Making Positive Change

The Day the Crayons Quit

By Drew Daywalt

In these difficult times, it is important for each of us to be given the opportunity to understand our role as a citizen. For our youngest citizens, a good place to start might be in the crayon box. Life in the crayon box is often very hectic. Some crayons feel they are over-used, while others feel they have been ignored for much too long. As you listen to The Day the Crayons Quit, think about how you would feel if you were in the position of each of these crayon colors. Then think about today and how people of color are asking to have their lives matter. Finally, consider how you might use your voice and your plans of action to make a positive change in your world!

Read or *listen to The Day the Crayons Quit. (*Check YOUTUBE for read-alouds of this book.

Take some time to think about and talk about the following:

Like most of us, Duncan has a box of crayons. Many of the crayons in his box are not happy about how they are being judged by Duncan. Each crayon that feels like it does not matter has chosen to write to Duncan about that feeling.

1. Have you ever felt like the beige crayon who writes that it always feels like it is in second place, never first to be chosen? Be ready to share your answer.

2. Have you ever felt like the red crayon who shares that it is always having to work harder than the other crayons in order to be noticed?

3. Have you ever felt like the pink crayon who feels unused because it is considered just a girl’s color?

4. Most of the crayons do not feel good about their situation simply because of their color. They do not feel that it matters if they are in the crayon box or not. How does the way the crayons feel help us understand how many Black and Brown people feel today in our country? Can you identify with one of the colors?