



Problem Solving & Conflict Resolution

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.

Lexile Score	Title Information	Call Number
BIG BOOKS		
AD480L	Slobodkina, Esphyr. <i>Caps for Sales: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys and Their Monkey Business</i> . New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1996. A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.	BB SL5291C
EASY		
830L	Daemicke, Songju Ma. <i>Cao Chong Weighs an Elephant</i> . Mt. Pleasant, SC: Arbordale Publishing, 2017. 2,000 years ago in China, a curious boy named Cao Chong solves the problem of how to weigh an elephant when the prime minister's most trusted and knowledgeable advisors are stumped. Includes activities.	E D1313C
AD410L	Delacroix, Sibylle. <i>Blanche Hates the Night</i> . Toronto, ON: Owlkids Books, 2016. When Blanche goes to bed, she tries very hard to avoid the night. She makes	E D371B

loud noises to try to wake up the sun, but instead she wakes up angry parents. She sings and fools around, jumping and tumbling on her bed until she is caught again. Eventually, she wears herself out and falls happily asleep. This is a little book about a big problem: going to sleep when you really HATE the night.

N/A Ellis, Sarah. *Ben Over Night*. Markham, ON: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2006. E
EL596B

Ben likes nothing more than to go over to Peter's house. When the two friends play together, Ben can be anything he wants: a pirate, a musician, a cook. He can even be a potato! But when it comes to sleepovers, all Ben can think about is going home - right away. He doesn't like the strange bed or the unfamiliar noises in the night.

AD580L Esbaum, Jill. *Teeny Tiny Toady*. New York: Sterling Children's Books, 2016. E
ES12T

Oh, no! Teeny's mama is stuck in a bucket! What's a toad to do? Hurry home for help, of course!

N/A Fagan, Cary. *Ten Old Men and a Mouse*. Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2007. E
F131TE

Max, Nat, Bud, Al, Mose, Herm, and several other old men, pray in the morning and evening at the synagogue in much the same way until their routine is interrupted by an unlikely intruder.

AD400L Fletcher, Tom. *There's a Monster in Your Book*. New York: Random House, 2017. E
F6377THM

Encourages the reader to shake, tilt, and wiggle the book to remove the little monster inside, but once it is out, another problem arises.

460L Havill, Juanita. *Jamaica's Find*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1986. E
H2997JZF

Jamaica finds a stuffed dog at the playground and after taking him home without trying to find the owner discovers her conscience as well.

600L Henkes, Kevin. *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1996. E
H3893LP

Lilly loves everything about school, especially her teacher, but when he asks her to wait a while before showing her new purse, she does something for which she is very sorry later.

680L	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.	
610L	Jacobsen, Jennifer. <i>Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Dolores Starbuckle</i> . Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2006.	E J158AV
	Andy Shane hates school, mainly because of a tattletale know-it-all named Dolores Starbuckle, but Granny Webb, who has taken care of him all his life, joins him in class one day and helps him solve the problem.	
N/A	Jenkins, Emily. <i>Tiger and Badger</i> . Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2016.	E J4159TI
	Best friends Tiger and Badger work through their disagreements over a toy, a chair, and sharing.	
AD560L	Lionni, Leo. <i>It's Mine!</i> New York: Knopf, 1986.	E L661IT
	Three selfish frogs live together on an island in the middle of Rainbow Pond. All day long they bicker: It's mine! It's mine! It's mine! But a bad storm and a big brown toad help them realize that sharing is much more fun.	
AD790L	Lyon, George Ella. <i>No Dessert Forever!</i> New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2006.	E L9945N
	After they have an argument, a young girl imagines how she would treat her mother if their roles were reversed.	
510L	McMillan, Bruce. <i>The Problem with Chickens</i> . Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2005.	E M2282P
	When women in an Icelandic village buy chickens to lay eggs for them to use, the chickens follow them, adopting human ways and forgetting their barnyard roots, until the ladies hatch a clever plan.	
AD550L	Munson, Derek. <i>Enemy Pie</i> . San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2000.	E M928E
	Hoping that the enemy pie which his father makes will help him get rid of his enemy, a little boy finds that instead it helps make a new friend.	

- AD550L O'Neill, Alexis. *The Recess Queen*. New York: Scholastic, 2002. E
ON26R
- Mean Jean is the biggest bully on the school playground until a new girl arrives and challenges Jean's status as the Recess Queen.
- AD660L Pilkey, Dav. *Dog Breath! The Horrible Trouble with Hally Tosis*. New York: Blue Sky Press, 1994. E
P644DOG
- Hally, the Tosis family dog, has such bad breath that Mr. and Mrs. Tosis plan to give her away, until she proves to be an invaluable watchdog.
- AD530L Piper, Watty. *The Little Engine That Could*. New York: Philomel Books, 2005. E
P6616L.A
- Although she is not very big, the Little Blue Engine agrees to try to pull a stranded train full of toys over the mountain.
- 500L Rathmann, Peggy. *Ruby the Copycat*. New York: Scholastic, 1991. E
R188R
- Ruby insists on copying Angela, until her teacher helps her discover her own creative resources.
- AD740L Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are*. New York: Harper & Row, 1963. E
SE55W
- A naughty little boy, sent to bed without his supper, sails to the land of the wild things where he becomes their king.
- AD800L Seuss, Dr. *The Butter Battle Book*. New York: Random House, 1984. E
SE811BU
- Engaged in a long-running battle, the Yooks and the Zooks develop more and more sophisticated weaponry as they attempt to outdo each other.
- AD610L Shannon, David. *A Bad Case of the Stripes*. New York: Blue Sky Press, 1998. E
SH191B
- In order to ensure her popularity, Camilla Cream always does what is expected, until the day arrives when she no longer recognizes herself.
- 440L Simont, Marc. *The Stray Dog*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2001. E
SI575S
- When a little dog appears at a family picnic, the girl and boy play with him all afternoon, and they name him Willy. At day's end they say good-bye. But the dog has won their hearts and stays on their minds.

The following Saturday the family returns to the picnic grounds to look for Willy, but they are not alone -- the dogcatcher is looking for him, too...

- AD840L Viorst, Judith. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. New York: Atheneum, 1972. E
V814A
- On a day when everything goes wrong for him, Alexander is consoled by the thought that other people have bad days too.
- 310L Waber, Bernard. *Ira Sleeps Over*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972. E
W111ISL
- A little boy is excited at the prospect of spending the night at his friend's house but worries how he'll get along without his teddy bear.
- AD790L Weeks, Sarah. *Ella, Of Course*. Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 2007. E
W4187E
- When Ella is banned from bringing her umbrella to the dance recital, she comes up with an ingenious solution to the problem.
- N/A Weston, Carrie. *The Queen, the Mice, and the Cheese*. Mankato, MN: Sea-to-Sea, 2010. E
W5284Q
- When mice overrun her beautiful palace, every attempt to solve the problem creates even more trouble for the queen.
- 460L Willems, Mo. *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2004. E
W667K
- A trip to the laundromat leads to a momentous occasion when Trixie, too young to speak words, realizes that something important is missing and struggles to explain the problem to her father.
- 250L Willems, Mo. *Waiting is Not Easy!* New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2014. E
W667WAI
- Piggie tells Gerald she has a surprise for him, but it is not there yet so Gerald must be patient.
- 440L Young, Cybèle. *Ten Birds*. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 2011. E
Y846T
- Ten birds are trying to figure out how to get to the other side of the river. Will the simplest solution be the best?

AD520L Zion, Gene. *Harry the Dirty Dog*. New York: HarperCollins, 1956. E
Z67HA

When a white dog with black spots runs away from home, he gets so dirty his family doesn't recognize him as a black dog with white spots.

FICTION

450L Cox, Judy. *Nora and the Texas Terror*. New York: Holiday House, 2010. F
C83958N

When Nora's uncle loses his job and house in Texas, he and his family come to stay with Nora's family in Portland, Oregon, and Nora must try very hard to adjust to her cousin Ellie, who is loud, stubborn, and a tease.

870L Halpern, Julie. *Have a Nice Day*. New York: Feiwel and Friends, 2012. F
H163H

When Anna returns from a three-week stay in a mental hospital she struggles to resume a normal life in the face of her parents' arguments and peers who are afraid to ask her what happened.

920L Horvath, Polly. *The Pepins and Their Problems*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2004. F
H7897P

The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow who creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.

580L Kline, Suzy. *Marvin and the Mean Words*. New York: Putnam's Sons, 1997. F
K685MA

Marvin gets a taste of his own medicine when he overhears his teacher saying unkind things about him! Marvin may tease other kids, but when a teacher says bad things about a student, it's the pits. Things get even worse when Marvin hears a student say that he's going to be suspended. It looks like Marvin's days of bullying his second-grade classmates are over--until he finds out that the mean words he heard weren't about him after all.

NC1080L Paulsen, Gary. *Mudshark*. New York: Yearling, 2009. F
P2854MUD

Principal Wagner confidently deals with a faculty washroom crisis, a psychic parrot, and a terrorizing gerbil, but when sixty-five erasers go missing, he enlists the help of the school's best problem solver and locator of lost items, twelve-year-old Lyle Williams, aka Mudshark.

- 710L Sheldon, Dyan. *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1999. F
SH425C
- In her first year at a suburban New Jersey high school, Mary Elizabeth Cep, who now calls herself "Lola," sets her sights on the lead in the annual drama production and finds herself in conflict with the most popular girl in school.
- HL710L Stevens, Courtney. *Dress Codes for Small Towns*. New York: HarperTeen, 2017. F
ST472D
- As the tomboy daughter of the town's preacher, Billie McCaffrey has always struggled with fitting the mold of what everyone says she should be. She'd rather wear sweats, build furniture, and get into trouble with her solid group of friends: Woods, Mash, Davey, Fifty, and Janie Lee. But when Janie Lee confesses to Billie that she's in love with Woods, Billie's filled with a nagging sadness as she realizes that she is also in love with Woods... and maybe with Janie Lee, too. Always considered "one of the guys," Billie doesn't want anyone slapping a label on her sexuality before she can understand it herself. So, she keeps her conflicting feelings to herself, for fear of ruining the group dynamic. Except it's not just about keeping the peace, it's about understanding love on her terms -- this thing that has always been defined as a boy and a girl falling in love and living happily ever after. For Billie -- a box-defying dynamo -- it's not that simple.
- 830L Tarshis, Laura. *Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out of the Tree*. New York: Dial Book for Young Readers, 2007. F
T177E
- A quirky and utterly logical seventh-grade girl named Emma-Jean Lazarus discovers some interesting results when she gets involved in the messy everyday problems of her peers.
- HL810L Younge-Ullman, Danielle. *Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined*. New York: Viking, 2017. F
Y881E
- To prove to her mother, a famous opera singer dealing with depression after losing her singing voice, that she can handle the grueling life of an actress, Ingrid must survive a wilderness camp.

NONFICTION

- AD510L Meiners, Cheri J. *Talk and Work It Out*. Minneapolis, MN: Free Spirit Pub., 2005. 158.2
M477T
- What's the best way to solve problems between people? By talking them over and working them out. It's never too soon for children to learn the process of peaceful conflict resolution. Children learn to calm themselves, state the problem, listen, think of solutions, try one, evaluate results, and even agree to

disagree when a solution isn't possible.

N/A Amos, Janine. *It Won't Work! Let's Try Again*. New York: Windmill Books, 2009. 177 AM69IT

Two brief stories demonstrate the importance of staying calm and thinking about how to solve the problem when things do not work on the first try.

940L Doeden, Matt. *Conflict Resolution Smarts: How to Communicate, Negotiate, Compromise, and More*. Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-First Century Books, 2012. 303.6 D67C

Examines teen conflict resolution and interpersonal relations and provides tips and information about improving them.

N/A Lucas, Eileen. *Peace on the Playground: Nonviolent ways of Problem-Solving*. New York: F. Watts, 1991. 303.6 L962P

Introduces the concept of nonviolent resolution of conflicts. Includes practical tips, hands-on activities, and appropriate role models for guidance and inspiration.

N/A Wandberg, Robert. *Peer Mediation: Agree on Solutions*. Mankato, MN: LifeMatters, 2002. 303.6 W181P

Defines peer mediation in practical terms and shows how it helps people get along.

660L Adams, Lisa K. *Dealing with Arguments*. New York: PowerKids Press, 1997. 303.69 AD18D

Discusses what arguments are, how they begin, and ways to solve disagreements without fighting.

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

Rice, Judith. *The Kindness Curriculum: Stop Bullying Before It Starts*. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press, 2013. 370.114 R363K

Forgan, James W. *Teaching Problem Solving Through Children's Literature*. Westport, CT: Teacher Ideas Press, 2003. 371.332 F763T

Teolis, Beth. *Ready-to-Use Conflict-Resolution Activities for Elementary Students*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2002. 371.58 T264R

- Shure, Myrna B. *I Can Problem Solve: An Interpersonal Cognitive Problem-Solving Program*. Champaign, IL: Research Press, 2000. 372.18
SH93I
PRESCHOOL
- Strauss, Kevin. *Story Solutions: Using Tales to Build Character and Teach Bully Prevention, Drug Prevention, and Conflict Resolution*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited, 2011. 372.677
ST828S
- Krulik, Stephen. *Assessing Reasoning and Problem Solving: A Sourcebook for Elementary School Teachers*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon, 1998. 372.7
K9399A

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