



Character Education

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		
PreK-K	<p>Andreae, Gilles. <i>Giraffes Can't Dance</i>. New York: Orchard Books, 2001. (Self-Acceptance)</p> <p>Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.</p>	E AN253G
PreK - 2	<p>Beaumont, Karen. <i>I Like Myself!</i> Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 2004. (Self-Acceptance)</p> <p>In rhyming text, a little girl expresses confidence and joy in her uniqueness, no matter her outward appearance.</p>	E B3838I
1 - 4	<p>Byers, Grace. <i>I am Enough</i>. New York: Balzer + Bray, 2018. (Self-Acceptance; respect)</p> <p>Shares a story of loving who you are, respecting others and being kind to one another.</p>	E B991I
PreK - 2	<p>Claire, Céline. <i>Shelter</i>. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 2017. (Compassion; Kindness, Generosity)</p> <p>As a big storm approaches, two strangers arrive in the forest. All the animal families, safe in their homes, are worried, unsure of their motives. So, they all turn them away when they ask for shelter, and the strangers are left to fend for</p>	E C525S

themselves. But then the fox family is suddenly forced out into the storm, and they must ask these outsiders for help. Will they find it in their hearts to give it?

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| K | Clements, Andrew. <i>Big Al</i> . New York: Aladdin Paperbacks, 1997. (Self-Acceptance) | E
C5916BIA |
| | A big, ugly fish has trouble making the friends he longs for because of his appearance--until the day his scary appearance saves them all from a fisherman's net. | |
| K - 2 | Cocca-Leffler, Maryann. <i>Janine</i> . Chicago, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2015. (Self-Acceptance) | E
C64JA |
| | Janine is one of a kind. She focuses on the positive while navigating life with disabilities. She makes a difference just by being herself | |
| K - 2 | de la Peña, Matt. <i>Last Stop on Market Street</i> . New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA), 2015. (Compassion) | E
D3706L |
| | 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. | |
| K - 1 | Earnhardt, Donna W. <i>Being Frank</i> . Brooklyn, NY: Flashlight Press, 2012. (Compassion; Self-Acceptance) | E
EA766B |
| | Frank struggles to learn the art of being tactful when he observes that his friend has freckles resembling the Big Dipper, his teacher has breath that smells like onions, and his principal's toupee looks like a weasel. | |
| PreK- 2 | Fields, Terri. <i>One Good Deed</i> . Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2015. (Compassion) | E
F4608O |
| | A young boy transforms his neighborhood by performing one good deed for his neighbor, which leads to a chain of kind and helpful actions. | |
| PreK - 2 | Henke, Kevin. <i>Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse</i> . New York: Greenwillow Books, 1996. (Personal Growth; Responsibility) | 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. | |

PreK - 2	Katz, Karen. <i>The Colors of Us</i> . New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1999. (Compassion)	F K1594C
	Seven-year-old Lena and her mother observe the variations in the color of their friends' skin, viewed in terms of foods and things found in nature.	
1 - 3	Keller, Laurie. <i>Do unto Otters: A Book about Manners</i> . New York: H. Holtz, 2007. (Compassion)	E K283D
	Mr. Rabbit wonders if he will be able to get along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the golden rule.	
K - 2	Kobald, Irena. <i>My Two Blankets</i> . Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015. (Personal Growth; Acceptance)	E K791M
	A homesick little girl who has recently moved to an unfamiliar country comforts herself by clinging to an old blanket, but when she meets a new friend, the relationship helps her take her first steps into a new culture.	
1 - 2	Kostecki-Shaw, Jenny Sue. <i>Same, Same, but Different</i> . New York: Henry Holt, 2011. (Personal Growth; Acceptance)	E K8481S
	Pen pals Elliot and Kailash discover that even though they live in different countries--America and India--they both love to climb trees, have pets, and ride a school bus.	
N/A	Lefranc, Karin. <i>A Quest for Good Manners</i> . Simbury, CT: Beluga Press, 2011. (Personal Growth)	E L52215Q
	A princess and her dragon go on a quest for good manners so they won't be banned from the Queen's table.	
N/A	Levins, Sandra. <i>Eli's Lie-O-Meter: A Story About Telling the Truth</i> . Washington, DC: Magination Press, 2010. (Personal Growth; Responsibility)	E L57885E
	Eli learns about the consequences of his fibs and the value of telling the truth. Includes note to parents.	
K - 2	Ludwig, Trudy. <i>The Invisible Boy</i> . New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. (Personal Growth; Acceptance)	E L9669I
	Brian has always felt invisible at school, but when a new student, Justin, arrives, everything changes.	
PreK- 1	McDonnell, Patrick. <i>Thank You and Good Night</i> . New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2015. (Gratitude)	E M1462T
	Maggie hosts a pajama party at which Clement, Alan Alexander, and Jean play	

a variety of fun games, tire themselves, and drift off to sleep, but not before sharing their gratitude.

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| K - 2 | McGhee, Holly M. <i>Come with Me</i> . New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2017. (Compassion; Bravery) | E
M1735C |
| | Frightened by news of angry people around the world, a young girl gets her parents' help in learning to be compassionate and brave a little at a time. | |
| K - 1 | Magoon, Scott. <i>The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot</i> . New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2013. (Personal Growth; Responsibility) | E
M2758B |
| | Ben has so often tried to convince people he has seen Bigfoot that when a real yeti arrives and borrows his bicycle, no one comes to see if Ben is telling the truth. | |
| PreK - 2 | Nelson, Kadir. <i>If You Plant a Seed</i> . New York: Balzer + Bray, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2015. (Compassion) | E
N3346I |
| | While planting seeds in their garden, two animals learn the value of kindness. | |
| N/A | Norris, Ashley. <i>Queenie Wahine: Little Surfer Girl</i> . [n.p.]: Tribe of Daughters, 2017. (Bravery; Perseverance) | E
N791Q |
| | Queenie Wahine is a book about a little girl who wants to learn how to surf. She must dig deep and find her inner bravery and finds that the reward of perseverance is worth the work of learning! | |
| PreK - 2 | Petty, Dev. <i>I Don't Want to Be a Frog</i> . New York: Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 2015. (Self-Acceptance) | E
P4562I |
| | A frog who yearns to be any animal that is cute and warm discovers that being wet, slimy, and full of bugs has its advantages. | |
| K - 4 | Polacco, Patricia. <i>Thank You, Mr. Falker</i> . New York: Philomel Books, 1998. (Self-Acceptance; Gratitude) | E
P7569T |
| | At first, Trisha loves school, but her difficulty learning to read makes her feel dumb, until, in the fifth grade, a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problem. | |
| PreK - 1 | Potter, Alicia. <i>Miss Hazeltine's Home for Shy and Fearful Cats</i> . New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2015. (Compassion; Responsibility) | E
P8509M |
| | Miss Hazeltine opens her home to cats who need help learning how to be brave, and their new skills are put to use when she finds herself in a bind. | |

K - 2	Rathman, Peggy. <i>Ruby the Copycat</i> . New York: Scholastic, 1991. (Self-Acceptance; Compassion)	E R188R
	Ruby insists on copying Angela, until her teacher helps her discover her own creative resources.	
PreK - 2	Rosenthal, Amy Krause. <i>Spoon</i> . New York: Disney/Hyperion Books, 2009. (Self-Acceptance)	E R7273S
	Spoon's always been a happy little utensil. But lately, he feels like life as a spoon just isn't cutting it. He thinks Fork, Knife, and The Chopsticks all have it so much better than him. But do they? And what do they think about Spoon?	
PreK - 3	Rust, Kari. <i>Tricky</i> . Toronto, ON: Owlkids Books, 2017. (Honesty; Morals)	E R925T
	An old dog learns new tricks in this story about righting wrongs.	
K - 2	Shannon, David. <i>A Bad Case of the Stripes</i> . New York: Blue Sky Press, 1998. (Personal Growth; Responsibility)	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.	
K - 2	Sierra, Judy. <i>Mind Your Manner, B.B. Wolf</i> . New York: Knopf, 2007. (Compassion)	E SI176M
	When B.B. Wolf, who now lives in the Villain Villa Retirement Residence, is invited to the library for a storybook tea, he is careful to follow the advice of his crocodile friend and impresses everyone with how polite he can be.	
1 - 2	Silverstein, Shel. <i>The Giving Tree</i> . New York: Harper & Row, 1964. (Compassion; Gratitude; Personal Growth)	F SI398GV
	'Once there was a tree...and she loved a little boy. Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older he began to want more from the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave.	
K - 2	Spires, Ashley. <i>The Most Magnificent Thing</i> . Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 2014. (Compassion; Working Together)	E SP4819M
	A little girl has a wonderful idea. With the help of her canine assistant, she is going to make the most magnificent thing! She knows just how it will look. She knows just how it will work. But making the most magnificent thing turns out to be harder than she thinks.	

- PreK - 2 Stein, David Ezra. *Interrupting Chicken*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010. (Personal Growth) E
ST341I
- Little Red Chicken wants Papa to read her a bedtime story but interrupts him almost as soon as he begins each tale.
- K - 3 Steinkraus, Kyla. *Nobody's Watching*. Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Educational Media, 2013. (Personal Growth; Responsibility) E
ST359NO
- Ernest Elephant loves to wear hats and has one for every day of the week but Friday, so when he finds money on the playground that he knows belongs to his friend Mike Monkey, he is briefly tempted to keep the money to buy a hat to wear on Friday.
- K - 3 Tutu, Desmond. *Desmond and the Very Mean Word: A Story of Forgiveness*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2013. (Forgiveness) E
T889D
- When Desmond takes his new bicycle out for a ride, his pride and joy turn to hurt and anger when some boys shout a very mean word at him. No matter what he tries, Desmond can't stop thinking about what the boys said. With the wise advice of kindly Father Trevor, Desmond learns an important lesson about understanding his conflicted feelings and how to forgive.
- PreK - 2 Wilson, Karma. *Bear Feels Sick*. New York: M. K. McElderry Books, 2007. (Compassion; Caring for Others) E
W6948BF
- When Bear is too sick to play, his animal friends go to his cave to make him soup and tea and keep him company.

NONFICTION

- N/A Amos, Janine. *It's Mine! Let's Try to Share*. New York: Windmill Books (Alphabet Soup), 2009. (Other titles by author include *After You, Don't Say That! Let's Talk Nicely, No, Thank You, Please, Thank You, Go Away! What Not to Say, I'm Sorry, Move Over! Learning to Share Our Space*, and *Don't Do That! How Not to Act*) 177
AM69ITS
- Two brief stories demonstrate the importance of sharing, being careful with the property of others, and taking turns.
- K - 3 Nelson, Maria. *I am Polite*. New York: Gareth Stevens Publishing, 2014. 177.1
N335I
- Having good manners is more than saying "please" and "thank you."
Good manners are displayed by everyday actions, such as holding the door for someone or shaking someone's hand when you meet them.

1 - 2 Donovan, Sandy. *How Can I Deal with Bullying? A Book About Respect*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications Company, 2014. 302.34 D7197H

What should you do if you see someone bullying another person at school? Is it better to just stay out of it? Or what should you do when your best friend says she won't play with you if you talk to someone she doesn't like? It's really tricky to handle situations like these. But if you show respect for others, it gets easier. This book offers examples of several tough problems and shows what you might do in each situation. See how a little respect can go a long way!

N/A Barraclough, Sue. *Leadership*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2009. 303.3 B271L

What is citizenship? -- What is a leader? -- Why do we need leaders? -- What makes a good leader? -- Honesty and fairness -- Good communication -- Respect -- Good role models -- Leading and following -- Taking responsibility -- Choosing a leader -- Speaking out -- Is leadership important?

K - 3 Hanson, Anders. *Everyone is Equal: The Kid's Book of Tolerance*. Minneapolis, MN: Super Sandcastle, an imprint of Abdo Publishing Company, 2015. 305 H1987E

Teaches kids to be tolerant of other people's 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.

1 - 2 Higgins, Melissa. *I am a Good Citizen*. North Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2014. 323.6 H5356I

Simple text and full color photographs describe how to be a good citizen, not a bully

K Miller, Connie Colwell. *Monster Knows Excuse Me*. North Mankato, MN: Picture Window Books, a Capstone imprint, 2014. 395.1 M6129M OE

Fun text and illustrations teach the basic concept of using manners and saying, "Excuse me."

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

Sommer, Carl. *Character Education Curriculum Guide*. Houston, TX: Advance Pub., 2009. 370.11 SO552C

Glover, Donald. R. *Character Education: 43 Fitness Activities for Community Building*. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics, 2003. 370.113 G5184C

- Daniel-White, Becky. *Daily Character Education Activities*. Greensboro, NC: Carson-Dellosa Pub. Co., 2004. 370.114 D227D
- Springer, Steve. *The Organized Teacher's Guide to Building Character: An Encyclopedia of Ideas to Bring Character Education Into Your Curriculum*. New York, McGraw-Hill, 2010. 372.1024 SP83O
- Stephens, Claire Gattrell. *Picture This: Using Picture Story Books for Character Education in the Classroom*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2004. 372.13 ST43P
- Tough, Paul. *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012. 372.21097 3 T643H

Last Updated Jan-23 JD