

## **Orange Shirt Day Resources for Kids and Youth**

As we plan for Orange Shirt Day (September 30), it's important to share age-appropriate stories with the young people in our communities of faith. It's never too early to start sharing the message "Every Child Matters." Prioritize Indigenous voices and creators, and if you are purchasing Orange Shirts or other materials make sure the funds go to organizations that directly support Residential School Survivors.

Consider the age of the kids you are working with and be prepared for questions. Review the books and videos ahead of time so you know what is coming. If your group includes school-age children, it is likely that they will have encountered a lesson about Orange Shirt Day at school so you may start with a conversation – they will likely be able to teach the congregation something!

For younger children, this story can be scary especially early in the school year when they are just getting used to the idea of being away from their caregivers. This story is important to share, however. Try focusing on how it's important to celebrate uniqueness, or talk about how "when we know better we do better."

Most importantly, connect with any local groups that are commemorating Orange Shirt Day and show your support with your presence. Invite your faith community to join you!

### **Books published about Phyllis's story:**

**The Orange Shirt Story** – *appropriate for older kids, age 9-12*

<https://www.indigo.ca/en-ca/the-orange-shirt-story-the-true-story-of-orange-shirt-day/9780993869495.html>

**Phyllis's Orange Shirt** – *an adaptation for younger children, age 4-6*

<https://www.indigo.ca/en-ca/phylliss-orange-shirt/9781989122242.html>

**With Our Orange Shirts** – *an adaptation for younger children, age 3-5*

<https://www.indigo.ca/en-ca/with-our-orange-hearts/9781989122976.html>

**Today is Orange Shirt Day** – *an adaptation for our youngest friends*

<https://www.indigo.ca/en-ca/today-is-orange-shirt-day/9781778540363.html>

### **Other Children's Literature:**

**Kookum's Red Shoes**

<https://saskatoonlibrary.ca/collection/item/848470/>

\*there are many more children's books about Residential Schools, check with your local library or bookstore

## **Links and Resources:**

**The Orange Shirt Day website** has many videos, ideas for simple but meaningful activities, and lots of printables.

<https://orangeshirtday.org/reconciliation-hub/resources/>

**United Church of Canada**

<https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/honour-children-who-attended-residential-schools>