

# The **TIME TRAVEL ADVENTURES** of **ARA**

**WILLIAM PEYTON HUBBARD AND THE  
POWER OF ADVOCACY**



**Resources and Study Kit for Parents,  
Caregivers, or Guardians**

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**This kit aims to help families explore the themes and history within "William Peyton Hubbard and The Power of Advocacy" through shared reading and discussion.**

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## • Book Overview

- Title: William Peyton Hubbard and The Power of Advocacy

- Series: The Time Travel Adventures of Ara, Book Two

- Author: Channon Oyeniran

- Dedication: The book is dedicated to Araoluwa and Oluwakorede, serving as a reminder to always remember those who came before and fought for them, ensuring their heritage and history have a voice and shine brightly.

- Story Summary: Ara, a young boy from Toronto, goes on his second time-travel adventure. With a new friend, Naomi, he is transported back to 1907 Toronto, where they meet William Peyton Hubbard, the city's first Black Acting Mayor. Together, they embark on a mission to advocate for Black and other underserved communities regarding the public ownership of electric power.

## • Key Themes for Family Discussion

- Advocacy: Discuss what it means to stand up for what is right and help others. Ara and Naomi learn that even children can make a difference.
- History and Heritage: Explore the importance of learning about the past, especially Black history, and how it shapes the present. The book highlights figures like William Peyton Hubbard, Henry Bibb, Harriet Tubman, and Mary Ann Shadd Cary.
- Community and Unity: Talk about how coming together as a community, like the residents of St. John's Ward, can lead to powerful change. Ara's dad's African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together," is a great conversation starter.
- Resilience and Courage: Discuss the bravery of historical figures like William Peyton Hubbard, who persisted despite challenges to serve his community.
- Equality and Social Justice: Reflect on historical inequalities (e.g., women's rights in 1907, access to electricity) and how advocacy helps achieve a fairer society.

- **Conversation Starters**

- What surprised you most about Toronto in 1907 compared to today?
- Why do you think William Peyton Hubbard was called "The Cicero of the Council"?
- How did Ara and Naomi help the community in 1907? What did they learn about helping others?
- Have you ever advocated for something you believed in? How did it feel?
- What does the book's dedication mean to you and our family?

## • Engaging Activities

- Local History Exploration: Just like Ara, visit local museums (e.g., Royal Ontario Museum) or significant historical sites in your city/town. Research local historical figures, especially those from underrepresented communities.
- Family Research Project: Research William Peyton Hubbard or other Black historical figures mentioned (Henry Bibb, Harriet Tubman, Mary Ann Shadd Cary).
- Advocacy in Action: Discuss a small cause your family cares about and brainstorm ways to advocate for it, such as writing a letter, creating a poster, or discussing it with others.

**Downloadable Resources:** To support diverse programming, institutions can utilize free downloadable colouring sheets available on the book's website for children's activities. Additionally, a more detailed book brief can be downloaded for staff training, exhibit research, and public information materials. Please email visit [www.TheTimeTravelAdventuresOfAra.com](http://www.TheTimeTravelAdventuresOfAra.com) for more information