



Building Empathy

Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library A Selective Annotated Bibliography

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance.

Grade Level	Title Information	Call Number
	EASY	
K - 12	Boelts, Maribeth. <i>Those Shoes</i> . Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2007. Jeremy, who longs to have the black high tops that everyone at school seems to have but his grandmother cannot afford, is excited when he sees them for sale in a thrift shop and decides to buy them even though they are the wrong size	E B6333T
PreK - 2	Britt, Paige. <i>Why am I Me?</i> New York: Scholastic Press, 2017. In a poetic, philosophical exchange, two children of different races ask themselves why they are who and what they are and speculate on how they could be different.	E B77797W
PreK - 2	Brown, Margaret Wise. <i>The Dead Bird</i> . New York: Harper, 2016. When they find a dead bird, a group of children buries it in the woods, sings a song to it, and puts flowers on the grave.	E B81418D
PreK - 2	Chinn, Karen. <i>Sam and the Lucky Money</i> . New York: Lee & Low Books, 1995.	E C4419S

Sam must decide how to spend the lucky money he's received for Chinese New Year. But when Sam realizes that his grandparents' gift is not enough to get the things he wants, his excitement turns to disappointment. Even though his mother reminds him that he should appreciate the gift, Sam is not convinced until a surprise encounter with a stranger.

- K - 5 Cooper, Ilene. *The Golden Rule*. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2007. E
C7855G
- 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.
- K - 2 De Kinder, Jan. *Red*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2015. E
D3696R
- Torn between her fear of the bully on the school playground and her sympathy for her classmate, a girl must make a difficult choice
- K - 2 de la Peña, Matt. *Last Stop on Market Street*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2015. E
D3706L
- A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.
- K - 2 DiCamillo, Kate. *Great Joy*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2007. E
D5471G
- 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.
- N/A Donaldson, Julia. *The Spiffiest Giant in Town*. New York: Puffin Books, 2005. E
D7148SP
- George the giant, known for wearing his old patched clothes, finally buys new ones, but then gives them away to some needy animals.
- PreK - 2 Helakoski, Leslie. *Woolbur*. New York: HarperCollins Childrens Books, 2008. E
H3663W
- Woolbur, a sheep with a mind of his own, never seems to follow the flock, despite his parents' reminders about how he should behave.

PreK - 2	Henkes, Kevin. <i>Chrysanthemum</i> . New York: Greenwillow Books, 1991.	E H3893CHR
	Chrysanthemum loves her name, until she starts going to school and the other children make fun of it.	
1 - 3	Hodge, Deborah. <i>Lily and the Mixed-Up Letters</i> . Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2007.	E H662L
	When Lily tries to read, the letters seem to get all jumbled up, and so she does not know what to do when her teacher announces that they must all read a page aloud for Parent's Day.	
K - 2	Hoffman, Mary. <i>Amazing Grace</i> . New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1991.	E H6754A
	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.	
K - 2	Ludwig, Trudy. <i>The Invisible Boy</i> . New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013.	E L9669I
	Brian has always felt invisible at school, but when a new student, Justin, arrives, everything changes.	
1 - 5	Muth, Jon J. <i>Zen Ties</i> . New York: Scholastic Press, 2008.	E M983ZT
	When Stillwater the panda encourages Koo, Addy, Michael, and Karl to help a grouchy neighbor, their efforts are rewarded in unexpected ways.	
PreK-K	Otoshi, Kathryn. <i>One</i> . Mill Valley, CA: KO Kids Books, 2008.	E OT6O
	Ill-tempered Red got too powerful for his own good and had to be brought down to size by One--a single entity with the courage to stand up for what was right.	
PreK - 1	Princesse Camcam. <i>Fox's Garden</i> . Brooklyn, NY: Enchanted Lion Books, 2014.	E P9356F
	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.	

PreK - 2	Rosen, Michael. <i>Howler</i> . New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2004.	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.	
PreK	Spelman, Cornelia. <i>When I Care About Others</i> . Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2002.	E SP327W
	A little bear explains that he cares about the feelings of others and that others care about him.	
2 - 4	Stein, David Ezra. <i>Because Amelia Smiled</i> . Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2007.	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.	
PreK - 1	Watkins, Rowboat. <i>Rude Cakes</i> . San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2015.	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.	
1 - 2	Williams, Vera B. <i>A Chair for My Mother</i> . New York: Greenwillow Books, 1982.	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.	
	Min/Max Grade Level: 1 through 2; Lexile: n/a; BL: 3.4	
2 - 5	Woodson, Jacqueline. <i>Each Kindness</i> . New York: Nancy Paulsen Books, 2012.	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.	
K - 2	Zullo, Germano. <i>Little Bird</i> . New York: Enchanted Lion Books, 2012.	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

- 3 - 6 Alexander, Kwame. *The Crossover*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. F
AL2715C
- 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.
- N/A Blume, Judy. *Blubber*. Scarsdale, NY: Bradbury Press, 1974. F
B6259B
- Jill goes along with the rest of the fifth-grade class in tormenting a classmate and then finds out what it is like when she, too, becomes a target.
- 4 - 6 Draper, Sharon. *Out of My Mind*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2010. F
D7918O
- 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.
- 3 - 4 Estes, Eleanor. *The Hundred Dresses*. Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 2004. F
ES85H
- None of her classmates pay much attention to Wanda Petronski, a Polish-American girl, until she announces she has 100 dresses in her closet. Everyone laughs and teases her so much that she stops coming to school. Then, her classmates discover she really does have 100 dresses and discover something about teasing and themselves.
- 4 - 8 Graff, Lisa. *Lost in the Sun*. New York: Philomel Books, 2015. F
G758L
- 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.
- 4 - 7 House, Silas. *Same Sun Here*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2012. F
H8167S

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.

4 - 7 Palacio, R.J. *Wonder*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. F
P171W

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.

9 - 12 Rice, James. *Alice and the Fly*. New York: Quercus, 2016. F
R363A

Greg is cripplingly shy, afraid of spiders, and obsessed with Breakfast at Tiffany's. He's not exactly the most popular kid at his high school. In fact, he pretty much goes out of his way to avoid talking to anybody he doesn't have to. And it doesn't help that he has a severe lisp. But Greg's English teacher, Miss Hayes, can see that there's something different about him. When Greg begins to take an interest in a girl at his school named Alice, he realizes that he will have to face his most paralyzing anxieties if he wants to befriend Alice and help her escape from her tumultuous family life.

5 - 8 Sloan, Holly Goldberg. *Counting by 7s*. New York: Dial Book for Young Readers, 2013. F
SL523C

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.

5 - 9 Yee, Lisa. *Warp Speed*. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2011. F
Y3523W

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

N/A Mosher, Kiki. *Learning About Compassion from the Life of Florence Nightingale*. New York: PowerKids Press, 1996. 155.25
M853C

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

4 - 6	Humphrey, Sandra McLeod. <i>Hot Issues, Cool Choices! Facing Bullies, Peer Pressure, Popularity and Put-Downs</i> . Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2007.	155.42 H887H
	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.	
N/A	Hanson, Anders. <i>No Bullies Allowed! The Kids' Book of Dealing with Bullies</i> . Minneapolis, MN: Super Sandcastle, 2015.	302.34 H1987N
	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.	
4 - 6	Owings, Lisa. <i>Punishing Bullies: Zero Tolerance vs. Working Together</i> . Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books, 2015.	302.34 OW3P
	Discusses the issues surrounding bullying in schools and examines different methods of handling bullying, from zero tolerance punishment policies to counseling and holistic approaches to preventing bullying.	
N/A	Hanson, Anders. <i>Everyone Here is Equal: The Kids' Book of Tolerance</i> . Minneapolis, MN: Super Sandcastle, 2015.	305 H1987E
	<i>Everyone is Equal: The Kids' Book of Tolerance</i> will teach kids to be tolerant of other peoples' looks, abilities, beliefs, and to talk & learn about differences. This book will show kids how to use compassion, respect, responsibility, and honesty with those around them.	
N/A	Solomon, Andrew. <i>Far from the Tree: How Children and Their Parents Learn to Accept One Another ... Our Differences Unite Us</i> . New York: Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 2017.	306.874 SO472F
	Offers a Young Adult adaptation of the best-selling exploration of the impact of extreme differences between parents and children.	
1 - 2	Weber, Rebecca. <i>Understanding Differences</i> . Minneapolis, MN: Compass Point Books, 2005.	390 W3888U
	Describes the differences between cultures.	
N/A	Fisch, Robert O. <i>Dear Dr. Fisch: Children's Letters to a Holocaust Survivor</i> . Minneapolis, MN: Nodin Press, 2004.	940.5318 F52D
	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

- 2 - 6 Bell, Cece. *El Deafo*. New York: Amulet Books, 2014. B
B4132B
- The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower."
- 1 - 3 Burcaw, Shane. *Not So Different: What You Really Want to Ask About Having a Disability*. New York: Roaring Book Press, 2017. B
B892BN
- The disabilities advocate behind the nonprofit, laughingatmynightmare.com, presents a highly visual reference that answers the most common questions about his wheelchair and spinal muscular atrophy, describing how he works through his physical challenges so that he can fully enjoy the activities he loves.
- 3 - 6 Hoge, Robert. *Ugly*. New York: Puffin Books, 2017. B
H6792H
- Robert Hoge was born with a tumor the size of a tennis ball in the middle of his face and short, twisted legs, but he refused to let what made him different stand in the way of leading a happy, successful life. This is the true story of how he embraced his circumstances and never let his "ugly" stop him from focusing on what truly mattered."

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

- Rice, Judith. *The Kindness Curriculum: Stop Bullying Before It Starts*. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press, 2013. 370.114
R363K
- Smith, Charles A. *The Peaceful Classroom: 162 Easy Activities to Teach Preschoolers Compassion and Cooperation*. Mt. Ranier, MD: Gryphon House, 1993. 371.395
SM53P
- Le Messurier, Mark. *What's the Buzz? A Social Skills Enrichment Programme for Primary Students*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2011. 372.83
L5431W
- Stuecker, Ric. *Cultivating Kindness in School: Activities that Promote Integrity, Respect, and Compassion in Elementary and Middle School Students*. Champaign, IL: Research Press, 2004. 373.14
ST94C

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