Checking Texts for Bias

Examine the illustrations and photographs. Take a random sampling of at least 10 photos or illustrations.

How does the proportion of males and females, minorities and whites compare?

Are the males, females, and minorities portrayed as equally capable?
I.e., when showing science lab or computers, who is "doing " and who is watching?

Do the illustrations portray over simplified lifestyles such as Native Americans living in tepees or blacks living in urban settings, while whites live in single-family homes?

Is the language gender neutral?

Who is the focus of the action in the story or the examples?

Do any stereotypes occur in the text?   For example, are the males stronger, smarter, more active while the females are passive, less noticed and not as much a part of the story?

How are minorities portrayed? Do you feel that they are portrayed as being just as capable as others?

Summarize your findings: