

Markel, Michelle, Melissa Sweet, and Rachel Zegar. *Brave girl : Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909*. New York, NY: Balzer + Bray, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2013. Print.

When Clara Lemlich arrived in America, she couldn't speak English. She didn't know that young women had to go to work, that they traded an education for long hours of labor, that she was expected to grow up fast.

But that did not stop Clara.

She went to night school, spent hours studying English, and helped support her family by sewing in a factory.

Clara never quit. And she never accepted that girls should be treated poorly and paid little.

So Clara fought back. Fed up with the mistreatment of her fellow laborers, Clara led the largest walkout of women workers in the country's history.

Clara had learned a lot from her short time in America. She learned that everyone deserved a fair chance. That you had to stand together and fight for what you wanted. And, most importantly, that you could do anything you put your mind to.

Lester, Julius, and Karen Barbour. *Let's talk about race*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2005. Print.

I am a story. So are you. So is everyone.

Julius Lester says, "I write because our lives are stories. If enough of those stories are told, then perhaps we will begin to see that our lives are the same story. The differences are merely in the details." Now Mr. Lester shares his own story as he explores what makes each of us special.

Karen Barbour's dramatic, vibrant paintings speak to the heart of Lester's unique vision, truly a celebration of all of us.

Palacio, R. J. *Wonder*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. Print.

August Pullman was born with a facial deformity that, up until now, prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid -- but his classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face.

Wonder begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.

Michelson, Richard, and Raúl Colón. *As good as anybody : Martin Luther King Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel's amazing march toward freedom*. New York: Dragonfly Books, 2008. Print.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel. Their names stand for the quest for justice and equality. Martin grew up in a loving family in the American South, at a time when this country was plagued by racial discrimination. He aimed to put a stop to it. He became a minister like his daddy, and he preached and marched for his cause. Abraham grew up in a loving family many years earlier, in a Europe that did not welcome Jews. He found a new home in America, where he became a respected rabbi like his father, carrying a message of peace and acceptance. Here is the story of two icons for social justice, how they formed a remarkable friendship and turned their personal experiences of discrimination into a message of love and equality for all.

Polacco, Patricia. *Thank you, Mr. Falker*. New York: Philomel Books, 1998. Print.

The real-life, classic story of a dyslexic girl and the teacher who would not let her fail. A perfect gift for teachers and for reading students of any age.

Patricia Polacco is now one of America's most loved children's book creators, but once upon a time, she was a little girl named Trisha starting school. Trisha could paint and draw beautifully, but when she looked at words on a page, all she could see was jumble. It took a very special teacher to recognize little Trisha's dyslexia: Mr. Falker, who encouraged her to overcome her reading disability. Patricia Polacco will never forget him, and neither will we. This inspiring story is available in a deluxe slipcased edition, complete with a personal letter to readers from Patricia Polacco herself. Thank You, Mr. Falker will make a beautiful gift for the special child who needs encouragement or any special teacher who has made a difference in the child's life.

Edwards, Michelle, and G B. Karas. *A hat for Mrs. Goldman : a story about knitting and love*. New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2016. Print.

"[A] celebration of winter mitzvahs, or kind deeds. Karas's adorable, radiant art adds to the heartwarming mood." -The New York Times

Here's a heartwarming winter picture book that's sure to appeal to families who love knitting. Mrs. Goldman always knits hats for everyone in the neighborhood, and Sophia, who thinks knitting is too hard, helps by making the pom-poms. But now winter is here, and Mrs. Goldman herself doesn't have a hat--she's too busy making hats for everyone else! It's up to Sophia to buckle down and knit a hat for Mrs. Goldman. But try as Sophia might, the hat turns out lumpy, the stitches aren't even, and there are holes where there shouldn't be holes. Sophia is devastated until she gets an idea that will make Mrs. Goldman's hat the most wonderful of all. Readers both young and old will relate to Sophia's frustrations, as well as her delight in making something special for someone she loves.

A knitting pattern is included in the back of the book.

Grossman, David, Michal Rovner, and Stuart Schoffman. *The hug*. London New York: Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd., Overlook Press, 2013. Print.

In *The Hug*, internationally renowned writer David Grossman tells the moving story of the moment when Ben realises that no two living creatures are alike - not his mother and father, their beautiful dog Miracle or the ants who march side by side at his feet and appear identical - and the loneliness he feels knowing that there is no one else quite like him in the whole world. But just as he is feeling the most alone he has ever felt, he is soothed by his mother's loving hug. Timeless and touching, *The Hug* is a charming book for parents and children encountering the feeling of being different, together.

Martinez, Alejandro, et al. *The woman who outshone the sun : the legend of Lucia Zenteno = La mujer que brillaba aún más que el sol : la leyenda de Lucía Zenteno*. San Francisco, Calif: Children's Book Press, 1991. Print.

When Lucia Zenteno walks into a mountain village in central Mexico, some villagers whisper that her long black hair blocks out the sun, and they are afraid. Others say her brilliant hair outshines the sun. Frightened, they banish Lucia from the village and watch in amazement as their precious river follows her, for it loves her and will not leave her. Never had the villagers imagined that their beautiful river would leave them, no matter what they did--and so the whole village sets out to find Lucia and beg for her forgiveness.

Koffsky, Ann D. *Noah's swim-a-thon*. New York: URJ Press, 2011. Print.

Noah loves camp. He loves kickball, and arts and crafts, and singing, and being with his friends. But swimming makes his "arms feel goose-bumpy, his eyes feel stingy, and his nose feel stuffy." Noah won't go in the pool, until he learns about the camp swim-a-thon and how he can help other kids enjoy the camp he loves so much. Ann Koffsky's joyful text and bright illustrations teach young children about the values of tzedakah and perseverance, while sharing the magic of Jewish summer camp. Noah's Swim-a-Thon is sure to be a hit with both campers and their parents. For ages 4-9.

Snel, Eline. *Sitting still like a frog : mindfulness exercises for kids (and their parents)*. Boston: Shambhala, 2013. Print.

This introduction to mindfulness meditation for children and their parents includes practices that can help children calm down, become more focused, fall asleep more easily, alleviate worry, manage anger, and generally become more patient and aware.

Shea, Pegi D., and Leane Morin. *The carpet boy's gift*. Gardiner, Me: Tilbury House, 2006. Print.

Nadeem and his fellow workers are bonded laborers, children who work day and night to pay off loans their families have accepted from a factory owner. Although Nadeem and his cousin Amina take pride in helping their poor families, they yearn to go to school and to have time to play. One day a former carpet boy named Iqbal Masih leads a parade in the village. New laws have abolished bonded labor! Iqbal urges Nadeem to fight for freedom and to lead the children to a new school in town. This fictional story honors the legacy of Iqbal Masih, a real boy who escaped from a factory and worked to liberate child workers like Nadeem by the thousands. Resources at the end of the story lead to more information about child labor issues and encourage children to support companies that work to make the world a better place for all.

Drachman, Eric, and James Muscarello. *Ellison the elephant*. Los Angeles, CA: Kidwick Books, 2004. Print.

Having a trumpet blast that is different from all the rest of the elephants in his pack, Ellison is embarrassed and shies away from using his special musical abilities until his friend, Weasel, gives him the encouragement he needs to play away--becoming a celebrated musician and the envy of all!

Fierstein, Harvey, and Henry Cole. *The sissy duckling*. New York: Little Simon, 2014. Print.

Elmer is not like the other boy ducklings. While they like to build forts, he loves to bake cakes. While they like to play baseball, he wants to put on the halftime show. Elmer is a great big sissy. But when his father is wounded by a hunter's shot, Elmer proves that the biggest sissy can also be the greatest hero.

Acclaimed actor and playwright Harvey Fierstein has crafted a heartwarming story, based on his award-winning HBO animated special, about learning to embrace the special qualities we all possess. Henry Cole's gently humorous illustrations give it a new vitality. This eBook with audio is a story to share with all children, to help them understand that each one of them is unique and valuable.

Smith, Monique, and Danielle Daniel. *You hold me up*. Victoria, British Columbia: Orca Book Publishers, 2017. Print.

An evocative picture book intended to foster reconciliation among children and encourage them to show each other love and support.

Heller, Linda, and Stacey McQueen. *How Dalia put a big yellow comforter inside a tiny blue box and other wonders of tzedakah*. Berkeley: Tricycle Press, 2011. Print.

Is Dalia's little blue box magic--or is the real magic the generosity that helps her fill it?

When Dalia learns about tzedakah, the Jewish tradition of charity and caring, she creates a tzedakah box where she can keep the money she's saved to help those in need. Her little brother Yossi is curious about the Hebrew letters painted on the box. "Are those letters magic?" he asks. They must be because Dalia tells him she's putting a big yellow comforter, a butterfly bush, and a banana cream pie inside of it! How ever will she do it?

Though there may be joy in receiving, Dalia's story serves as a powerful reminder that the greatest joy of all comes from giving generously to others.

Walton, Jessica, and Dougal MacPherson. *Introducing Teddy : a gentle story about gender and friendship*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2016. Print.

Introducing Teddy introduces the youngest readers to understanding gender identity and transition in an accessible and heart-warming story about being true to yourself and being a good friend.

Errol and his teddy, Thomas, are best friends who do everything together. Whether it's riding a bike, playing in the tree house, having a tea party, or all of the above, every day holds something fun to do.

One sunny day, Errol finds that Thomas is sad, even when they are playing in their favorite ways. Errol can't figure out why, until Thomas finally tells Errol what the teddy has been afraid to say: "In my heart, I've always known that I'm a girl teddy, not a boy teddy. I wish my name was Tilly, not Thomas." And Errol says, "I don't care if you're a girl teddy or a boy teddy! What matters is that you are my friend."

Silver, Gail, and Christiane Kromer. *Anh's anger*. Berkeley, Calif: Plum Blossom Books, 2009. Print.

Children experience anger on a regular basis, but lack the coping skills to guide them through these difficult moments. In *Anh's Anger*, five-year-old Anh becomes enraged when his grandfather interrupts playtime with a summons to the dinner table. When Anh's grandfather takes the time to help Anh fully experience his anger by suggesting he go to his room and "sit with his anger," Anh discovers a positive method by which to work through his feelings. This remarkable book teaches children to both acknowledge and resolve their difficult emotions, making it an invaluable tool for parents and teachers alike.

Davis, Aubrey, and Dušan Petričić. *Bagels from Benny*. Toronto, ON
Tonawanda, NY: Kids Can Press, 2003. Print.

A lovingly told, compelling story of a young boy learning the values of caring, community and thankfulness.

Brandt, Lois, and Vin Vogel. *Maddi's fridge*. Brooklyn, NY:
Flashlight Press, 2014. Print.

Winner of:

2014 Christopher Award, Books for Young People

2014 ILA Primary Fiction Award

2015 MLA Mitten Award Honor

Human Rights in Children's Literature Honor

With humor and warmth, this children's picture book raises awareness about poverty and hunger

Best friends Sofia and Maddi live in the same neighborhood, go to the same school, and play in the same park, but while Sofia's fridge at home is full of nutritious food, the fridge at Maddi's house is empty. Sofia learns that Maddi's family doesn't have enough money to fill their fridge and promises Maddi she'll keep this discovery a secret. But because Sofia wants to help her friend, she's faced with a difficult decision: to keep her promise or tell her parents about Maddi's empty fridge. Filled with colorful artwork, this storybook addresses issues of poverty with honesty and sensitivity while instilling important lessons in friendship, empathy, trust, and helping others. A call to action section, with six effective ways for children to help fight hunger and information on antihunger groups, is also included.