

Of course, not every book is the right choice for every child. As parents and educators, you will have the best sense of which titles are the most suitable for the children in your families, classrooms, and community.

In this story about global interconnectedness and the impact of small gestures, a girl's smile has positive repercussions around the world.

PRE-SCHOOL ~ KINDERGARTEN

Bully

(Laura Vaccaro Seeger)

2013. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter. ISBN: 9781596436305. PreS–Gr. 2.
Clever, graphic artwork illustrates this story about a name-calling bull who discovers friendship when he drops his bullying act.

Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons

(Amy Krouse Rosenthal. Illus. by Jane Dyer)

2006. HarperCollins. ISBN: 9780060580810. PreS–Gr. 1.

Cookies form the child-friendly, appealing framework for this picture book that creatively introduces concepts such as cooperation and patience. Follow this with the author's companion titles: One Smart Cookie and Sugar Cookies.

Dee Dee and Me

(Amy Schwartz)

2013. Holiday House. ISBN: 9780823425242. PreS–Gr. 1.

A little sister grows tired of being bossed around by her older sister and finds a new, assertive voice in this pitch-perfect offering that captures authentic, everyday sibling squabbles and reconciliations.

Fox's Garden

(Princesse Camcam)

2014. Enchanted Lion. ISBN: 9781592701674. PreS–Gr. 1.

Dynamic, cut-paper illustrations tell this wordless story of a boy and a fox who exchange kind offerings.

How to Heal a Broken Wing

(Bob Graham)

2008. Candlewick. ISBN: 9780763639037. PreS–Gr. 1.

In a crowded, rushing city, a boy finds an injured bird and nurses it back to health with his mother's help.

If You Plant a Seed

(Kadir Nelson)

2015. HarperCollins/Balzer+Bray. ISBN: 9780062298898. PreS–Gr. 1.

Diverse animals discover the rewards of cooperation as they plant a garden together in this richly illustrated story.

Joseph Had a Little Overcoat

(Simms Taback)

1999. Viking. ISBN: 9780670878550. PreS–Gr. 2.

Detailed, textured collages illustrate this Caldecott Medal-winner about a man who reuses fabric from an overcoat to create many new things. A colorful story about finding hidden value in what might have been discarded.

Kindness Is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler

(Margery Cuyler. Illus. by Sachiko Yoshikawa)

2007. Simon & Schuster. ISBN: 978-0689873447. PreS–Gr. 1.

Counting exercises add another layer of fun to this lively picture book about a kindergarten class that performs 100 acts of kindness.

Little Ducks Go

(Emily Arnold McCully)

2014. Holiday House. ISBN: 9780823429417. PreS–K.

A great choice for early readers, this title folds themes of generosity and cooperation into a suspenseful story about a mother duck who is separated from her brave ducklings before they're all rescued.

Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes

(Mem Fox. Illus. by Helen Oxenbury)

2008. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN: 9780152060572. PreS–K.

This playful, rhyming, celebration of babies around the world conveys the gentle, joyous reminder that each child belongs to the whole human family.