

Teaching *informed thinking* to children is not just helping them to weigh facts out fairly, but also to recognize we all bring in our own bias to every experience. Distinguishing that small difference encourages tolerance, which invites civil conversation. Consequentially, differences will not divide, but rather enlighten.

Using *Friends In Hot Water*, a JackieMo Book, as a tool will simplify the concept that people can view the same situation differently because of who they are and what they know and how they are affected.

Teachers can introduce history lessons and social issues, with *Friends In Hot Water*. Parents, in addition, can introduce family matters.

Read the book first and then, after discussing the characters in the book, talk about The American Revolution, The Civil War, Black Lives Matter, Peaceful Protesting, Riots, Corona Virus, Zoom Schooling and any private family matters. Instead of passing judgment about who is a hero or whether or not it is a good thing, discuss each group or each person individually and ask:

What has this group or individual experienced in life so far?

What changes were brought to this group or individual by the event being discussed?

How would you feel if you were in this situation?

Why would you feel that way?

How can you make this experience more positive for this group or individual?

Let your child lead the discussion to whatever thoughts they have. A child can uncover solutions, new thoughts, and discoveries you never knew they had. Allow them to grow.