Building Empathy

Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library
A Selective Annotated Bibliography

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sam must decide how to spend the lucky money he's received for Chinese New Year.</td>
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<td>But when Sam realizes that his grandparents' gift is not enough to get the things</td>
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<td>he wants, his excitement turns to disappointment. Even though his mother reminds</td>
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<td></td>
<td>him that he should appreciate the gift, Sam is not convinced until a surprise</td>
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<td></td>
<td>encounter with a stranger.</td>
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<td>ISBN</td>
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<td>Grandpa explains that the golden rule is a simple statement on how to live that can be practiced by people of all ages and faiths, then helps his grandson figure out how to apply the rule to his own life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD140L</td>
<td>De Kinder, Jan</td>
<td><em>Red</em></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Torn between her fear of the bully on the school playground and her sympathy for her classmate, a girl must make a difficult choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD610L</td>
<td>de la Peña, Matt</td>
<td><em>Last Stop on Market Street</em></td>
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<td>Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty -- and fun -- in their routine and the world around them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD680L</td>
<td>DiCamillo, Kate</td>
<td><em>Great Joy</em></td>
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<td>Just before Christmas, when Frances sees a sad-eyed organ grinder and his monkey performing near her apartment, she cannot stop thinking about them, wondering where they go at night, and wishing she could do something to help.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD600L</td>
<td>Donaldson, Julia</td>
<td><em>The Spiffiest Giant in Town</em></td>
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<td>George the giant, known for wearing his old patched clothes, finally buys new ones, but then gives them away to some needy animals.</td>
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<td>Woolbur, a sheep with a mind of his own, never seems to follow the flock, despite his parents' reminders about how he should behave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>460L</td>
<td>Henkes, Kevin</td>
<td><em>Chrysanthemum</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chrysanthemum loves her name, until she starts going to school and the other children make fun of it.</td>
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Lily has trouble reading. Whenever she tries, the letters jump around and get all mixed up. When the teacher announces that the students will read in front of their parents, Lily finally finds the courage to tell her mother about her problem. Working together with her teacher, her mom, and her friend Grace, Lily learns special ways to help her read. In the process, she also comes to understand her own strengths and talents.

Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is black, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.

Brian has always felt invisible at school, but when a new student, Justin, arrives, everything changes.

When Stillwater the panda encourages Koo, Addy, Michael, and Karl to help a grouchy neighbor, their efforts are rewarded in unexpected ways.

A number/color book reminding us that it just takes one to make everyone count.

One snowy night, a fox loses its way, entering a village. Chased away by the villagers, Fox takes shelter in a greenhouse. A child sees this from his window. Without hesitating, he brings a basket of food to the fox. His gift and kindness are noticed, and the night becomes a garden, full of hope and surprise.
E R7227H

A dog trying to make sense of the world of humans is puzzled then jealous when a new baby arrives on the scene, but a friendship with the girl dog next door leads him to a new understanding.

E SP327W

A little bear explains that he cares about the feelings of others and that others care about him.

E ST341BE

A little girl's smile as she skips down the street in New York inspires a neighbor to send cookies to her grandson in Mexico, and the goodwill soon spreads around the world.

E W327R

A story about a rude cake who never says please or thank you or listens to its parents, and a Giant Cyclops who is polite.

E W6759CAM

A child, her waitress mother, and her grandmother save dimes to buy a comfortable armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.

E W868E

When Ms. Albert teaches a lesson on kindness, Chloe realizes that she and her friends have been wrong in making fun of new student Maya's shabby clothes and refusing to play with her.

E Z848L

A man drives his truck up to a cliff’s edge. Unable to go any further, he opens the back door of his truck and a flock of birds flies out, but, as the man soon discovers, a small timid bird remains. Surprised and delighted, the man acts kindly towards the bird and an intimacy develops. After lunch, the man tries to show the bird that he should fly off and join his friends. The man's comic
attempt at flight deepens the encounter between these two very different creatures. Soon the bird flies off and the man drives away, but in a surprise twist the bird and his friends return, and in a starkly lyrical moment we see them all experience something entirely new.

**FICTION**


Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.


“Blubber is a good name for her,” the note from Caroline said about Linda. Jill crumpled it up and left it on the corner of her school desk. She didn’t want to think about Linda or her dumb report on whales just then. Jill wanted to think about Halloween.

But Robby grabbed the note and before Linda stopped talking it had gone halfway around the room. There was something about Linda that made a lot of kids in her fifth-grade class want to see how far they could go…but nobody, Jill least of all, expected the fun to end where it did.


Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.


At the heart of the story is Wanda Petronski, a Polish girl in a Connecticut school who is ridiculed by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day. Wanda claims she has one hundred dresses at home, but everyone knows she doesn’t and bullies her mercilessly. The class feels terrible when Wanda is pulled out of the school, but by that time it’s too late for apologies. Maddie, one of Wanda’s classmates, ultimately decides that she is "never going to stand by and say nothing again."
As Trent Zimmerman struggles to move past a traumatic event that took place several months earlier, he befriends class outcast Fallon Little, who helps him understand that he can move on.

A twelve-year-old Indian immigrant in New York City and a Kentucky coal miner's son become pen pals, and eventually best friends, through a series of revealing letters exploring such topics as environmental activism, immigration, and racism.

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

Sarah, a young Appalachian girl, learns about love, family and responsibility while helping her blind grandfather.

Marley Sandelski has always felt invisible at school when he is not facing bullies, but a series of unexpected events gives him a taste of popularity and insights into some classmates, well-liked or greatly-feared.
NONFICTION


A brief biography of the woman whose concern for others led her to become a pioneer in the field of nursing.


Twenty-five short stories illustrate the kinds of pressure children can face in social situations, including peer pressure, bullying, being part of a clique, and tolerance, and offer discussion questions at the end of each story.


The Kids Book of Dealing with Bullies will teach kids stay in control, walk away, get help, share their feelings and be proud in the face of bullying. This book will show kids how to use compassion, respect, responsibility, and honesty with those around them.


Describes the differences between cultures.


Dr. Fisch connects with students in a manner which goes far beyond words. In his visits to schools, he has stated, “Good can be learned from one of the worst human tragedies. We must remain human, toward everyone, even in a inhuman environment.” He began asking the students to write to him about their thoughts and feelings.

BIOGRAPHY


Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and
making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful--and very awkward--hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear--sometimes things she shouldn't--but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become "El Deafo, Listener for All." And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION


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