

## **Suggested Children's Books about the Struggle for Women's Suffrage in the United States**

This list has been prepared by members of the League of Women Voters of the Northampton Area after reviewing many books in local libraries. With thanks to the collaboration of the librarians at Forbes Library in Northampton, Lilly Library in Florence, and Meekins Library in Williamsburg. We have chosen twenty books that we believe will have strong appeal to elementary school children and their teachers. You will find many others in your local libraries, especially in the biography section.

### **General Interest including for read-aloud**

Ballots for Belva: The True Story of a Woman's Race for the Presidency

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen 2008 Forbes Grades 2-5

Well written appealing picture book about Belva Lockwood who became a lawyer, worked for women's suffrage, was nominated for president of the U.S. in 1872; story of history and perseverance

Bold and Brave: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote

Kirsten Gillebrand, Maira Kalman, illustrator 2018 Forbes Grades 1-5

Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote

Tanya Lee Stone 2008 Lilly and Forbes Grades 1-5

Picture book but good for all ages – accurate, well written, appealing illustrations

I Could Do That! Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote

Linda Arms White 2005 Forbes Grades K-5

Very engaging picture book – good read aloud any age. About the woman who helped win the vote in Wyoming and then was elected herself

Lillian's Right to Vote

Jonah Winter and Shane W. Evans 2015 Forbes Grades 1-5

Picture book about Lillian Allen – her march through the history of voting rights in the U.S. until, at the age of 100, she casts her vote for Barack Obama and canvasses her Pittsburgh neighborhood

Mary Walker Wears the Pants: The True Story of the Doctor, Reformer and Civil War Hero

Cheryl Harness 2013 Lilly Grades 1-5

A very interesting person – mentions suffrage, although not a focus

Miss Paul and the President: The Creative Campaign for Women's Right to Vote

Dean Robbins 2016 Forbes Grades K-5

Engaging picture book about the significant role that Alice Paul played and who she was as a feisty woman

Rabble Rousers

Cheryl Harness 2003 Lilly Grades 1-5

American History through the experience of women. Includes a significant suffrage section

Remember the Ladies: 100 Great American Women

Cheryl Harness 2001 Lilly and Forbes Grades 1-5

Travel through American History from settlement to now through the experiences of famous American Women – very useful and interesting reference - good foundational history book

Why Couldn't Susan B. Anthony Vote: and other questions about Women's Suffrage

Mary Kay Carson 2015 Forbes Grades 2-5 - Our best choices of the many Susan B. Anthony books

## **Grades K-2**

### A Lady Has the Floor

Kate Hannigan 2018 Forbes Grades K-2

Picture book about Belva Lockwood who was nominated for president of the U.S. in 1872

### Around America To Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, A Kitten, and 10,000 miles

Mara Rockliff 2016 Lilly Grades K-2

Very appealing about the perseverance of two suffragists in their cross country automobile tour to advocate for women's suffrage – good book for young children

### Friends for Freedom: The Story of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass

Suzanne Slade 2014 Forbes Grades K-3

Not as good as above but more detail and similar emphasis on their friendship

### Marching with Aunt Susan

Claire Rudolf Murphy 2011 Forbes Grades K-3

Picture book story of a real girl, Bessie Keith Pond, who met Susan B. Anthony and was inspired to pursue the vote; very engaging and well written

### Two Friends: Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass

Dean Robbins 2016 Forbes Grades K-2

Accurate information and a compelling story about friendship and determination

## **Grades 3-6**

### Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told

Walter Dean Myers 2008 Forbes Grades 3-5

Very effective picture book; read aloud (note lynching info and pictures that are sensitive)

### Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters

Andrea Davis Pinkney 2000 Forbes Grades 2-6

Short biographies of Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells and Harriet Tubman among others.

A gorgeous book, well written with especially artistic illustrations

### Roses and Radicals: The Epic Story of How American Women Won the Right to Vote

Susan Zimet and Todd Hasak-Lowy 2018 Forbes Grades 4-8 An excellent overview of the suffrage movement with accurate and interesting details and interpretation of the history. Good for grades 5-8.

### She Takes a Stand: 16 Fearless Activists Who Have Changed the World

Michael Elsohn Ross 2015 Forbes Grades 4-6

Connects modern feminist stories to historical contexts

### You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton?

Jean Fritz 1995 Forbes and Lilly Grades 4-5

Very well written biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, first chapter would be a fine read aloud for 2-5

### With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote

Ann Bausum 2004 Lilly Grades 4-6 and very useful for teachers

Well written and interesting with helpful biographies and references; all illustrations are photographs.