

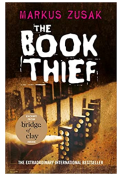
Preventing Bias-Based Bullying Booklist for Elementary



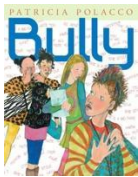
Big Bob, Little Bob. James Howe. (Pre-K – 2) Despite the fact that they share a name, they are different. Big Bob likes trucks and throwing balls and being loud. Little Bob likes dolls and jingling bracelets and being quiet. Yet, they become friends. When a neighbor teases Little Bob about dolls, Big Bob steps in with “Boys can do whatever they want.” [Lesson Plan](#)



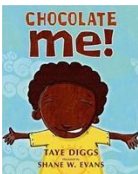
Bling Blaine: Throw Glitter, Not Shade. Rob Sanders. (Pre-K – 1) Blaine’s a boy who loves to shine . . . well actually, he loves to sparkle. But when his bling rubs some people the wrong way, and the bullying begins, Blaine—along with the entire school—starts to lose his shine. Can Blaine’s friends help bring back his glimmer?



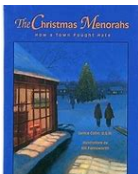
The Book Thief. Markus Zusak. (4 – 8) In 1938, young orphan Liesel arrives at the home of her new foster parents, Hans and Rosa. When Hans learns that Liesel cannot read, he teaches the child the wonders of the written language. Liesel grows to love books, even rescuing one from a Nazi bonfire. Though Liesel’s new family barely scrapes by, their situation becomes even more precarious when they secretly shelter a Jewish boy whose father once saved Hans’ life.



Bully. Patricia Polacco. (3 – 6) Lyla finds a great friend in Jamie. When Lyla makes the cheerleading squad, she joins the clique of popular girls leaving Jamie behind. But Lyla knows bullying when she sees it and becomes friends with Jaime again. The mean girls take revenge. Focuses on cyberbullying.



Chocolate Me! Taye Diggs. (Pre-K – 1) Teased for looking different than the other kids—his skin is darker, his hair curlier—he tells his mother he wishes he could be more like everyone else. She helps him to see how beautiful he really, truly is.



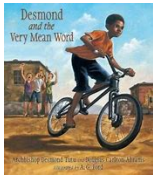
The Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate. Janice Cohn. (2 – 6) Based on real events that happened in Billings, Montana, in 1993. This powerful narrative tells how two children, two families – one Jewish, one Christian – and a community resolve to stand together against the shameful actions that have been happening in their town.



Chrysanthemum. Kevin Henkes. (Pre-K – 1) Chrysanthemum thinks her name is absolutely perfect—until her first day of school. “You’re named after a flower!” teases Victoria. “Let’s smell her,” says Jo. Chrysanthemum wilts. What will it take to make her blossom again?



The Day You Begin. Jacqueline Woodson. (K – 3) This story follows a series of students who feel like they stand out and are teased by their classmates. We are reminded that we all feel like outsiders sometimes—and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. Also see *Brown Girl Dreaming*. **Spanish Edition: El día en que descubres quién eres**



Desmond and the Very Mean Word: A Story of Forgiveness. Desmond Tutu and Douglas Abrams. (K – 3) Based on a true story from Archbishop Tutu’s childhood. When he took his new bicycle out for a ride through his neighborhood, his pride and joy turned to hurt and anger when a group of boys shouted a very mean word at him.

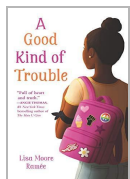


For Black Girls Like Me. Mariama J. Lockington. (3 – 5) Makeda is eleven years old, adopted and Black. She wonders: What would it feel like to grow up with a family that looks like me? In this coming-of-age story, the author draws on some of the emotional truths from her own experiences growing up with an adoptive White family.

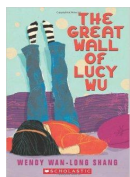


Ghost. Jason Reynolds. (4 – 8) A series of books with four kids from very different backgrounds; with personalities that are explosive when they clash. All are a part of an elite middle school track team that goes to the state championships. They all have a lot to lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves. Also see *Lu*, *Patina* and *Sunny*.

Spanish Edition: Fantasma



A Good Kind of Trouble. Lisa Moore Ramée. (3 – 7) Twelve-year-old Shayla is allergic to trouble. All she wants to do is to follow the rules. But in junior high, it’s like all the rules have changed. Now she’s suddenly questioning who her best friends are and some people at school are saying she’s not Black enough. Wait, *what?*



The Great Wall of Lucy Wu. Wendy Wan-Long Shang. (3 – 6) A humorous and heartwarming story about split cultural identities and the way life doesn’t go as planned for sixth-grader Lucy Wu – especially when her great-aunt comes for an extended visit from China.



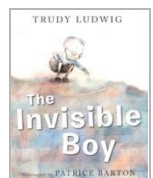
Hurricane Child. Kheryn Callender. (4 – 6) Feeling lonely and bullied daily with cruel remarks about her dark skin tone, Caroline finally befriends a new student, Kalinda. As Caroline develops a crush on Kalinda, they work together to find Caroline’s mother.



Indian No More. Charlene Willing Mcmanis. (4 – 7) After their tribe is “terminated” by the government, Regina’s father signs the family up for the Indian Relocation program and moves them to Los Angeles. Regina finds a whole new world. For the first time in her life, Regina comes face to face with the viciousness of racism.

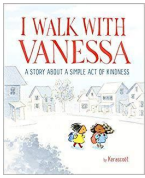


The Insiders. Mark Oshiro. (4 – 6) Investigating the idea of safe spaces while injecting a contemporary story of middle school cliques with magical realism, Oshiro’s gentle, intersectionally-inclusive saga drops 12-year-old Héctor Muñoz, an assured gay theater kid from San Francisco, into a new suburban school where a janitor’s closet appears whenever he requires a refuge.

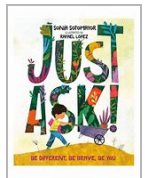


The Invisible Boy. Trudy Ludwig. (K – 3) Nobody ever seems to notice Brian or think to include him in their group, game or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class.

Spanish Edition: El niño invisible



I Walk with Vanessa: A Story About a Simple Act of Kindness. Kerascoët. (Pre-K – 1) In the wake of seeing a classmate treated badly, one girl inspires a community to stand up to bullying by being allies. Inspired by real events.



Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You. Sonia Sotomayor. (Pre-K – 2) Feeling different, especially as a kid, can be tough. But in the same way that different types of plants and flowers make a garden more beautiful and enjoyable, different types of people make our world more vibrant and wonderful. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids (and people of all ages) have using her own experience as a child.



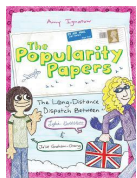
The Name Jar. Yangsook Choi. (K – 3) The new kid in school needs a new name! Or does she? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids won't like her. [Lesson Plan](#)



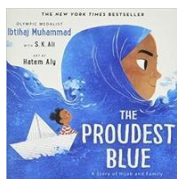
One. Kathryn Otoshi. (Pre-K – 3) Red picks on Blue. The other colors don't know what to do until One shows them how to stand up, stand together and count. Also see *Zero*. [Lesson Plan](#)



Pippa Park Raises Her Game. Erin Yun. (5 – 7) After Pippa gets a mysterious basketball scholarship to Lakeview Private, she juggles old and new friends while keeping her past and her family's laundromat a secret. But when Pippa begins to receive a string of hateful, anonymous messages via social media, her carefully built persona is threatened. Pippa wonders if she can keep her old and new lives separate, or if she should even try.



The Popularity Papers: Book Two: The Long-Distance Dispatch Between Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang. Amy Ignatow. (4 – 6) Julie and Lydia are in different schools, each dealing with what it means to be popular and with bullying. Graphic novel. Second in a series of seven books.



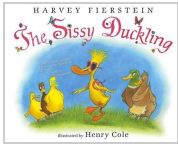
The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family. Ibtihaj Muhammad. (Pre-K – 1) It's the first day of school and Asiya will wear her first-day hijab. "Some people won't understand your hijab, Mama had said. But if you understand who you are, one day they will too." Olympic medalist, Ibtihaj Muhammad writes of the unbreakable bond between siblings, and of being proud of who you are.



Real Friends. Shannon Hale. (4 – 7) Shannon needs to decide whether being part of The Group is worth it even if that means bullying others. A graphic novel memoir about relational aggression and the power of finding true friends. The sequel *Best Friends* looks at the challenges of keeping a circle of friends, and the anxiety of standing up to bullying.



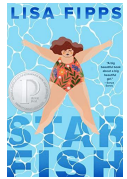
Save Me a Seat. Sarah Weeks. (3 – 7) Joe's lived in the same town all his life while Ravi's family just moved to America from India. Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common -- but soon enough they have a common enemy (the meanest kid in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.



The Sissy Duckling. Harvey Fierstein. (K – 2) While other boy ducklings like to build forts, he loves to bake cakes. While they play baseball, he wants to put on the halftime show. Elmer is a great big sissy. When his father is wounded by a hunter's shot, Elmer proves that the biggest sissy can also be the greatest hero. [Lesson Plan](#)



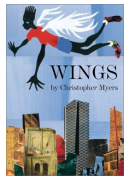
Snapdragon. Kat Leyh. (4 – 6) Snap's town has a witch. At least, that's how the rumor goes. But Snap thinks Jacks is kind of cool. As Snap starts to get to know her, she realizes that Jacks may in fact have real magic—and a connection with Snap's family's past. Snap is bold, independent and deals with bullies. She finds friendship with Lulu, a transgender youth who lives in the same trailer park and shares a love of scary movies.



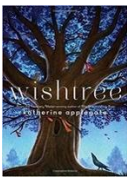
Starfish. Lisa Fipps. (5 – 7) Since she was young, Ellie was bullied about her weight. With support from a few people, Ellie might finally be able to cast aside the Fat Girl Rules and starfish in real life—by unapologetically being her own fabulous self.



Sulwe. Lupita Nyong'o. (Pre-K – 2) Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything. Actress Lupita Nyong'o inspires children to see their own unique beauty.



Wings. Christopher Myers. (1 – 5) Take flight with Ikarus Jackson, the boy with wings who remains true to his dreams despite taunts. One girl realizes he must be lonely and resolves to stop the hurtful words.

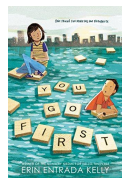


Wishtree. Katherine Applegate. (3 – 7) Trees can't tell jokes, but they can certainly tell stories.... After a Muslim girl and her family move in, an oak tree and a crow help two children and their neighbors embrace their differences and handle bullying and hate speech.

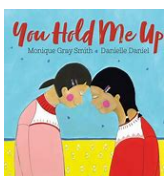
Spanish Edition: El árbol de los deseos



Wonder. R.J. Palacio. (5 – 7) Auggie was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to a mainstream school until 5th grade. Told from multiple perspectives that highlight different struggles with empathy and acceptance. **Spanish Edition: La lección de August**



You Go First. Erin Entrada Kelly. (3 – 6) On the surface, Charlotte's and Ben's lives seem vastly different. Over the course of a week, through an online Scrabble game, their lives will intersect in unexpected ways. An exploration of family, bullying and the ever-complicated world of middle school friendships.



You Hold Me Up. Monique Gray Smith. (Pre-K – 1) This vibrant picture book encourages children to show love and support for each other and to consider each other's well-being in their everyday actions. The book prompts a dialogue among young people, their care providers and educators about reconciliation and the importance of the connections children make.