Diane Nash worked alongside John Lewis and Martin Luther King Jr. for social justice, yet few know her name. She led sit-ins at Nashville lunch counters with like-minded students until people of all colors could eat together. Then she took on the Freedom Rides to integrate bus travel. She helped secure passage of the Voting Rights Act. All her fights were peaceful protests. Diane changed the world with courage and love. Her love is loud.

Sandra Neil Wallace and Bryan Collier, recipients of the Orbis Pictus Award for outstanding nonfiction for Between the Lines, tell the story of change maker and racial justice leader Diane Nash in this inspiring picture book biography of a true icon of freedom.

LOVE IS LOUD
How Diane Nash Led the Civil Rights Movement

By SANDRA NEIL WALLACE
Illustrated by BRYAN COLLIER
CALDECOTT HONOR RECIPIENT


“Sandra Neil Wallace’s lyrical prose coupled with award-winning illustrator Bryan Collier’s captivating visions immerse readers in the pivotal, yet under-told story, of civil rights leader Diane Nash.”
—Lori Ann Terjesen, National Women’s History Museum

“Sandra Neil Wallace and Bryan Collier’s book displays beautifully Diane Nash’s courage to challenge the ills of segregation.”
—Dr. Russell Wigginton, president, National Civil Rights Museum

★ “An inspiring meditation on love as the heart of justice.”
—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, starred review

★ “A poignant and powerful portrayal of the life and work of an unsung civil rights activist.”
—KIRKUS REVIEWS, starred review

★ “Collier’s watercolor and collage illustrations beautifully complement the text.”
—THE HORN BOOK, starred review
**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do Diane Nash’s parents want her to be born in Chicago and not in the South like they were? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- Even though Diane is “fearful, tearful” when her father joins the army and her mother works outside the home, she is well taken care of by her grandmother. Describe the impact her grandmother has on Diane’s life during this difficult time.

- Why does Diane experience high school as a confusing time? What contrasts in her environment does she witness? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3]

- Diane heads to Fisk University in Nashville for college. Friends take her to a fair where she sees signs for bathrooms labeled “whites” and “colored.” Describe Diane’s reaction to what she sees at the fair.

- What are some of the situations in the South that Diane is determined to change from wrong into right? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- Diane is focused on challenging segregated lunch counters in Nashville. Rather than “going along to get along,” Diane faces possible harm and arrest by her protest. What does this action reveal about Diane’s character? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- What event causes Diane to lead thousands of people to march to confront the mayor at the courthouse steps? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- The mayor tells Diane and the others that there is nothing he can do about the segregated lunch counters. What point does Diane make that changes the mayor’s mind about the issue? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- Because of Diane’s efforts, Nashville lunch counters finally serve everyone. Diane had achieved this through nonviolent means. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commends Diane’s peaceful efforts. Discuss this key question: Is love more powerful than hatred? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.6]

- Discuss the contrast between Diane’s success with changing the segregation of lunch counters in Nashville with the way she is treated during the freedom marches in Washington, DC, in 1963. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- What are the Freedom Rides and how is Diane involved with them? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3]

- Why do you think this book is titled *Love Is Loud*? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.6]

- What message or lesson do you think the author is trying to share by telling the story of Diane Nash’s life? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.6]
ACTIVITIES

Key Word Time Line
Throughout *Love Is Loud*, the author chooses key words to highlight each segment of Diane Nash’s life. For example, when Diane is fighting to change segregated lunch counters, the author describes this period as DEFiant and DETERmIned. Make a time line of your life using adding machine tape. Measure one foot for every year of your life and divide the tape into one-year sections. Illustrate and caption the most significant event in each year of your life. Include two key words in each section to sum up the feeling of that year in your life.

Interviewing Diane Nash
Pretend that you have the opportunity to interview Diane Nash about her life, thoughts, and opinions. Generate a list of at least five questions to ask her. Given what you know about her life and character from reading *Love Is Loud*, imagine how she might answer your questions. Write the interview in a question-and-answer format.

Opinion Piece
Diane Nash dedicated her life to working against segregation. Do you think people should stand up for what is right even when it is hard to do? Write an opinion piece that states how you feel about the price of activism. Include reasons for your opinion.

Honoring Diane Nash
Throughout American history, we have honored famous Americans on our money (coins and bills) and postage stamps. Design a stamp, coin, or bill that honors the life and work of Diane Nash.

The discussion questions and activities in this guide were created by Leigh Courtney, Ph.D. She teaches in the Global Education program at a public school in San Diego, California. She holds both masters’ and doctoral degrees in education, with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction.
EXPLORING THE TIME LINE

A detailed time line of Diane Nash’s life is located at the end of Love Is Loud. Use the information in the time line to number the events listed below in the correct order. Note the date of each event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diane attends Reverend James Lawson’s nonviolent protest workshops at Clark Memorial Methodist Church.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane is unable to attend a Chicago modeling school because she is Black.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane is born in Chicago, Illinois.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane leads 122 students to Nashville stores in the first of many lunch counter sit-ins, launching the Nashville Student Movement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane transfers to Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MILESTONES IN DIANE NASH’S LIFE

Look through Love Is Loud and identify three key accomplishments/milestones in the life of Diane Nash. Draw a detailed illustration of each moment and write a description. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2

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MAKING CONNECTIONS

Readers can better understand books by noticing how the stories connect to other books they’ve read, experiences they’ve had, or similar things happening in the real world. Think carefully about *Love Is Loud* and what you’ve learned about Diane Nash and make connections!

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.9**

### TEXT TO TEXT
Connections you can make between the story and other books you have read.

### TEXT TO SELF
Connections you can make between the story and your own life experiences.

### TEXT TO WORLD
Broader connections you can make to the larger world—to things you have seen or learned from television, movies, newspapers, travel, etc.

Name: ____________________________________________

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*LOVE IS LOUD: How Diane Nash Led the Civil Rights Movement CURRICULUM GUIDE*

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