# **LEVEL 1**

# Kindergarten

### All by Myself by Mercer Mayer (2001)

Mercer Mayer's popular Little Critter shows us all the things he can do by himself, from tying his shoes (almost) to pouring his own juice (and only spilling a little). The wry illustrations often point up the fact that Little Critter doesn't do everything perfectly, but he makes an effort to do the best he can.

### Franklin Is Lost! by Paulette Bourgeois (1992)

Franklin's mother tells him never to go into the woods. But one day Franklin is playing hide-and-seek with his friends and forgets what his mother has told him. Franklin is frightened when he realizes he's lost, but he knows just what to do -- stay in his shell and wait to be found.

### Franklin and the Computer by Paulette Bourgeois (2003)

When his Franklin's Beaver gets a new video game, Franklin becomes addicted. He stops going to soccer practice and he no longer wants to play with his friends. Will Franklin realize that winning points isn't worth losing his friends?

### Heartprints by PK Hallinan (2008)

In this delightful and warm book, the author weaves a story of children helping others and leaving heartprints all along the way.

### It's Mine by Leo Lionni (1996)

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.

### Mine! Mine! by Shelley Becker (2006)

Gail's favorite words are "Mine! Mine! Mine!" and she uses them all the time. Even when she tries to follow her Mom's good examples of generosity, Gail doesn't get it quite right. "An ugly hat, a broken bat, a smelly, chewed-up shoe..." are all she'll hand over during her Cousin Claire's visit. Will Gail EVER become a "sharing superstar"?

# Molly's Magic by Penelope Colville Paine (1995)

Molly is no magician, but this Irish porker's great ideas for solving problems work like magic! Young students will learn from Molly's example that adversity may sometimes be overcome with a little creative thinking.

### My Friend Fred by Hiawyn Oram (2012)

Grace loves her best friend Fred, the family dog, but when she tries to keep Fred all to herself, she learns that the very best friends are the ones who share.

### My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann (2007)

When Mouse lets his best friend Rabbit play with his brand-new airplane, trouble isn't far behind. This is a brand new picture book about friends and toys and trouble.

### One of Each by Mary Ann Hoberman (2000)

Oliver lives alone in a one-of-each house -- "One plum and one apple, one pear and one peach." But he discovers that two of each is even better because sharing makes room for friends.

Selfish Sophie by Damian Kelleher (2009)



### Share and Take Turns by Cheri J. Meiners M.Ed (2003)

Sharing is a social skill all children need to learn—the sooner the better. Concrete examples and reinforcing illustrations help children practice sharing, understand how and why to share, and realize the benefits of sharing. This book includes a note to teachers and parents, additional information for adults, and activities.

### Sharing: How Kindness Grows by Fran Shaw (2006)

This book truly creates a cause-and-effect circle for children to follow. They learn that by sharing and being kind to others, it encourages others to do the same. Children are shown sharing not only tangible items like crayons and cookies but they also share hugs and kind words.

## Stuck by Oliver Jeffers (2012)

Floyd gets his kite stuck up a tree. He throws up his shoe to shift it, but that gets stuck too. So he throws up his other shoe and that gets stuck, along with...a ladder, a pot of paint, the kitchen sink, an orangutan and a whale, amongst other things!

### Swimmy by Leo Lionni (1973)

Deep in the sea there lives a happy school of little fish. Their watery world is full of wonders, but there is also danger, and the little fish are afraid to come out of hiding . . . until Swimmy comes along. Swimmy shows his friends how—with ingenuity and team work—they can overcome any danger.

The Boy Who Wouldn't Share by Mike Reiss (2008)

### The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry And The Big Hungry Bear by Don Wood (1990)

Little Mouse loves strawberries, but so does the bear...How will Little Mouse stop the bear from eating his freshly picked, red, ripe strawberry.

### The Selfish Crocodile by Faustin Charles (2005)

Every morning, a very large and very snappy crocodile shouts this selfish message: 'Stay away from my river! It's MY river! If you come in my river, I'll eat you all!' The animals in the forest don't know what to do. They are frightened of the crocodile. Even the fish, tadpoles, frogs, crabs and crayfish stay out of the water. Until one day the creatures are woken by a loud groaning sound which turns out to be the selfish crocodile in a lot of pain, and the smallest of them all, a little mouse, finds a way to solve their snappy dilemma!

### There Is A Bird On Your Head by Mo Willems (2007)

Gerald discovers that there is something worse than a bird on your head—two birds on your head! Can Piggie help her best friend?

### There's a Nightmare in My Closet by Mercer Meyer (1992)

"Childhood fear of the dark and the resulting exercise in imaginative exaggeration are given that special Mercer Mayer treatment in this dryly humorous fantasy."

# We Share Everything by Robert Munsch (1999)

It's the first day of kindergarten and Amanda and Jeremiah have a problem. They both want to read the same books. They want to paint with the same paints. And they refuse to share. The teacher tells them, "Look. This is kindergarten. In kindergarten we share. We share everything." Everything? Amanda and Jeremiah decide to take their teacher at her word. But what can they share? They begin by switching their shoes, and end up wearing each other's outfits! Together they show their teacher that sharing really can be fun!

### When I Am Feeling Scared by Tracey Moroney (2005)

Have you ever been so scared that your heart races? Do creepy, crawly spiders and being alone in the dark make you tremble? The little rabbit knows how it feels to be scared and just what to do to feel better. Read along, and you too might find that what scares you isn't so scary after all.



# **LEVEL 2**

# Grade 1, Grade 2

### Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin (2000)

Farmer Brown has a problem. His cows like to type. All day long he hears "Click, clack, MOO. Click, clack, MOO. Clickety, clack, MOO. But Farmer Brown's problems REALLY begin when his cows start leaving him notes....First they demand better working conditions, then they stage a strike.

### Fox Makes Friends by Adam Relf (2005)

When Fox decides to make a new friend he starts with an apple on a stick. That doesn't work – and nor do a turnip or a pumpkin. But Squirrel and Rabbit have come to help . . . maybe making friends isn't so hard after all?

### Franklin is Bossy by Paulette Bourgeois (1994)

This gentle turtle hero faces a new but common childhood dilemma--learning that no one likes a bossy friend. Tired of playing alone, the repentant Franklin apologizes for being bossy and gratefully agrees to play along.

#### Franklin Plays the Game by Paulette Bourgeois (1995)

This was a very book to teach the value of being a team player. It also was helpful in pointing out that everyone has special skills you just have to look for them. This book also is excellent in pointing out that winning is not what is most important!

### Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns It's Ok To Back Away by Howard B. Binkow (2010)

Howard B. Wigglebottom receives a time-out all day because he got very angry when he did not get his way at school. Howard asks Ali why she never gets time-outs and she explains what she does to keep her cool. "When I don't get my way, my tummy feels all tight." Before I do the wrong thing, I say..."Stop; it's OK to back away." Then I go out and do something to feel good again."... "When I really listen to my tummy," said Ali, "it lets me know if I'm scared, hungry, or angry. If it's tight, I'm pretty sure I'm angry." Before the story ends, Howard learns calming strategies to help him feel good again when he becomes angry.

### How Are You Peeling?: Foods With Moods by Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers (2004)

What better way for a child to identify different emotions than with the very expressive "faces" of fruits and vegetables!

### How Full Is Your Bucket? For Kids by Tom Rath (2009)

How Full Is Your Bucket? is a quick, breezy book that helps readers boost the amount of positive emotions in their lives, and in the lives of those around them.

#### Hugs From Pearl by Paul Schmid (2011)

Pearl loves to hug. Hugs are nice . . . except when they come from a porcupine. Pearl tries and tries to solve her problem and finally fixes it in her very own way.

### I Can Cooperate! By David Parker (2004)

Presents ideas to children to learn the concept of cooperation and to help in understanding that they have responsibilities to perform to make things run smoothly.

### Molly's Magic by Penelope Colville Paine (1995)

Molly is no magician, but this Irish porker's great ideas for solving problems work like magic! Young students will learn from Molly's example that adversity may sometimes be overcome with a little creative thinking.

### Moosetache by Margie Palatini (1999)

How does a moose with too much facial hair cope? The moosetache gets in the way of everything: dancing, skiing, and even cooking. None of Moose's coping strategies seem to work until he meets a female moose with a similar problem, and her solution to bad hair days is so outrageous that it just might work.



### My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann (2007)

When Mouse lets his best friend Rabbit play with his brand-new airplane, trouble isn't far behind. A brand-new picture book about friends and toys and trouble.

### Spoon by Amy Krouse Rosenthal (2009)

He'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? A book for all ages, Spoon serves as a gentle reminder to celebrate what makes us each special.

# Stuck by Oliver Jeffers (2012)

Floyd gets his kite stuck up a tree. He throws up his shoe to shift it, but that gets stuck too. So he throws up his other shoe and that gets stuck, along with...a ladder, a pot of paint, the kitchen sink, an orangutan and a whale, amongst other things!

### Talk And Work It Out by Cheri Meiners (2005)

What's the best way to solve problems between people? It is by talking them over and working them out. It's never too soon for children to learn the process of peaceful conflict resolution. This book distills it into clear, simple language and supporting illustrations. 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.

### The Ant and the Elephant by Bill Peet (1980)

The elephant is the kindest animal in the jungle, rescuing the giraffe, lion, and rhino, but who will return the favor when the elephant needs help?

### The Crayon Box That Talked by Shane Derolf (1997)

This book has a simple message that when we all work together, the results are much more interesting and colorful.

### The Peace Book by Todd Parr (2008)

This book is about how to make peace in the world. It gives good examples on how to help different people in the world and how you should be kind to people.

### There Is A Bird On Your Head by Mo Willems (2007)

Gerald discovers that there is something worse than a bird on your head—two birds on your head! Can Piggie help her best friend?

### The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle (2006)

A hard-working spider spends a full day building a web instead of playing with his friends. At the end of the day he has a fresh meal and a warm bed to show for his work, as well as the sense of accomplishment.

### The Way I Feel by Janan Cain (2000)

This book will help small children find words to express the way they feel.



# LEVEL 3

# Grade 3, Grade 4

## A Warm Fuzzy Tale by Claude Steiner (2002 – original 1977)

This book essentially helps children to understand the golden rule and how showing kindness eventually brings to their own lives peace and tranquility even if others insist on wronging them.

### Better Than You by Trudy Ludwig (2011)

Jake's bragging is really starting to get to his neighbor Tyler. Tyler can't show Jake a basketball move, a school assignment, or a new toy without Jake saying he can do better. Tyler starts to wonder: Is something wrong with him? Is he really such a loser? Is Jake really better than him at everything? Or is Jake the one with the problem? With the help of his uncle Kevin, Tyler begins to understand that Jake's bragging has nothing to do with Tyler's own abilities and that puffing yourself up leaves little room for friends.

### Courage by Bernard Waber (2002)

What is courage? Certainly it takes courage for a firefighter to rescue someone trapped in a burning building, but there are many other kinds of courage too. Everyday kinds that normal, ordinary people exhibit all the time, like "being the first to make up after an argument," or "going to bed without a nightlight." This book explores the many varied kinds of courage and celebrates the moments, big and small, that bring out the hero in each of us.

### Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners (2007)

Mr. Rabbit's new neighbors are Otters. OTTERS! But he doesn't know anything about Otters. Will they get along? Will they be friends? Just treat otters the same way you'd like them to treat you, advises wise Mr. Owl. So begins Mr. Rabbit's reflection on good manners. This book highlights how to be a good friend and neighbor—just follow the Golden Rule!

### Hannah's Year by Carol Talley (2012)

Hana follows this rascally leader and her band of little monkeys into one misadventure after another. But when Tampopo leads Hana to betray her new friend, the boy Kenji, Hana decides that she had better learn to rely on her own judgment-even if it means being alone

# How To Be A Friend: A Guide To Making Friends And Keeping Them by Laurene Brown (2001)

Find out: \* who can be your friend \* how to show someone you would like to be friends \* how to handle bosses and bullies \* the best ways to be a friend and ways not to be a friend \* ways to settle an argument with a friend.

### I Can Cooperate! By David Parker (2004)

Presents ideas to children to learn the concept of cooperation and to help in understanding that they have responsibilities to perform to make things run smoothly.

### Ish by Peter H. Reynolds (2004)

Drawing is what Ramon does. It¹s what makes him happy. But in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily for Ramon, though, his little sister, Marisol, sees the world differently. She opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just "right."

## Leo The Late Bloomer by Robert Kraus (1994)

Leo the lion doesn't feel as capable as others, but his parents wait patiently for his skills to increase and trust in his capabilities even if he is developing slower than others. Soon Leo discovers his skills and is encourages that he, too, is capable.

# Making Friends is an Art by Julia Cook (2012)

This author teaches kids of all ages (and adults too), how to practice the art of friendship and getting along with others.



### One of Us by Peggy Moss (2010)

This book explores the stress of peer pressure and what is truly lost when we try to fit in. It's simple, powerful message: true friends respect what makes you who you are.

### Say Something by Peggy Moss (2008)

At this school, there are some children who push and tease and bully. Sometimes they hurt other kids by just ignoring them. The girl in this story sees it happening, but she would never do these mean things herself. Then one day something happens that shows her that being a silent bystander isn't enough. Will she take some steps on her own to help another kid?

## Stuck by Oliver Jeffers (2012)

Floyd gets his kite stuck up a tree. He throws up his shoe to shift it, but that gets stuck too. So he throws up his other shoe and that gets stuck, along with...a ladder, a pot of paint, the kitchen sink, an orangutan and a whale, amongst other things!

### Tell Me What It Is Like To Be Big by Joyce Dunbar (2001)

Early one morning, Willa gets up and tries to make her own breakfast. But she's too small to reach anything. Luckily, her older brother, Willoughby, is there to help--and to tell her about the many things she'll be able to do all by herself once she's big.

### There Is A Bird On Your Head by Mo Willems (2007)

Gerald discovers that there is something worse than a bird on your head—two birds on your head! Can Piggie help her best friend?

### The Sneetches And Other Stories by Dr. Seuss (1961)

In this collection of "The Sneetches", "The Zax", "Too Many Daves", and "What Was I Scared Of?the author touches on important moral issues, and while they can be read for sheer pleasure, they are also ideal for sparking conversations about tolerance, the need for compromise, and fear of the unknown.

# Warm Fuzzies by Cathie Brown (2008)

Warm Fuzzies is about a young girl named Shonna that is having problems fitting in with her friends at school. Her Mom comes up with an idea, a "Warm Fuzzy". (A doll made up of a pom pom, pipe cleaners, eyes, a button nose and string for a mouth). When this little girl is feeling sad and alone, and needs a reminder that someone loves and accepts her all she has to do is reach her hand in her pocket and feel the warmth of her Fuzzy. Shonna quickly learns that it is not just her that has a need to feel accepted. She passes on her Warm Fuzzy to the new girl at school making her not only feel good but making a new friend. She then comes up with the idea to make more so she can pass them onto others in an effort to repair friendships, show someone she cares, and in turn feel good about herself.



# **LEVEL 4**

# Grade 5, Grade 6

### Circles of Hope by Karen Lynn Williams (2011)

Young Facile wants to plant a tree in honor of his new baby sister, but he faces many obstacles. A goat eats the first seed he plants. The second seed is washed away in a storm, and a scrub fire burns another seed. Will Facile ever be able to plant a tree that will grow strong for baby Luci?

### Feelings by Aliki (1986)

Happy, sad, shy, excited--how do you feel? Sometimes it's hard to explain your feelings.

### If I Had A Green Nose by Max Lucado (2002)

We all want to fit in and to be accepted by the crowd, but at times that may mean we either have to look and act like others--or risk being rejected.

### Making Choices and Making Friends: The Social Competencies Assets by Pamela Espeland and Elizabeth Verdick (2006)

Kids learn how to build the five Social Competencies Assets: planning and decision-making, interpersonal competence, cultural competence, resistance skills, and peaceful conflict resolution. Stories, tips, and ideas help them get along better with others and stay true to themselves.

### My Forever Friends by Julie Bowe (2001)

Friendships are shifting for Ida May, and all because Jenna and Brooke (former BFFs) are feuding. No one knows what started the fight, but soon the girls in class have taken sides, with Ida May stuck in the middle. Does Ida have what it takes to understand the true nature of Jenna and Brooke's friendship and figure out the way to bring them, and the rest of the class, together?

### One of Us by Peggy Moss (2010)

This book explores the stress of peer pressure and what is truly lost when we try to fit in. It's simple, powerful message: true friends respect what makes you who you are.

# Peer Pressure vs. True Friends by Dr. Orly Katz

Peer pressure, secrets, rumors, gossip, true friends, bullying and social exclusion....surviving primary school is not easy! Imagine that you discover a secret key "the key to your environment" that will show you how to:

- Find true friends who really make you feel happy!
- Surround yourself with more and more friends.
- Set boundaries, stand up for yourself, cope with peer pressure, and feeling good about being able to say 'no'!

### Riding The Tiger by Eve Bunting (2001)

Danny, new to town, is proud when a glittery-eyed tiger invites him for a ride. He climbs up onto the tiger's massive back, and together they cruise the neighborhood. Everyone gives them respect—shopkeepers and passersby, even other kids. Danny feels powerful and much older than ten. Soon, though, he realizes it isn't respect people feel for him and the tiger—it's fear. And when he decides to get down off the tiger's back, he discovers it's a lot harder than climbing on. Whether the tiger is interpreted to represent gangs, drugs, or something else altogether, this poetically told, dramatically illustrated book is sure to provoke discussions about temptation, peer pressure, and conformity.

# Standing Up to Peer Pressure: A Guide To Being True To You by Jim Auer (2003)

Wanting to be accepted by peers is a natural part of children's social development. Yet kids can be overly influenced by what "friends" think of them or urge them to do. Through simple language and engaging illustrations, this book explains the concept of peer pressure. It encourages a solid sense of self-identity and teaches kids how to stand up for themselves and their convictions by saying "No."



## Talk And Work It Out by Cheri Meiners (2005)

What's the best way to solve problems between people? It is by talking them over and working them out. It's never too soon for children to learn the process of peaceful conflict resolution. This book distills it into clear, simple language and supporting illustrations. 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.

### The Loser List by H.N. Kowitt (2012)

When Danny gets caught trying to cross his name off the "Geek" list in the girls' bathroom, he's sent to detention. Bullies torment him mercilessly -- until they discover that Danny can draw. He enjoys his new "bad boy" status, supplying tattoos and graffiti, until he's unknowingly drawn into a theft. Turns out the bullies took a comic book from Danny's favorite store. Can he steal it back before they get caught -- and break off with the bullies before he gets in too deep?

### Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts (2009)

All Jeremy wants is a pair of those shoes, the ones everyone at school seems to be wearing. Though Jeremy's grandma says they don't have room for "want," just "need," when his old shoes fall apart at school, he is more determined than ever to have those shoes; even a thrift-shop pair that are much too small. But sore feet aren't much fun, and Jeremy soon sees that the things he has — warm boots, a loving grandma, and the chance to help a friend — are worth more than the things he wants.

## The Boy Who Couldn't Swim by Deb Lucke (2008)

A boy overcomes his fear and finds out he has the skills to swim as well as anyone. With a little courage, his fears turn into a passion for swimming.

## The Feelings Book by Todd Parr (2005)

This book portrays children expressing all different moods, from "I feel very mad" and "I feel like reading books all day" to "I feel like wearing funny underwear."

### The Three Questions by Jon J. Muth (2002)

A young boy goes on a journey to find answers to his questions about the right way to act. While on his journey, the boy learns about the importance of compassion and living in the moment, lessons he didn't know he already knew.

### The True Story Of The Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka (1996)

A spoof on the three little pigs' story, this time told from the wolf's point of view.

### When My Worries Get To Big! A Relaxation Book For Children Who Live With Anxiety by Kari Dunn Buron (2006)

This illustrated children s book is filled with opportunities for children to participate in developing their own self-calming strategies. Children, who use the simple strategies in this charming book, will find themselves relaxed and ready to focus on work or play!

