LIST** frequently challenged/banned books from Penguin Young Readers by scanning this QR code. Use the list to help create book displays at your library, bookstore, or school.



SCAN QR CODE
FOR TITLE LIST!

ABOUT BANNED BOOKS WEEK

Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores, and libraries. Typically held during the last week of September, it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community—librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types—in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular. Find out more at <https://bannedbooksweek.org/>

**EVERY READER
DESERVES TO
SEE THEMSELVES
IN A BOOK.**

From July 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

1,145 titles by **874** different authors and
198 illustrators were **BANNED.***

*From report on censorship by PEN America



Penguin
Young
Readers

I BELIEVE IN TEACHERS AND LIBRARIANS.

Access to books and the freedom of information is fundamental to our society.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE