

CHILDREN'S RACIAL LEARNING COMES FROM MANY DIFFERENT SOURCES

Like other parts of children's development, learning about race begins very early — even before they're walking and talking — and continues throughout childhood. Children of all racial backgrounds are hearing and seeing lots of messages about race in their environments and are picking up on racialized patterns, even if adults don't think they're noticing.



Messages about race come from many sources beyond the ones listed here. We lift up these examples as key sources of input shaping children's racial learning.

A COLOR-BRAVE CAREGIVER HAS TWO IMPORTANT ROLES

1

They are a key source of information that shapes children's attitudes, values, and beliefs about race.

2

They are an active guide in helping children process messages about race from other sources.



By actively and intentionally engaging children in ongoing learning about race and racism, Color-Brave caregivers help shape children's values and beliefs *AND* help them critically process what they see and hear from other sources. If we embrace these two roles, then we can raise a generation of racially healthy children who are thoughtful, informed, and brave about race.

COLOR-BRAVE CAREGIVER | “WAYS OF BEING”

These four “Ways of Being” express our aspirations as Color-Brave caregivers who are both direct sources of beliefs, values, and information about race for children AND active guides in helping children process messages about race from other sources. Which of these are strengths for you, and which are opportunities for growth?



STEADFAST GUIDE

A Color-Brave caregiver makes space for a child's respectful curiosity about and understanding of race, communicating and demonstrating that they are open and there for the child and will be there again and again and again.



COMPASSIONATE SELF-EXAMINER

A Color-Brave caregiver consistently thinks about and explores their racial experience in their skin and regularly honestly examines their beliefs and behaviors around race.



BRAVE LEARNER

A Color-Brave caregiver is grounded in an open, active, and courageous approach to their own learning and models this approach with children.



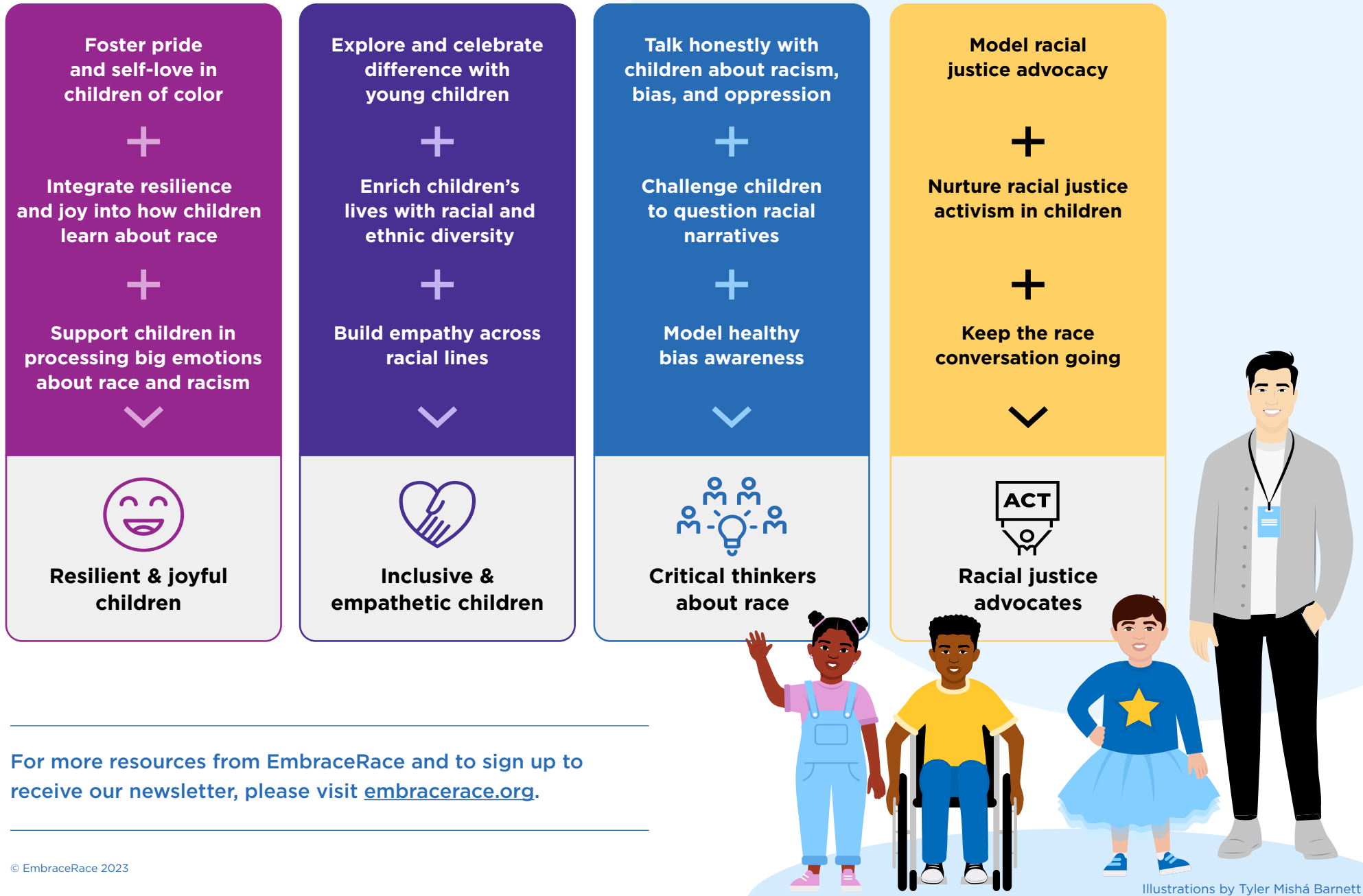
ANTIRACIST ADVOCATE

A Color-Brave caregiver recognizes that antiracist talk and thinking must be paired with antiracist action – individually and collectively – in order to achieve racial equity.



COLOR-BRAVE CAREGIVER | PRACTICES

To raise kids who are thoughtful, informed, and brave about race, Color-Brave caregivers engage in a range of practices.



For more resources from EmbraceRace and to sign up to receive our newsletter, please visit embraceRace.org.