Activities for *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia

When this book begins, it’s the summer of 1968 and Delphine and her two younger sisters are traveling to Oakland, California to see their mom, who left when they were small. They are about to meet all kinds of characters, from the members of the Black Panthers who give out free breakfast to their own mother, a poet, whom they barely know. It is going to be a summer to remember. This is a book that makes you feel, makes you think, and makes you see our world in a new way.

You can check out the audio eBook by visiting denverlibrary.org/downloads and choosing RB Digital.

Visit youtube.com/denverlibrary and check out the Book Explorers playlist to learn more about the book. Then, try one of these activities to extend the experience.

**Make a sign**

In the book, Delphine and her sisters make protest signs in support of racial justice. Think about what you believe. **What is something that you know is right?** Would you defend your belief if others told you it was wrong? Make a sign to tell the world what you believe in.

**Remember this year**

The summer of 1968 is a time that we read about in history books today. History is happening now, too. Think about all of the changes that have taken place because of COVID-19. **How is your life different today than it was in 2019?** Now think about the protests that have taken place across the United States and the world in support of racial justice. How have those protests affected you and your family? Write down your experiences and your feelings. Keep your writing in a safe place so that you can revisit it someday. We are living through history!
What to read next

P.S. Be Eleven and Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams-Garcia - Read these sequels to One Crazy Summer for more up-close-and-personal historical fiction. Follow Delphine and her sisters as they return to Brooklyn in P.S. Be Eleven and then travel to visit family in Alabama in Gone Crazy in Alabama.

King and the Dragonflies by Kacen Callender - In a small Louisiana town, a kid named King is grieving his brother, who died unexpectedly. Plus, he’s trying to figure out what to do to help a friend who has run away from home and he’s trying to figure out who he is. Where One Crazy Summer makes the reader think about who gets to tell the story of history, King and the Dragonflies makes you think about who gets to tell the story of your life.

Finding Langston by Lesa Cline-Ransome - More historical fiction. This one is set in 1946 Chicago, where Langston and his father have moved, leaving their home in Alabama. Langston feels like he’s left his whole world behind. Life in the city is fast and scary. But there is one wonderful thing about Chicago--the public library. Unlike the library in Alabama, this one is open to Black people and within its walls, Langston discovers a whole new world. Read this one if you’re going through changes in your life and want Langston to keep you company on the journey.