

CARING AND COMPASSION

Stellaluna

JANELL CANNON

After she falls into a bird’s nest with three baby birds, Stellaluna, a baby fruit bat, is invited into this bird family.

Thank You, Mr. Falker

PATRICIA POLACCO

Trisha likes school because she can draw, but then she has trouble learning to read, which makes her feel badly. A new fifth-grade teacher helps her to understand and overcome her problem.

Horton Hears a Who!

DR. SEUSS

The town of Who-ville that exists on a speck of dust is threatened until the smallest Who convinces Horton that the Whos are there and need him to be their voice and protect them.

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble

WILLIAM STEIG

Sylvester the donkey finds a magic pebble and asks the pebble to turn him into a rock when he sees a hungry lion, but then he cannot hold the pebble and ask it to turn him back into a donkey. When his parents find the magic pebble and discover its magic, Sylvester finally understands the value of love.

Owl Moon

JANE YOLEN

One winter night, a father and his daughter walk through the woods sharing with each other without speaking to each other. Together, they find the Great Horned Owl.

FEELINGS

When Sophie Gets Angry – Really, Really Angry

MOLLY BANG

Is there a cure for anger? Sophie discovers her temper when her sister demands a turn with their favorite stuffed gorilla, and her mother allows it. As she runs until she cannot run anymore, she discovers the birds and the trees, giving her a different perspective as she returns home to play again.

Today I Feel Silly

JAMIE LEE CURTIS AND LAURA CORNELL

“Moods are something that happens each day. Whatever I’m feeling inside is okay.” This story celebrates a range of emotions, from silly and grumpy to excited and mean, encouraging children to identify feelings.

Have You Filled A Bucket Today?

Carol McCloud

This heartwarming story encourages positive behavior as children understand the effects of their actions and words on the well being of themselves and others.

One

KATHRYN OTOSHI

Hothead red picks on peaceful Blue. Yellow, Orange, Green, and Purple do not like what they see, but what can they do? When One comes along and demonstrates to all of the colors how to stand together and count, the colors discover that one voice can make a difference.

A Bad Case of Stripes

DAVID SHANNON

Camila Cream loves lima beans, but she doesn’t want to eat them because she wants to fit in. She wakes up one morning and discovers that her body is covered with stripes, which change at anyone’s command. When she learns to celebrate her differences, she returns to her bean-eating self.

DECISION MAKING

Ella Sarah Gets Dressed

MARGARET CHODOS-IRVINE

Despite the advice of her mother, father, and big sister, Ella Sarah will only wear the unusual and “unmatching” outfits that she chooses. Then the doorbell rings and in walks a crowd of her young friends dressed in equally flamboyant clothes, and the glamorous young ladies enjoy a tea party.

Harold and the Purple Crayon

CROCKETT JOHNSON

Harold goes for a walk with his purple crayon, which he uses to create an adventure. He discovers a landscape full of beauty and excitement, but he takes the necessary purple-crayon precautions: drawing landmarks to ensure he won’t get lost; sketching a boat when he finds himself in deep water; and creating a purple pie picnic when he feels the first pangs of hunger.

The Lion and the Mouse

JERRY PINKNEY

In this wordless adaptation of one of Aesop’s most beloved fables, an unlikely pair learns that no act of kindness is ever wasted.

Horton Hatches the Egg

DR. SEUSS

When a lazy bird hatching an egg wants a vacation, she asks Horton, the elephant, to sit on her egg. Horton is rewarded for following through on what he said he would do when an elephant bird hatches from the egg.

How I Learned Geography

URI SHULEVITZ

When his father gives his child a map instead of bread to feed his starving family, the child uses his imagination to transport himself to exotic-sounding places. The power of his imagination provides comfort during a difficult time for him and his family.



CIVILITY

The Curious Garden

PETER BROWN

When Liam leaves home and explores the city one day, he discovers a garden and takes care of it. As time passes, the garden transforms other dark, gray gardens into beautiful, lush, green ones.

Fancy Nancy

JANE O’CONNOR

A little girl who loves fancy things teaches her family to be fancy for one night out at the diner.

The Brand New Kid

KATIE COURIC

Lazlo moved from Hungary to The United States of America and started at a new school. After other children make him feel unwelcome, Ellie decides to play with him. She then encourages her friend to get to know him and shows her that Lazlo is really not different at all.

The Lady in the Box

ANN MCGOVERN

When Lizzie and Ben discover a homeless lady living in a box in their neighborhood, they decide to help her, and they learn what a community can achieve by working together.

The Giving Tree

SHEL SILVERSTEIN

A young boy benefits from the generosity and love of a tree, which gives him all he has, without questioning any of the boy’s demands as he grows up or asking for anything in return.

The House in the Night

SUSAN MARIE SWANSON

A young girl is given a golden key to a house to create a cozy world inside the house that is equal to the majestic world outside.



CONFIDENCE

Verdi

JANELL CANNON

A young python does not want to grow up to be lazy, boring, and green like the older snakes he sees in the tropical jungle. When he gets bigger, he teaches the next generation to leap and loop, just like him.

Regina’s Big Mistake

MARISSA MOSS

Regina is told to draw a jungle or a rain forest in class, and can’t draw what she pictures in her head. She learns to use her “mistakes” to create a beautiful picture.

Fancy Nancy

JANE O’CONNOR

A little girl who loves fancy things teaches her family to be fancy for one night out at the diner.

Ish

PETER H. REYNOLDS

Ramon loves to draw until his brother Leon laughs at his drawing. His sister then inspires him to do “ish” art and “ish” writing.

Oh, The Places You’ll Go!

DR. SEUSS

Dr. Seuss’s rhyming story is about taking charge of your life and succeeding, without worrying about sentiments like fear, loneliness, and confusion.

COOPERATION AND COMPROMISE

Redwoods

JASON CHIN

Waiting on a subway platform, a boy finds a book about Redwoods. His imagination comes to life when he discovers that some trees alive today sprouted during Roman times and is then shown sharing a seat with a citizen wearing a toga. As he leaves the subway, his imagination reveals a passageway through the Redwoods, which he thoroughly explores from forest floor to canopy.

The Island of the Skog

STEVEN KELLOGG

Jenny the mouse and her friends tire of living in a hole and facing danger when they emerge, so they sail away to an island and face a new danger, the Skog. He turns out to be a small animal dressed as a monstrous creature because he is afraid of the mice, and they talk and become good friends.

All the World

LIZ GARTON SCANLON

A beautifully illustrated story captures the small moments in a family’s life, from a summer morning on the beach through a busy day and night. Along the way, this small, diverse community experiences what a summer day has to offer, including sun, wind, storm, and a sense of contentment and well-being.

First the Egg

LAURA VACCARO SEEGER

The author explores the stages of development in the natural world, from the egg and the chicken to the seed and the flower. She then explores the process of creativity, from the paint to the picture, finally bringing these worlds together in a beautiful finale.

Chair for My Mother

VERA B. WILLIAMS

A child, her mother, and her grandmother save coins in a big jar to buy an armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Chalk Box Kid

CLYDE ROBERT BULLA

When nine-year-old Gregory experiences several upsets in his life, he responds by creating a fantastic chalk garden on the charred walls of a burned-out factory behind his house. As his garden grows and flourishes, Gregory finds a voice through his art and, for the first time, is able to find his own place in the world.

The Muffin Muncher

STEPHEN COSGROVE

A dragon demands many muffins each day from poor, muffin-making villagers, until the villagers can no longer make muffins because they cannot afford to buy supplies. The dragon then has a plan to help the villagers make money and to ensure that he can continue to eat many muffins each day.

Farfallina & Marcel

HOLLY KELLER

A caterpillar, Farfallina, and a young goose, Marcel, become best friends, but as they grow up they also learn how to grow apart and then come together again.

The Scrambled States of America

LAURIE KELLER

The states become bored with their positions on the map and decide to switch places. After they spend some time with new neighbors and in new environments, they are happy to return to their positions in The United States of America.

Noisy Neighbors

NICOLA MOON

“Traaa-traaah!” “Vroom!” George’s neighbors are always playing the trumpet and riding motorcycles. How will George ever get his crossword puzzle done with such noisy neighbors?



TRANSITION AND CHANGE

I Had a Favorite Dress

BONI ASHBURN

As the year passes, a girl’s favorite dress goes through a series of creative changes, from dress to shirt to tank top to scarf and so on. As she grows older, she learns how to build memories around special mementos.

The Little House

VIRGINIA LEE BURTON

“Once upon a time there was a Little House way out in the country. She was a pretty Little House and she was strong and well built.” The rosy-pink house watches the days go by, faintly aware of the city’s distant lights. As the city moves closer to her, the family that protected her moves away. She finds herself alone in the middle of the city, until her family returns to take care of her again.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

ERIC CARLE

Follow the caterpillar as it eats its way through a variety of foods before emerging as a beautiful butterfly.

The Magic School Bus: Inside a Beehive

JOANNA COLE AND BRUCE DEGEN

As Arnold and his classmates board the magic school bus, they visit flowers to gather nectar and enter a nearby beehive. Ms. Frizzle explains bee communication, hive making, honey production, social structure, development, and metamorphosis.

Leaf Man

LOIS EHLERT

Do you want to explore the changing seasons? With a body made of fallen leaves and acorns for eyes, Leaf Man takes off from a backyard and travels in the breeze, meandering past animals, over fields of fall vegetables, above waterways, and across prairie meadows.

MY TOOLBOX OF CHARACTER



- CARING AND COMPASSION ☆ FEELINGS
- DECISION MAKING ☆ CIVILITY ☆ CONFIDENCE
- COOPERATION AND COMPROMISE ☆ INTERNET SAFETY
- CONFLICT RESOLUTION ☆ TRANSITION AND CHANGE



LIVINGSTON MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

THIRD – FIFTH GRADE



CARING AND COMPASSION

Wild Girl

PATRICIA REILLY GIFF

Twelve-year-old Lidie must leave her beloved home in Brazil for a new life in New York. Lidie's father and Rafael train racehorses for a wealthy benefactor. When she meets Wild Girl, a filly that was plunked down into an unfamiliar, sometimes harsh environment, their spunky, spirited souls gloriously merge.

Million Dollar Shot

DAN GUTMAN

If Eddie Ball wins a million dollars by sinking a foul shot during halftime at the NBA finals, it would mean the end to his and his mother's problems. Someone really wants Eddie to shoot an air ball on the big day, and that person will do anything to ruin this opportunity of a lifetime for Eddie and his family.

Because of Winn Dixie

KATE DICAMILLO

Because of Winn-Dixie, a big, ugly, happy dog, ten-year-old Opal learns about her long-gone mother from her preacher father. She makes new friends and begins to find her place in the world and let go of some of the sadness left by her mother's abandonment.

The Hundred Dresses

ELEANOR ESTES

In winning a medal she is no longer there to receive, a tight-lipped little Polish girl teaches her classmates a lesson.

Joey Pigza Loses Control

JACK GANTOS

The loveable, disaster-prone hero takes charge of his attention deficit disorder and greets the world as a normal kid--with the help of his medication. He now feels prepared to face his estranged father, and convinces his mother to let him spend part of his summer vacation getting to know his dad.

FEELINGS

Nerds

MICHAEL BUCKLEY

A group of unpopular fifth-grade students runs a spy network from inside their school. With the help of cutting-edge science, they transform their nerdy qualities into incredible abilities! Along the way, they encounter assorted villains, each with an evil, ridiculous plan.

Frindle

ANDREW CLEMENTS

Ten-year-old Nick Allen devises clever schemes to distract his teacher, who fights back by assigning him a report on how new entries are added to the dictionary. This inspires Nick's best idea ever, using "frindle" as a new word for the simple pen, which invites classroom punishments from his teacher and home visits from his principal. The two sides eventually discover the power of language and enjoy a meeting of the minds.

Dragon Rider

CORNELIA FUNKE

A dragon and a boy embark on a magical journey to find the legendary place where silver dragons can live in peace forever. With only a curious map and the whispered memories of an old dragon to guide them, they discover new friends and courage, which helps them reject a heartless monster that has been waiting to destroy the last dragons on earth.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

GRACE LIN

Minli, whose name means "quick thinking," lives in poverty with her mother, who complains, and a father, who brightens their evenings with magical stories. She sets out to find the Old Man of the Moon, who may impart the true secret to good fortune. Along the way, she meets new friends who teach her about the evil of greed and the joy of gratitude.

Confessions of a Former Bully

TRUDY LUDWIG

Katie gets caught teasing a schoolmate and meets with Mrs. Petrowski, the school counselor, who teaches her to be a better friend. Told from the unusual point of view of the bully, this book provides real-life tools you can use to understand and stop relational aggression.



DECISION MAKING

The Retired Kid

JON AGEE

It's hard work being a kid. No wonder Brian decides to retire to Florida's Happy Sunset Retirement Community, where he befriends a retired plumber named Harvey. They hang out, go to movies, take in ball games, and fish. Before you know it, Brian is remembering "the good old days."

Strider

BEVERLY CLEARY

In a series of diary entries, Leigh tells how he comes to terms with his parents' divorce, acquires joint custody of an abandoned dog, and joins the track team at school.

The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place

E. L. KONIGSBURG

Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, a twelve-year-old girl spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her grand uncles have been building in their back yard for over forty years.

Shiloh

PHYLLIS R. NAYLOR

When eleven-year-old Marty Preston chances upon a mistreated beagle pup in his hometown, he is not prepared for the ethical questions he has to face.

Kate Shelly: Bound for Legend

ROBERT D. SAN SOUCI

A biography of the fifteen-year-old Iowa teenager who helped avert a train disaster in 1881 and became a national heroine.

CIVILITY

Toby Alone

TIMOTHEE DE FOMBELLE

Toby Lolness is a boy who stands just smaller than the tip of a pencil. He lives in an enormous oak inhabited by a tiny civilization. Toby's idyllic childhood is threatened when his scientist father figures out that the sap, which keeps their home alive, could eventually be destroyed by the corporate interest in taking it and using it as a potential source of energy.

Hoot

CARL HIAASEN

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

Kira-Kira

CYNTHIA KADOHATA

This book chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s and the despair they experience when one sister becomes terminally ill.

The Keeping Quilt

PATRICIA POLACCO

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Mr. Lincoln's Way

PATRICIA POLACCO

When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, his resident bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance for people around him.

CONFIDENCE

A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams

JEN BRYANT

William Carlos Williams was born in New Jersey in 1883. As a child, he chose to sit peacefully by the Passaic River, listen to the sounds of nature, and appreciate the beauty around him, all of which informed his later work as a poet.

Will You, Won't You?

JESSIE HAAS

When thirteen-year-old Madison ("Mad") Parker heads to her grandmother's house in Vermont for the summer, she hopes some of the woman's confidence will rub off on her.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret

BRIAN SELZNICK

After his uncle disappears, twelve-year-old Hugo takes it upon himself to maintain the station's clocks and keep his home within the walls of the Paris train station, enjoying the freedom of coming and going and repairing an artifact cherished by both Hugo and his late father.

Number the Stars

LOIS LOWRY

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Maniac Magee

JERRY SPINELLI

After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats, which inspire his contemporaries.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Medusa Jones

ROSS COLLINS

In ancient Greece lived a little girl called Medusa Jones, who is pretty normal, except that she has snakes for hair. Is that any reason for the popular kids to be so mean? She is sure the school camping trip is going to be a nightmare, but a rock fall puts the popular kids in peril, and Medusa is the only one who can help. Will she be a hero -- or is her monster side finally going to come out?

Fourth Grade Weirdo

MARTHA FREEMAN

Dexter's well-ordered life is disrupted by his uneasy interactions with his spontaneous, even zany, fourth-grade teacher Mr. Ditzwinkle and by his mother's campaign for reelection to the town's school board.

The Phantom Tollbooth

NORTON JUSTER

A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provides a cure for his boredom.

Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns

MARY QUATTLEBAUM

When his mother gives him a garden plot for his tenth birthday, Jackson Jones hopes to earn money to buy a basketball, but all he seems to get is trouble.

Call it Courage

ARMSTRONG SPERRY

Mafatu has been afraid of the sea for as long as he can remember. Though his father is the Great Chief of Hikueru, Mafatu feels like an outsider, being teased, taunted, and even blamed for storms on the sea. As a young teen, Mafatu takes his dog, paddles out to sea, and faces his fears. What he learns on his lonesome adventure will change him and make him a hero in the eyes of his people.

COOPERATION AND COMPROMISE

The Wheel on the School

MEINDERT DEJONG

This story, set in a small Dutch fishing village, tells the story of a young girl and her simple composition about the storks that build their nests in neighboring villages. When the children wonder why the storks don't nest in their village, the stage is set for a dramatic challenge against all odds.

26 Fairmount Avenue

TOMIE DEPAOLA

This autobiographical account of DePaola's childhood is centered on the building of his family's new house during the 1930s. Each short chapter offers a slice-of-life view of his young world, witnessing a hurricane, experiencing the first day of kindergarten, and gatherings with family for the holidays.

Moonlight of the Magic Flute

MARY POPE OSBORNE

Jack and Annie head to eighteenth-century Austria, where they must help a musician by the name of Mozart. Deckerd out in the craziest outfits they've ever worn, the two siblings search an entire palace to no avail and have to use the only magic at their disposal when the boy lets the animals out of the palace zoo.

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg

RODMAN PHILBRICK

When his older brother leaves for the Union Army in 1863, Homer runs away from his uncle, "the meanest man in the entire state of Maine." He sets out after his brother, with many misadventures with con men, rogues, and scoundrels, while he tries to find people and ideas to believe in. He finally has a bittersweet reunion with his brother during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Esperanza Rising

PAM MUÑOZ RYAN

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.



TRANSITION AND CHANGE

Poppy

AVI

Mr. Ocax is a great horned owl who rules the mice, preying on their fears by promising protection from the dreaded porcupine in exchange for unconditional obedience. Ragweed, a smart-talking mouse, challenges his authority, and Poppy, his timid sweetheart, volunteers to lead a delegation that must go to request permission from Mr. Ocax to relocate half of the mouse family.

One Crazy Summer

RITA WILLIAMS GARCIA

Eleven-year-old Delphine has a few memories of her mother, a poet who wrote verses on walls, played jazz records, and abandoned the family in Brooklyn. In the summer of 1968, Delphine boards a plane with her sisters and travels to their mother's home in Oakland. What they find there is far from their California dreams of Disneyland and movie stars.

A Dog's Life

ANN M. MARTIN

Squirrel is a stray puppy who lives in a shed behind the summer home of a wealthy family with her mother and brother, Bone. When their mother disappears, Squirrel and Bone set off on their own, facing challenges along the way.

Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief

RICK RIORDAN

Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school -- again. And that's the least of his troubles, as mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. As he sets out to capture the true thief, he must come to terms with the father who abandoned him; solve the riddle of the Oracle; and unravel a treachery more powerful than the gods themselves.

Moon Over Manifest

CLARE VANDERPOOL

The story follows a young and adventurous girl named Abilene who is sent to Manifest, Kansas by her father in the summer of 1936. Although Abilene is lonely, she adjusts to her new life, feeling sure that her father will come for her at summer's end.



INTERNET SAFETY AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

MAURICE ELIAS, PH.D., STEVEN E. TOBIAS, PSY.D., & BRIAN S. FRIEDLANDER, PH.D.

The Blessing of a Skinned Knee

WENDY MOGEL

www.wendymogel.com

Odd Girl Out

RACHEL SIMMONS

www.rachelsimmons.com

Queen Bees and Wanna Bees

ROSALIND WISEMAN

www.rosalindwiseman.com

Get Out of My Life, But First Could You Drive Me and Cheryl to the Mall?

ANTHONY WOLF

www.anthonypwolf.com

Seventy authors share their experiences with bullying while they were students.

www.dearbully.com