

Cambridgeport School

Social/Emotional Resource Book



Created and compiled by Brianna Jordan
Special Thanks to Gail Nunes and Laurie Cleveland

Welcome to the Social/Emotional Resource Book!

This resource has been compiled to allow the Cambridgeport community to easily access books addressing social/emotional development and mental health issues for students in grades K-4. Using books to address children's social/emotional issues is an effective and easy approach to allow the child to gain insight and work through specific struggles he/she might be having. Books also can be used to promote healthy social/emotional development in general. Simply reading a book will not solve a child's problem, but it will allow them to grow and learn important lessons that could be useful with their personal struggles. It is hoped that you will use this resource to add more social/emotional books to your classroom **read-aloud selection**, increase the social/emotional books in your **personal classroom libraries**, or to **thoughtfully recommend a book to a student** who you notice is dealing with difficult issues.

The books are separated into categories and listed alphabetically. The **title, author, and publication information** is provided in case you are interested in seeking to purchase a book. Also, a **synopsis** of each book is given, along with the **grade level or reading level** the book targets. Finally, the **location** of where the book can be found is provided. There are many books on a variety of topics right at your finger tips in the Cambridgeport Library. For those books in this resource that are not available here at school, the libraries within the Cambridge Public School District that have these books available are listed, or public libraries within Massachusetts have been listed if a book is unavailable within this school district.

For a book to be most useful to a student, it should be thoughtfully selected to match the individual child and his/her situation. Furthermore, a follow up conversation or activity is useful to allow the child to gain more meaningful insight into the story and its relation to his/her life. Therefore, I have included **simple writing and discussion prompts as well as activities in Appendix A.**

Thank you for taking the time to peruse this resource, I hope you find it useful and come across a book or two that will be helpful to one or more of your students. I encourage you to **share good books** with fellow staff on these topics and have provided space in each topic section for you to do so.

Thank you for encouraging healthy social/emotional development in your students!

Enjoy,
Brianna Jordan
K-4 Counseling Intern (2006-2007)

Important Message

Books that address difficult topics that a child is personally dealing with can bring up intense emotions or reactions from the student. It is necessary to be aware of situations that require assistance from the counseling office to appropriately help the child work through an issue. It is not the responsibility of teachers to have to deal with a situation that they feel ill equipped or unprepared to handle, so please feel free to rely on the Counseling Office. Below are some “red flags” to be aware of when using these books:

- A child begins to cry
- A child become angry at themselves or other people
- A child becomes more quiet or withdrawn than usual; this could be exhibited as nervousness as well; avoids eye contact or answering questions on the topic
- Child refuses to read the book or address the issue.**This behavior would need to be investigate further, as it might be a normal behavior of simply wanting to read another book. Probing the child with why they do not wish to read the book could help uncover the real meaning behind their avoidance.
- A child discusses a personal issue out loud that deals with abuse, difficult family environment, or inappropriate moods, coping strategies, or feelings about a topic.
- Child describes an issue that they are dealing with that you feel they would need extra support working through

If these flags come up, it is safe to assume that the topic of the book relates to a personal situation they are dealing with. If you feel that you can help the child work through these immediate feelings, please feel free to do so, if not, please contact the counseling office. Regardless, please touch base with the counseling office so that appropriate follow up or plan of action can be established. The counseling office is here to support you and your students, so please don't hesitate! Again, thank you for your dedicated care and concern for the healthy development of our students.

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ADOPTION

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Adoption is for Always Linda Girard (Albert Whitman & Co., 1991)	Celia talks to her parents and teacher about her feelings about being adopted. She first comes to understand that adoption is permanent and that her adoptive parents are her "real" parents and will never send her back. She then wonders about her birth parents and why they gave her up. Her teacher tells Celia that her birthmother must have loved her very much in order to send her to parents who could make a home for her. ^B (K-2)	Baldwin, FM Academy
And Tango Makes Three Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell (Lectorum Publications, 2006)	Book about two penguin fathers who are given an egg by the zookeeper to make a family (Grade K-2)	Cport Library
Families Susan Kuklin (Hyperion, 2006)	Children's narrative of their own unique families (Grades K-4)	Cport Library
Families are Different Nina Pellegrini (Holiday House 1991)	An adopted Korean girl discovers that her classmates have different types of families. ^C	Cport Library: audio recording
Just Add One Chinese Sister Patricia McMahon and Conor Clarke McCarthy (Boyd's Mills Press, 2005)	A brother journals his thoughts throughout the process of his family adopting his little sister from China. ^C	Cport Library

ADOPTION

Me, Mop and the Moondance Kid

W.D. Myers
(Yearling, 1990)

T.J., his brother Moondance and their best friend Mop had all lived with the nuns in the Dominican Academy until the two brothers were adopted. Now Mop is convinced that the coaches of their baseball team, Marla and Jim Kennedy, want to adopt her, provided that she is a worthy child. What better way to prove her worth than to be the star of the Elks? But she has to work fast, because the Academy is being closed.^A (Grades 3-4)

FM Academy,
Graham & Parks,
KennLong,
King/Amigos,
Morse

We Adopted You, Benjamin Koo!

Linda Girard
(Albert Whitman & Co., 1992)

About International and inter-racial adoption. Benjamin Koo, nine, narrates his own story: his birth mother left him at an orphanage in Korea when he was only a few days old; and, in America, his adoptive parents were longing to have a child and were just waiting for one to become available. Benjamin also confides his worries and wonderings. Finally, Benjamin offers wise counsel: "You might have been born somewhere else or look different from your parents, but that has nothing to do with love."^A (Grades K-2)

FM Academy,
Graham & Parks,
King Open,
KennLong, Tobin

ADHD

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Distant Drums, Different Drummers Barbara Ingersoll (Cape Pubns, 1995)	The author discusses the positive evolutionary aspects of ADHD, as well as coping techniques and treatment ranging from medication to how to stay organized. Includes check list for readers to assess their behavior for strengths and areas to work on. More factual than a narrative story. ^B (Grades 3-4 with high reading abilities)	Bedford, Concord, Lasell College, Lexington, Newton
Eagle Eyes: A child's guide to paying attention Jeanne Gehret (Verbal Images Press, 1995)	It tells the story of a boy who becomes discouraged by his difficulties with attention and organization. He benefits from evaluation and treatment. Eventually, he comes to see the advantages of some of his special characteristics. ^B (Grades 2-4)	Acton, Concord, Lasell College, Medfield
I'm Somebody Too Jeanne Gehret	Spin off of Eagle Eyes. Ben's older sister, Emily is the main character in this story. Emily feels that her parents are ignoring her and expecting her to maintain perfect behavior so that they can deal with Ben. Emily and the family work with Ben's therapist to gain an understanding of Emily's own needs. ^B (Grades 3-4)	

ADHD

Joey Pigza Loses Control

Jack Gantos
(HarperTrophy, 2005)

Sequel to Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key. Joey's estranged father arranges to have Joey stay with him for the summer. The father has ADHD symptoms similar to those of his son. Further, the father struggles with alcoholism and legal problems. During the summer, he makes Joey stop his medication. In his father Joey sees what he might have become.^B
(Grade: 3-4) *Read or process with the child.

Cport Library

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key

Jack Gantos
(Corgi Childrens, 2000)

Joey's control of his own behavior slips away as we read, horrified to see this boy trying to get a grip on his life and failing. He is often disruptive in the classroom causing dangerous accidents. He is transferred to a special-education program in another school. Here, thankfully, he encounters a caring teacher who recommends further medical evaluation, and Joey is eventually able to return to his former school. There is hope for Joey on the last page--he sits in the Big Quiet Chair to read.^A
**Necessary to read or process with the child (Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

Kevin Henkes
(Green Willow, 1996)

A girl who has received a new toy is playing inappropriately with it during the school day and therefore gets in trouble with the teacher. As a result the child gets mad at the teacher. (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

ADHD

Otto Learns About His Medicine

Matthew Galvin
(Magination Press, 2001)

A young car who visits a special engine mechanic and receives an engine treatment to help him run at the right speed. The author uses the metaphor to explain the nature of ADHD, the process of getting a psychiatric evaluation and good questions to ask about medication.^B (Grades K-2)

Framingham
State

Phoebe Flower's Adventures: Phoebe's Best Best Friend

**Great series for girls with ADHD
Barbara Roberts
(Advantage Books, 2000)

She encounters the challenging ups and downs of relationships with other girls. In the over-eager pursuit of one ill-starred friendship, her impulsivity and distractibility land her once again in trouble at school.^A (Grades 3-4)

Phoebe Flower's Adventures: That's What Kids Are For

**Great series for girls with ADHD
Barbara Roberts
(Advantage Books)

Phoebe is an enthusiastic, creative girl but because of her high activity level, she struggles to pay attention in class and has only one good friend. Phoebe's principal and mother are sympathetic but also help Phoebe see that she has some responsibilities for her actions. In the end, Phoebe is the class heroine when she takes quick action to rescue a pet.^B (Grades 3-4)

What Would Joey Do?

Jack Gantos
(HarperTrophy, 2004)

The final title in the Joey Pigza saga, finds the hero flustered by his parent's questionable reunion and his ailing grandmother's efforts to push Joey to make friends. Part of the Joey Pigza series.^A **Read with child or process afterwards (Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

BULLYING

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Bully on the Bus Carl Bosch	Describes different options of dealing with intimidation. Part of the series "The Decision is Yours" where children can make their own decisions in the story and turn to designated pages to see the outcome. ^B (Grade 3-4)	King Open
Is it Right to Fight? A First Look at Anger Pat Thomas (Barron's Educational Series, 2003)	Spats are normal among younger kids, and often lead to screaming, hitting, and other expressions of anger. This fun-to-read book helps kids understand that it's often all right to be angry, but that it's always best to resolve conflicts peaceably. ^A (Grades K-2)	Ashland, Concord, Medford, Watertown
Just One Flick of a Finger Marybeth Lorbiecki (Dial, 1996)	Jack is tired of being afraid, so he takes his father's gun to school-not to use, but to scare off his tormentor, a bully named Reebo. When the gun accidentally goes off during a scuffle, events take a turn that Jack never expected. Vital truths about courage, friendship — and guns — unfold. No one is the same again. ^S (Grades 3-4)	Newton
Rumble Fish S. E. Hinton (Laurel Leaf, 1989)	Rusty-James knows he is a tough teen, but he wants to be even tougher, just like his older brother, the Motorcycle Boy. He wants to stay calm and laugh when things get dangerous, to be the strongest street fighter and the most respected guy this side of the river. ^S (Grade 4-7; R.L. 5.9)	Baldwin, CRLS, Graham & Parks, Haggerty, KennLong, King Open, Peabody, Tobin

BULLYING

Thank You, Mr. Faulker!

P. Polacco
(Philomel, 2002)

When Trisha looks at words and numbers, everything is a jumble. Trisha endures the cruel taunts of classmates who call her "dumb," and falls behind in her studies. But finally the encouragement and efforts of a new fifth grade teacher, Mr. Faulker, trigger a monumental turning point in Trisha's life. She begins to blossom and develop all of her talents, including reading.^A (Grades K-2)

The Hundred Dresses

Eleanor Estes
(Voyager Books, 1974)

Wanda Petronski tells classmates she has a hundred dresses of all varieties in her closet at home. So why does she always wear the same old worn dress to school? The teasing that follows seems harmless, but it's not. This book explores the hurt that comes from thoughtless words, and offers a painful, but heart-warming lesson in forgiveness. Touches on a friend who did not stand up for Wanda and feels guilty after Wanda moves to a new school.^A (Grades 3-4)

Baldwin, FM
Academy, Graham
& Parks, Haggerty,
KennLong, King
Amigos, King
Open, Morse,
Peabody, Tobin

Tyrone the Horrible

Hans Wilhelm
(Scholastic, 1992)

A little dinosaur named Boland tries several ways of dealing with the biggest bully in the swamp forest, until finally hitting on a successful tactic.^S (Grades 1-3; ages 6-8; Reading level 3.5; Lexile Level 480)

FM Academy

We Can Work it Out: Conflict Resolution for Children

Barbara Kay Polland
(Tricycle Press, 2000)

Text and photographs designed to create opportunities for children to talk about their experiences of conflict and the varieties of ways to resolve them.^C (Grades K-4)

Cport Library

BULLYING

**Why is Everybody
Always Picking on Me? A
Guide to Handling
Bullies**

Dr. T. Webster-Doyle
(Education for Peace
Pubns, 1997)

The author provides stories and practical group exercises to help vulnerable children learn to avoid victimization and to break the cycle by not victimizing others.^B (Grades 1-4)

Tobin

DEATH, LOSS

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Annie and the Old One Miska Miles (Trumpet Club, 1990)	Annie's grandmother is dying and tells Annie that when she is done weaving this rug she will "go back to the earth," or die. Therefore, Annie begins to act out in school in order for her grandmother to be called into school. Annie is behaving this way to prolong the time it takes for her Grandmother to finish weaving the rug.	Cport Library, with an audio cassette
Breaking Free Lauren Brooke (Scholastic, 2000)	Pegasus is all Amy has left of her past, but he's steadily growing weaker. Amy's trying to care for him and hold Heartland together. She's striving to do just what her mother would have, but everything is beginning to unravel. It will take all of Amy's courage to let go of her mother's legacy, but it is the only way that she will break free and find her own. ^S (Reading level 5.3; Lexile level 730)	Cambridge/Valente , Concord, Concord/Fowler, Dover, Framingham/Mcau liffe, Holliston, Lincoln, Medway, Millis, Stow
I Miss You: A First Look at Death Pat Thomas (Barron's Educational Series, 2001)	This book helps boys and girls understand that death is a natural complement to life, and that grief and a sense of loss are normal feelings for them to have following a loved one's death. ^A (Grades K-2)	Acton, Belmont, Concord, Dedham, Dover, Franklin, Medfield, Needham, Norwood, Winchester

DEATH, LOSS

Sad Isn't Bad: A Good Grief Guidebook for Kids Dealing with Loss

Michaelene Mundy
(Abbey Press, 1998)

Loaded with positive, life-affirming advice for coping with loss as a child, this guide tells children what they need to know after a loss-- that the world is still safe, life is good, and hurting hearts do mend.^D (Grades 2-4)

Acton,
Dedham/Endicott,
Dover, Norwood

The Dragon Fly Door

John Adams
(Feather Rock Books,
2007)

Lea and Nym are two insect friends who live underwater in a marsh. They play and have fun. Sometimes, they argue. While sleeping, Nym discovers that her friend has died. Through a vision or dream, Nym receives a comforting glimpse of what Lea has become. Follow the struggles that Nym endures when her friend disappears. Experience the beauty and hope in Lea's transformation and in the natural cycles of life.^A (Grades K-2)

The Two of Them

Aliki
(HarperTrophy, 1987)

Through the years, the little girl and her grandfather share so many happy times -- playing by the sea, walking in the mountains, working in his store. And when he grows sick, she takes care of him with as much love as he always showed her.^A (Grades K-2)

Haggerty,
KennLong, Tobin,
King Amigos

When a Pet Dies

Fred Rogers
(Putnam Juvenile, 1998)

This book deals with a child's feelings about the loss of a beloved pet. It is great to use when initiating conversation or reflection on the death of a friend or relative in a less threatening way.^B (Grades K-2)

FM Academy,
KennLong,
Peabody

DEATH, LOSS

**When Dinosaurs Die: A
Guide To Understanding
Death**

Laurie Krasny Brown
(Little, Brown Young
Readers, 1998)

Addresses children's fears and curiosity head-on, and in a largely secular fashion, by answering some very basic questions: "Why does someone die?" "What does dead mean?" "What comes after death?" Other questions deal with emotions, and there's a section about death customs.^A (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Andy and his Yellow Frisbee Mary Thompson (Woodbine House, 1996)	It describes a playground situation in which Andy, an Autistic boy, his sister, and a new student interact. The author draws parallels between Andy's autistic self absorption and the new girl's anxiety about a new school. Andy's older sister observes this interaction. ^B (Grades K-4)	Arlington, Arlington/Fox, Ashland, Belmont, Brookline, Brookline/Coolidge Corner, Brookline/Putterham
Curious George Goes to the Hospital Margaret Rey (Houghton Mifflin, 1995)	Readers learn all about the hospital as George goes in for an operation to remove a puzzle piece he has eaten. ^S (Grades K-3)	Cport Library
Distant Drums, Different Drummers Barbara Ingersoll (Cape Pubns, 1995)	The author discusses the positive evolutionary aspects of ADHD, as well as coping techniques and treatment ranging from medication to how to stay organized. Includes check list for readers to assess their behavior for strengths and areas to work on. More factual than a narrative story. ^B (Grades 3-4 with high reading abilities)	
Eagle Eyes: A child's guide to paying attention Jeanne Gehret (Verbal Images Press, 1995)	It tells the story of a boy who becomes discouraged by his difficulties with attention and organization. He benefits from evaluation and treatment. Eventually, he comes to see the advantages of some of his special characteristics. ^B (Grades 2-4)	Bedford, Concord, Lasell College, Lexington, Newton

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

<p>Heck, Superhero Martine Leavitt (Red Deer Press, 2004)</p>	<p>Abandoned by his mentally ill mother, 13 year old Heck tries to survive on his own as his mind bounces between the superhero character he imagines himself to be and the harsh reality of his life.^C (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>I Wish Daddy Didn't Drink So Much Judith Vigna (Albert Whitman & Co., 1993)</p>	<p>A girl and her mother deal with the father's drinking during Christmas. They seek comfort and a safe haven from an older neighbor who is a recovering alcoholic. She acknowledges the hurt, but encourages the child to find ways to be happy even while her father continues to drink.^B (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>FM Academy</p>
<p>Ian's Walk Laurie Lears (Albert Whitman & Co., 2003)</p>	<p>Julie is unhappy when her autistic brother wants to come with her because his actions sometimes embarrass her, but when he gets lost, Julie must step into his shoes to find him.^D (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>King Open</p>
<p>Ignatius Finds Help Matthew Galvin (Magination Press, 1988)</p>	<p>Introduction for young children to help them understand why they are going to see a child psychiatrist and what they might expect. A bear cub who has behavioral difficulties while his bear family is experiencing a period of stress. Dr. Pelican uses individual play therapy and family therapy to help Ignatius and his parents resolve their difficulties.^B (Grades K-2)</p>	

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

<p>I'm Somebody Too Jeanne Gehret</p>	<p>Spin off of Eagle Eyes. Ben's older sister, Emily is the main character in this story. Emily feels that her parents are ignoring her and expecting her to maintain perfect behavior so that they can deal with Ben. Emily and the family work with Ben's therapist to gain an understanding of Emily's own needs.^B (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Acton, Concord, Lasell College, Medfield</p>
<p>Joey Pigza Loses Control Jack Gantos (HarperTrophy, 2005)</p>	<p>Sequel to Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key. Joey's estranged father arranges to have Joey stay with him for the summer. The father has ADHD symptoms similar to those of his son. Further, the father struggles with alcoholism and legal problems. During the summer, he makes Joey stop his medication. In his father Joey sees what he might have become.^B (Grade: 3-4) *Read or process with the child.</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key Jack Gantos (Corgi Childrens, 2000)</p>	<p>Joey's control of his own behavior slips away as we read, horrified to see this boy trying to get a grip on his life and failing. He is often disruptive in the classroom causing dangerous accidents. He is transferred to a special-education program in another school. Here, thankfully, he encounters a caring teacher who recommends further medical evaluation, and Joey is eventually able to return to his former school. There is hope for Joey on the last page--he sits in the Big Quiet Chair to read.^A (Grades 3-4) **Necessary to read or process with the child</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

Leo the Late Bloomer

R. Kraus
(HarperTrophy, 1994)

Leo the lion isn't reading, writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. Leo's mother is not, she knows her son will do all those things and more, when he's ready.^A (Grades K-2)

FM Academy, Tobin,
King Amigos

Otto Learns About His Medicine

Matthew Galvin
(Magination Press, 2001)

A young car who visits a special engine mechanic and receives an engine treatment to help him run at the right speed. The author uses the metaphor to explain the nature of ADHD, the process of getting a psychiatric evaluation and good questions to ask about medication.^B (Grades K-2)

Framingham State

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**Great series for girls
with ADHD
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She encounters the challenging ups and downs of relationships with other girls. In the over-eager pursuit of one ill-starred friendship, her impulsivity and distractibility land her once again in trouble at school.^A (Grades 3-4)

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Phoebe is an enthusiastic, creative girl but because of her high activity level, she struggles to pay attention in class and has only one good friend. Phoebe's principal and mother are sympathetic but also help Phoebe see that she has some responsibilities for her actions. In the end, Phoebe is the class heroine when she takes quick action to rescue a pet.^B (Grades 3-4)

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

Please Don't Cry, Mom

Helen Denboer
(Carolrhoda Books,
1994)

Describes a boy's feelings about his mother's depression and her resistance to treatment. Her husband sets limits, and she does accept treatment and begin to improve. Stresses the importance of family participation in her treatment and taking one's medication. Ultimately, the boy is able to gain knowledge and a sense of mastery.^B (Grades K-4)

Peabody

Sad Days, Glad Days

Dewitte Hamilton
(Albert Whitman & Co.,
1995)

Amanda's mother suffers from depression and although the girl's father explains that it is not her job to make her mother happy, Amanda thinks that a playful cat will help.^D (Grades K-2)

Brookline,
Brookline/Coolidge
Corner,
Brookline/Putterham,
Dedham/Endicott,
Dedham, Holliston,
Lexington, Medford,
Natick, Watertown

Thank You, Mr. Faulker!

P. Polacco
(Philomel, 2002)

When Trisha looks at words and numbers, everything is a jumble. Trisha endures the cruel taunts of classmates who call her "dumb," and falls behind in her studies. But finally the encouragement and efforts of a new fifth grade teacher, Mr. Faulker, trigger a monumental turning point in Trisha's life. She begins to blossom and develop all of her talents, including reading.^A (Grades K-2)

DISABILITY and DISORDERS

The Aunt in Our House

Angela Johnson
(Orchard Books, 1996)

A small boy and his sister like it when Daddy's adult sister comes to live with them. The aunt (who's white) finds a place in this happy bi-racial family. . . but sometimes the aunt is sad and stares out the window all day. . . . Many kids will relate to the story of an adult they love but whose sadness they can't fully understand.^S (Grades K-3)

Cport Library

The Don't Give Up Kid

Jeanne Gehret
(Verbal Images Press,
1996)

The story of a boy who is persistent and creative, but has difficulty learning to read. Eventually, his self-esteem begins to suffer.^B
(Grades 1-4)

King Amigos, Morse

What Would Joey Do?

Jack Gantos
(HarperTrophy, 2004)

The final title in the Joey Pigza saga, finds the hero flustered by his parent's questionable reunion and his ailing grandmother's efforts to push Joey to make friends. Part of the Joey Pigza series.^A **Read with child or process afterwards (Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

DIVORCE

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Amber Brown Goes Fourth Paul Danziger (Puffin, 2003)	Entering 4th grade, Amber faces some changes in her life as her best friend moves away and her parents divorce. ^C Part of the Amber Brown series. (Grade 3-4)	Cport Library
Amber Brown is Not a Crayon Paula Danziger (Puffin, 2006)	She may not be a crayon, but Amber Brown is certainly blue over the fact that her best friend, Justin Daniels, is moving away. What's making it even harder is that he won't talk to her about how he feels and she can only assume he's not as broken up about it as she is. Then, while cleaning his room for the move, Justin throws away the chewing-gum ball they've been building for a year and a half. It's the last straw and the pair are no longer speaking at all. Finally, Amber's mother helps her understand that Justin's reticence is his way of protecting himself against his sadness and anxiety over leaving, and Amber makes the move that reconciles the two pals. ^A (Grade 3-4)	Cport Library
Amber Brown Sees Red Paul Danziger (Puffin, 1998)	The year that she is in the 4th grade is a difficult one for Amber, as she tries to deal with escalating telephone fights between her divorced parents and her father's impending return to take joint custody of her. ^C Part of the Amber Brown series. (Grade 3-4)	Cport Library

DIVORCE

<p>Amber Brown Wants Extra Credit Paul Danziger (Puffin, 1997)</p>	<p>Sequel to Amber Brown Goes Fourth. Unhappy over her parents' divorce and her mother's boyfriend, Max, 9 year old Amber finds her school work suffering.^c Part of the Amber Brown series. (Grade 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library, plus an audio cassette</p>
<p>Being Danny's Dog Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Aladdin, 1997)</p>	<p>10 year old T.R. and 12 year old brother Danny move to Rosemary Acres with their mother and find new friends as well as a lot of community rules to follow.^c (Grade 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Daddy Doesn't Live Here Anymore Betty Virginia Doyle Boegehold and Bernice Berk (Golden Books, 1985)</p>	<p>When her parents decide to get a divorce, Casey is very unhappy, wonders if it is her fault, and tries a plan to get them back together.^c (Grades 2-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Dear Mr. Henshaw Beverly Cleary (HarperTrophy, 2000)</p>	<p>In his letters to his favorite author, 10 year old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.^c (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Dinosaurs Divorce: A guide for changing families Laurene Krashy Brown and Marc Brown (Little Brown, & Co., 1993)</p>	<p>Text and illustrations of dinosaur characters introduce aspects of divorce such as its causes and effects, living with a single parent, spending holidays in two separate households, and adjusting to a step parent.^c (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

DIVORCE

<p>Families Susan Kuklin (Hyperion, 2006)</p>	<p>In frank, funny, and touching interviews, children from fifteen different families talk about the ups and downs of their home lives, offering a look at the diversity of American families. ^c (Grades K-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Families: a celebration of diversity, commitment, and love Jenness Aylette (Houghton Mifflin, 1989)</p>	<p>Photographs and text depict the lives of seventeen families from around the country, some with step relationships, divorce, gay parents, foster siblings, and other diverse components. The material was originally a traveling exhibition, begun at the Children's Museum in Boston. ^c</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Fox Steals Home Matt Christopher (Little, Brown Young Readers, 1985)</p>	<p>A boy's parents get a divorce, and the father who taught the boy how to play baseball is now moving away so the boy must now deal with this additional transition and loss. ^c (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>How it Feels when Parents Divorce Jill Krementz (Knopf, 1988)</p>	<p>Boys and girls ages 7-16 years old share feelings about their parents' divorce. ^c (Grades 2-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>I, Amber Brown Paula Danziger (Puffin, 2000)</p>	<p>Because her divorced parents share joint custody of her, 9 year old Amber suffers from lack of self-esteem and feels that she is a piece of jointly-owned property. ^c (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

DIVORCE

<p>Joey Pigza Loses Control Jack Gantos (HarperTrophy, 2005)</p>	<p>Sequel to Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key. Joey's estranged father arranges to have Joey stay with him for the summer. The father has ADHD symptoms similar to those of his son. Further, the father struggles with alcoholism and legal problems. During the summer, he makes Joey stop his medication. In his father Joey sees what he might have become.^B (Grade: 3-4) **Read or process with child</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Scooter Vera Williams (HarperTrophy, 2001)</p>	<p>A child's silver blue scooter helps her to adjust to her new home.^C (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Some Frog! Eve Bunting (Voyager Books, 2002)</p>	<p>Billy is disappointed when his father doesn't show up to help him catch a frog for the frog jumping competition at school, but the one he and his mother catch wins the championship and Billy begins to accept his father's absence.^C (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>The Spider and the Bee Michele Shen (Kane/Miller Book Publishers, 2002)</p>	<p>A spider and bee fall in love and marry. For the first year they get along well. As time goes on, their inborn differences become problematic. The bee tries to please the spider with things that might please another bee. They disagree about where they should live, Sadly, they realize that they must live apart. After their sad parting, each is able to live happily in his or her own natural setting.^B (Grades K-1)</p>	

DIVORCE

<p>The Squeaky Wheel Robert Kimmel Smith (Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 1990)</p>	<p>Moving to a new neighborhood following his parents' divorce, Mark has trouble making new friends and coping with his father's absence.^c (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Was it the Chocolate Pudding? Sandra Levins (American Psychological Association, 2005)</p>	<p>A young narrator lives with his father and brother and talks about issues of divorce, with an emphasis on how it is not the child's fault. (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Bedford, Framingham, Medford, Natick, Waltham</p>
<p>What's Going to Happen to Me? When parents separate or divorce Richard Le Shan (Four Winds Press, 1974)</p>	<p>Explores the feelings and problems common to the experience of divorce.^c</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

FAMILY TOPICS

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
And Tango Makes Three Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell (Lectorum Publications, 2006)	Book about two penguin fathers who are given an egg by the zookeeper to make a family (Grades K-2)	Cport Library
Black is Brown is Tan Arnold Adoff (Amistad, 2004)	Fragmented verse lovingly explores the colors of various multicultural families. ^A (Grades K-4)	FM Academy, Haggerty, King Open, Peabody
Families Meredith Tax	Describes different kinds of families. ^C	Cport Library
Families Susan Kuklin (Hyperion, 2006)	Children's narrative of their own unique families (Grades K-4)	Cport Library
Families are Different Nina Pellegrini (Holiday House 1991)	An adopted Korean girl discovers that her classmates have different types of families. ^C	Cport Library: audio recording
Families: a celebration of diversity, commitment, and love Jenness Aylette (Houghton Mifflin, 1989)	Photographs and text depict the lives of seventeen families from around the country, some with step relationships, divorce, gay parents, foster siblings, and other diverse components. The material was originally a traveling exhibition, begun at the Children's Museum in Boston. ^C	Cport Library

FAMILY TOPICS

Heck, Superhero
Martine Leavitt
(Red Deer Press, 2004)

Abandoned by his mentally ill mother, 13 year old Heck tries to survive on his own as his mind bounces between the superhero character he imagines himself to be and the harsh reality of his life.^C
(Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

I'm Somebody Too
Jeanne Gehret

Spin off of Eagle Eyes. Ben's older sister, Emily is the main character in this story. Emily feels that her parents are ignoring her and expecting her to maintain perfect behavior so that they can deal with Ben. Emily and the family work with Ben's therapist to gain an understanding of Emily's own needs.^B (Grades 3-4)

Acton, Concord, Lasell
College, Medfield

**I Wish Daddy Didn't
Drink So Much**
Judith Vigna
(Albert Whitman & Co.,
1993)

A girl and her mother deal with the father's drinking during Christmas. They seek comfort and a safe haven from an older neighbor who is a recovering alcoholic. She acknowledges the hurt, but encourages the child to find ways to be happy even while her father continues to drink.^B (Grades K-2)

FM Academy

Ian's Walk
Laurie Lears
(Albert Whitman & Co.,
2003)

Julie is unhappy when her autistic brother wants to come with her because his actions sometimes embarrass her, but when he gets lost, Julie must step into his shoes to find him.^D (Grades K-2)

King Open

FAMILY TOPICS

Ira Sleeps Over

Bernard Waber
(Live Oak Media, 2005)

Ira is thrilled to spend the night at Reggie's, until his sister raises the question of whether he should take his teddy bear.^A (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

Just Add One Chinese Sister

Patricia McMahon and
Conor Clarke McCarthy
(Boyd's Mills Press, 2005)

A brother journals his thoughts throughout the process of his family adopting his little sister from China.^C

Cport Library

No, David.

David Shannon
(Blue Sky Press, 1998)

A young boy is depicted doing a variety of naughty things for which he is repeatedly admonished, but finally he gets a hug.^C (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

Noisy Nora

Rosemary Wells
(Puffin, 2000)

Here is the lilted, whimsical story of noisy little Nora, a mouse who can't seem to get any attention from her busy family.^S (Grades K-2)

King Amigos, King Open, Morse, Tobin

Please Don't Cry, Mom

Helen Denboer
(Carolrhoda Books, 1994)

Describes a boy's feelings about his mother's depression and her resistance to treatment. Her husband sets limits, and she does accept treatment and begin to improve. Stresses the importance of family participation in her treatment and taking one's medication. Ultimately, the boy is able to gain knowledge and a sense of mastery.^B (Grades K-4)

Peabody

FAMILY TOPICS

<p>Sad Days, Glad Days Dewitte Hamilton (Albert Whitman & Co., 1995)</p>	<p>Amanda's mother suffers from depression and although the girl's father explains that it is not her job to make her mother happy, Amanda thinks that a playful cat will help.^D (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Brookline, Brookline/Coolidge Corner, Brookline/Putterham, Dedham/Endicott, Dedham, Holliston, Lexington, Medford, Natick, Watertown</p>
<p>Some Frog! Eve Bunting (Voyager Books, 2002)</p>	<p>Billy is disappointed when his father doesn't show up to help him catch a frog for the frog jumping competition at school, but the one he and his mother catch wins the championship and Billy begins to accept his father's absence.^C (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>That's a Family</p>	<p>Video with an accompanying teacher guide that depicts families of all kinds speaking about their lives and unique family experiences.^C</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>That's Not Fair Jane Sarnoff (Scribner, 1980)</p>	<p>Becky thinks her older brother Bert has the best of things in their family and "that's not fair."^A</p>	<p>Arlington, Concord, Lexington</p>
<p>The Aunt in Our House Angela Johnson (Orchard Books, 1996)</p>	<p>A small boy and his sister like it when Daddy's adult sister comes to live with them. The aunt (who's white) finds a place in this happy bi-racial family. . . but sometimes the aunt is sad and stares out the window all day. . . . Many kids will relate to the story of an adult they love but whose sadness they can't fully understand.^S (Grades K-3)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

FAMILY TOPICS

The Keeping Quilt

Patricia Polacco
(Aladdin, 2001)

A family story about a quilt made from an immigrant Jewish family's clothing from their Russian homeland.^A (Grades K-2)

Baldwin, FM
Academy, Graham &
Parks, Haggerty,
KennLong, King
Amigos, King Open,
Morse, Peabody, Tobin

The Pain and the Great One

Judy Blume
(Dragonfly Books, 1985)

An eight-year-old girl, "The Great One," and her six-year-old brother, "The Pain," state their cases about each other and who is best loved by their parents.^A (Grades K-2)

KennLong, Peabody,
King/Amigos, King
Open

The Two of Them

Aliki
(HarperTrophy, 1987)

Through the years, the little girl and her grandfather share so many happy times -- playing by the sea, walking in the mountains, working in his store. And when he grows sick, she takes care of him with as much love as he always showed her.^A (Grades K-2)

Acton, Arlington,
Arlington/Fox,
Bedford, Belmont,
Cambridge,
Cambridge/Oconnell,
Cambridge/Oneil,
Cambridge/Valente

We Adopted You, Benjamin Koo!

Linda Girard
(Albert Whitman & Co.,
1992)

About International and inter-racial adoption. Benjamin Koo, nine, narrates his own story: his birth mother left him at an orphanage in Korea when he was only a few days old; and, in America, his adoptive parents were longing to have a child and were just waiting for one to become available. Benjamin also confides his worries and wonderings. Finally, Benjamin offers wise counsel: "You might have been born somewhere else or look different from your parents, but that has nothing to do with love."^A (Grades K-2)

FM Academy, Graham
& Parks, King Open,
KennLong, Tobin

FAMILY TOPICS

What Would Joey Do?

Jack Gantos
(HarperTrophy, 2004)

The final title in the Joey Pigza saga, finds the hero flustered by his parent's questionable reunion and his ailing grandmother's efforts to push Joey to make friends. Part of the Joey Pigza series.^A **Read with child or process afterwards (Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

When We Married Gary

Anna Grossnickle Hines
(Greenwillow Books, 1996)

Focuses on the children's feelings about their mother's remarriage. Although they are initially apprehensive about the addition to their family, they come to love their new step-father as he becomes integrated into their family.^B (Grades K-2)

Arlington/Fox,
Bedford, Brookline,
Concord/Fowler,
Concord, Dedham,
Dedham/Endicott,
Dover, Framingham
State, Franklin

FEELINGS

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
A Terrible Thing Happened Margaret Holmes and Sasha Mudlaff (Dalmatian Press, 2001)	Sherman Smith saw the most terrible thing happen. At first he tried to forget about it, but soon something inside him started to bother him. He felt nervous for no reason. Sometimes his stomach hurt. He had bad dreams. And he started to feel angry and do mean things, which got him in trouble. Then he met Ms. Maple, who helped him talk about the terrible thing that he had tried to forget. Now Sherman is feeling much better. ^A (Grades K-1)	
Don't Rant and Rave on Wednesdays Adolph Moser (Landmark Editions, 1994)	A book which talks to kids about the feeling of anger, how everyone feels it, how it is triggered by different things, how one can either internalize anger or externalize anger, and finally, how a child can work to control their anger. (Grades K-4)	KennLong
Edward's Overwhelming Overnight Rosemary Wells (Dial, 1995)	Edward's parents tell him that because of the snow he will have to stay overnight with his friend Anthony, but Edward finds this overwhelming. ^S (Grades K-2)	
How Are You Peeling? Joost Elffers, Saxton Freymann (Scholastic Paperbacks, 2004)	Moods are expressed through human faces made by food. ^S (Grades K-3)	FM Academy, Haggerty, KennLong, King/Amigos, King Open, Peabody, Tobin

FEELINGS

I am so Angry, I could Scream: Helping Children Deal with Anger

Laura Fox
(New Horizon, 2000)

Teaches children healthy techniques for releasing anger and ways to avoid anger-inducing situations.^A (Grades K-2)

No, David.

David Shannon
(Blue Sky Press, 1998)

A young boy is depicted doing a variety of naughty things for which he is repeatedly admonished, but finally he gets a hug.^C (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

Noisy Nora

Rosemary Wells
(Puffin, 2000)

Here is the lilting, whimsical story of noisy little Nora, a mouse who can't seem to get any attention from her busy family.^S (Grades K-2)

King Amigos, King Open, Morse, Tobin

Rumble Fish

S. E. Hinton
(Laurel Leaf, 1989)

Rusty-James knows he is a tough teen, but he wants to be even tougher, just like his older brother, the Motorcycle Boy. He wants to stay calm and laugh when things get dangerous, to be the strongest streetfighter and the most respected guy this side of the river.^S (Grade 4-7; R.L. 5.9)

Baldwin, CRLS, Graham & Parks, Haggerty, KennLong, King Open, Peabody, Tobin

Sad Isn't Bad: A Good Grief Guidebook for Kids Dealing with Loss

Michaelene Mundy
(Abbey Press, 1998)

Loaded with positive, life-affirming advice for coping with loss as a child, this guide tells children what they need to know after a loss--that the world is still safe, life is good, and hurting hearts do mend.^D (Grades 2-4)

Acton, Dedham/Endicott, Dover, Norwood

Scared of the Dark

Liza Alexander
(Golden Books Publishing Co., 1986)

Seasame Street character Ernie has trouble sleeping after watching a scary movie. Bert tries to make Ernie have better dreams. (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

FEELINGS

Shipwreck Saturday

Bill Cosby
(Cartwheel, 1998)

Wise friends and a loving father help Little Bill learn how to deal with disappointment.^S (R.L. 2.8; Guided Reading Level: K)

KennLong, Tobin

Sister

Eloise Greenfield
(HarperTrophy, 1992)

When Doretha was nine, her father gave her an old notebook with empty pages. On the first page, Doretha wrote in black: "Me, age 9. My Doretha Book — Memories." Now Doretha is thirteen, and there are lots of pages filled up with words and colors, each page holding a special memory. Some are happy. And some are sad. As Doretha reads the book, she realizes that these events are what have given her the courage and insight she needs to be herself.^S (Grade 4-7; R.L. 5.9)

Natick

Some of the Days of Everett Anderson

Lucille Clifton

Nine poems about a boy who likes to play in the rain, is not afraid of the dark, and sometimes feels lonely.^C

Peabody

Wemberly Worried

Kevin Henkes
(Greenwillow, 2000)

A little mouse worries about everything, especially her first day of school, but at school she makes a new friend that helps her ease her worries. (Grades K-3)

Cport Library

When I Grow Up I Want to be Me

Sandra Magsamen
(Orchard, 2002)

Girls of diverse colors, shapes, and sizes who say, "I'll be everything I imagine I can be. I'll be happy with who I am and what I see." (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

FEELINGS

**When Sophie Gets
Angry...Really, Really
Angry**

Molly Bang
(Blue Sky Press, 1999)

In this Caldecott Honor-winning, head-on exploration of the causes of and solutions to anger, Sophie gets angry and runs out into the woods, where she climbs a tree to calm down, and is soon ready to come home to her loving family.^S (Grades: K-2; R.L. 1.9)

Cport Library

Will I have a Friend?

Miriam Cohen
(Aladdin, 1989)

Jim's anxieties on his first day of school are happily forgotten when he makes a new friend.^A (Grade K)

Graham & Parks,
Tobin

Yesterday I had the Blues

Jeron Ashford Frame
(Tricycle Press, 2003)

The young African American narrator of this picture book spends a gloomy day with the blues; on the other hand, his energetic, ballet-crazy sister has a case of the pinks. Frame explores the spectrum of feelings, represented by different colors, that a sensitive little boy observes in himself and in others who live in his urban neighborhood. Cues in the artwork that can help children understand the emotions.^A (Grades K-2)

Tobin

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
A Bad Case of Stripes David Shannon (Blue Sky Press, 1998)	In order to ensure her popularity, Camilla Cream always does what is expected, until the day arrives when she no longer recognizes herself. ^c (Grades K-2)	Cport Library
Amber Brown is Not a Crayon Paula Danziger (Puffin, 2006)	She may not be a crayon, but Amber Brown is certainly blue over the fact that her best friend, Justin Daniels, is moving away. What's making it even harder is that he won't talk to her about how he feels and she can only assume he's not as broken up about it as she is. Then, while cleaning his room for the move, Justin throws away the chewing-gum ball they've been building for a year and a half. It's the last straw and the pair are no longer speaking at all. Finally, Amber's mother helps her understand that Justin's reticence is his way of protecting himself against his sadness and anxiety over leaving, and Amber makes the	Cport Library
Amigo Means friend Louise Everett (Troll Communications 1999)	When Jose and George first met each thought that the other talked strangely, but now each can say something in the other's language. ^c (Grade K-2)	Cport Library

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

<p>Being Danny's Dog Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Aladdin, 1997)</p>	<p>10 year old T.R. and 12 year old brother Danny move to Rosemary Acres with their mother and find new friends as well as a lot of community rules to follow.^C (Grade 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Best Day of the Week Nancy Carlsson-Paige (Redleaf Press, 1998)</p>	<p>Because Calvin wants to play pirates and Angela wants to play store with an old card table which they found in the trash, they must find a way to resolve their conflict.^C</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Case of the Double Cross Crosby Bonsall (Harper Trophy, 1982)</p>	<p>Marigold concocts a mystery that finally gets her and her friends into the boys' private eye club.^C (Grades K-1)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Edward's Overwhelming Overnight Rosemary Wells (Dial, 1995)</p>	<p>Edward's parents tell him that because of the snow he will have to stay overnight with his friend Anthony, but Edward finds this overwhelming.^S (Grades K-2)</p>	
<p>Everett Anderson's Friend Lucille Clifton (Henry Holt & Co., 1992)</p>	<p>Everett navigates his many friendships. (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Cambridge, Cambridge/Valente, Concord, Dedham, Dedham/Endicott, Framingham State, Lexington, Newton, Waltham</p>
<p>Finders, Keepers? Elizabeth Crary (Parenting Press, 1987)</p>	<p>Discusses how one deals with finding a wallet and with the peer pressure to steal.^B Part of the series "The Decision is Yours." (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Natick, Needham</p>

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

<p>First Day Blues Peggy King Anderson (Parenting Press, 1992)</p>	<p>Describes different ways of making friends in a new school.^B Part of the series "The Decision is Yours" (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Natick, Needham</p>
<p>Good Grief, Third Grade Colleen O'Shaughnessy McKenna (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1994)</p>	<p>Marsha's dream of a fresh start in third grade deflates as she realizes that third grade will never be different so long as Roger Friday is in her class. Enemies since 1st grade, they are now paired up on a project, their realistic quarreling leads to one student almost getting kicked out of school, until they both see the errors in their ways and become friends. The chapter book portrays both kids having good and bad qualities and the reality of friendships in third grade.^S (Grades: 2-3; R.L. 3.9)</p>	<p>KennLong, FM Academy, King Open, King/Amigos</p>
<p>Horrible Harry and the Ant Invasion; Horrible Harry in Room 2B. Suzy Kline (Puffin, 2000)</p>	<p>These hilarious beginning chapter books feature Horrible Harry, a devilish second grader who plays pranks with nearly catastrophic results, but can still end up to be a good friend.^S (R.L. 3.1; Guided Reading Level: L)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Ira Sleeps Over Bernard Waber (Live Oak Media, 2005)</p>	<p>Ira is thrilled to spend the night at Reggie's, until his sister raises the question of whether he should take his teddy bear.^A (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>Arlington, Newton</p>

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

Is it Right to Fight? A First Look at Anger

Pat Thomas

(Barron's Educational Series, 2003)

Spats are normal among younger kids, and often lead to screaming, hitting, and other expressions of anger. This fun-to-read book helps kids understand that it's often all right to be angry, but that it's always best to resolve conflicts peaceably.^A (Grades K-2)

Ashland, Concord, Medford, Watertown

Marvin Redpost: Is He a Girl?

Marvin Redpost series
Louis Sachar

(Random House Books for Young Readers, 1993)

Here he gets a lot of fun out of the identity confusion, and kids will love the frankness about grade-school gender wars and social taboos. There are no neat answers, but a lot of droll questions, including "What's normal?"^A (Reading level 1.8; Lexile level 290; Ages 4-8; Grades K-4)

Ashland, Bedford, Brookline/Putterham, Cambridge, Cambridge/Oconnell, Cambridge/Oneil, Cambridge/Valente, Dover, Framingham

Money Troubles

Bill Cosby

(Cartwheel, 1998)

While trying to raise enough money for a telescope, Little Bill makes a discovery about generosity and the needs of others.^A (Grades 1-2)

Acton, Arlington, Ashland, Belmont/Benton, Belmont, Brookline, Brookline/Putterham, Cambridge/Boudreau, Cambridge, Cambridge/Collins

My Mouth is a Volcano

Julia Cook

(CTC Publishing, 2006)

My Mouth Is A Volcano takes an empathetic approach to the habit of interrupting and teaches children a witty technique to capture their rambunctious thoughts and words for expression at an appropriate time.^A (Grades K-2)

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

Nice New Neighbors

Franz Brandenburgh
(Scholastic, 1977)

No one wants to play with the Field mouse children. Find out what they do to make new friends!^A

Acton, Arlington,
Ashland, Belmont,
Cambridge/CentSq,
Concord, Dedham,
Dedham/Endicott,
Dover, Framingham
State

One of the Problems of Everett Anderson

Lucille Clifton

Everett Anderson wonders how he can help his friend Greg, who appears to be the victim of child abuse.^C

FM Academy, Tobin

Phoebe Flower's Adventures: Phoebe's Best Best Friend

**Great series for girls with
ADHD

Barbara Roberts
(Advantage Books, 2000)

She encounters the challenging ups and downs of relationships with other girls. In the over-eager pursuit of one ill-starred friendship, her impulsivity and distractibility land her once again in trouble at school.^A
(Grades 3-4)

Rainbow Fish

Marcus Pfister
(North-South, 1992)

Rainbow Fish, "the most beautiful fish in the entire ocean," refuses to share his prized iridescent scales. When his greed leaves him without friends or admirers, the lonely fish seeks advice from the wise octopus, who counsels him to give away his beauty and "discover how to be happy."^A (Grades K-2)

Baldwin, FM Academy,
Graham & Parks,
Haggerty, KennLong,
King/Amigos, King
Open, Morse Peabody
Tobin

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

The Hundred Dresses

Eleanor Estes
(Voyager Books, 1974)

Wanda Petronski tells classmates she has a hundred dresses of all varieties in her closet at home. So why does she always wear the same old worn dress to school? The teasing that follows seems harmless, but it's not. This book explores the hurt that comes from thoughtless words, and offers a painful, but heart-warming lesson in forgiveness. Touches on a friend who did not stand up for Wanda and feels guilty after Wanda moves to a new school.^A (Grades 3-4)

Baldwin, FM Academy,
Graham & Parks,
Haggerty, KennLong,
King Amigos, King
Open, Morse, Peabody,
Tobin

The Other Side

Jacqueline Woodson
(Putnam Juvenile, 2001)

Two girls, one white and one African-American, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.^C

Cport Library

The Squeaky Wheel

Robert Kimmel Smith
(Delacorte Books for Young
Readers, 1990)

Moving to a new neighborhood following his parents' divorce, Mark has trouble making new friends and coping with his father's absence.^C
(Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom

Louis Sachar
(Yearling, 1988)

Fifth grader Bradley Chalkers is bright, imaginative, antisocial and friendless. Unlike the kids at school, who hate him, Bradley's collection of chipped and broken little pottery animals allows him to be brave, smart and vulnerable; he uses them to resolve the rejection of peers and adults. Jeff, a new boy at school, offers friendship but then withdraws his offer, because Bradley is hard to like. Enter Carla Davis, new school counselor, who is caring and funny, and who gradually helps restore Bradley's self-confidence.^A (Grades 3-4)

Cport Library

FRIENDSHIP ISSUES

<p>Wemberly Worried Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow, 2000)</p>	<p>A little mouse worries about everything, especially her first day of school, but at school she makes a new friend that helps her ease her worries. (Grades K-3)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>What Would Joey Do? Jack Gantos (HarperTrophy, 2004)</p>	<p>The final title in the Joey Pigza saga, finds the hero flustered by his parent's questionable reunion and his ailing grandmother's efforts to push Joey to make friends.^A Part of the Joey Pigza series **Read with child or process afterwards (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Will I have a Friend? Miriam Cohen (Aladdin, 1989)</p>	<p>Jim's anxieties on his first day of school are happily forgotten when he makes a new friend.^A (Grade K)</p>	<p>Graham & Parks, Tobin</p>
<p>We Can Work it Out: Conflict Resolution for Children Barbara Kay Polland (Tricycle Press, 2000)</p>	<p>Text and photographs designed to create opportunities for children to talk about their experiences of conflict and the varieties of ways to resolve them.^C (Grades K-4)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>

SCHOOL ISSUES

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
Amber Brown Wants Extra Credit Paul Danziger (Puffin, 1997)	Sequel to Amber Brown Goes Fourth. Unhappy over her parents' divorce and her mother's boyfriend, Max, 9 year old Amber finds her school work suffering. ^C Part of the Amber Brown series. (Grade 3-4)	Cport Library, plus an audio cassette
Annie and the Old One Miska Miles (Trumpet Club, 1990)	Annie's grandmother is dying and tells Annie that when she is done weaving this rug she will "go back to the earth," or die. Therefore, Annie begins to act out in school in order for her grandmother to be called into school. Annie is behaving this way to prolong the time it takes for her Grandmother to finish weaving the rug.	Cport Library, with an audio cassette
Dear Mr. Henshaw Beverly Cleary (HarperTrophy, 2000)	In his letters to his favorite author, 10 year old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world. ^C (Grades 3-4)	Cport Library
Edward Unready for School Rosemary Wells (Dial, 1995)	Edward, a shy, young bear unready for play school, feels out of place surrounded by students who are ready, busy, and happy. ^S (Grades K-2)	Haggerty KennLong King Open

SCHOOL ISSUES

<p>First Day Blues Peggy King Anderson (Parenting Press, 1992)</p>	<p>Describes different ways of making friends in a new school.^B Part of the series "The Decision is Yours" (Grades 3-4)</p>	<p>Natick, Needham</p>
<p>Good Grief, Third Grade Colleen O'Shaughnessy McKenna (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1994)</p>	<p>Marsha's dream of a fresh start in third grade deflates as she realizes that third grade will never be different so long as Roger Friday is in her class. Enemies since 1st grade, they are now paired up on a project, their realistic quarreling leads to one student almost getting kicked out of school, until they both see the errors in their ways and become friends. The chapter book portrays both kids having good and bad qualities and the reality of friendships in third grade.^S (Grades: 2-3; R.L. 3.9)</p>	<p>KennLong, FM Academy, King Open and Amigos</p>
<p>Horrible Harry and the Ant Invasion; Horrible Harry in Room 2B. Suzy Kline (Puffin, 2000)</p>	<p>These hilarious beginning chapter books feature Horrible Harry, a devilish second grader who plays pranks with nearly catastrophic results, but can still end up to be a good friend.^S (R.L. 3.1; Guided Reading Level: L)</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>I Hate English! Ellen Levine (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1995)</p>	<p>Mei Mei, a Chinese immigrant, loves America, until she goes to school where everyone speaks English and she resists — until a caring teacher shows her that she can speak both languages and still be herself.^S (Grade: K-3; R.L. 1.8)</p>	<p>Baldwin, CRLS, Graham & Parks, King Open, Morse, Peabody, Tobin</p>

SCHOOL ISSUES

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key

Jack Gantos
(Corgi Childrens, 2000)

Joey's control of his own behavior slips away as we read, horrified to see this boy trying to get a grip on his life and failing. He is often disruptive in the classroom causing dangerous accidents. He is transferred to a special-education program in another school. Here, thankfully, he encounters a caring teacher who recommends further medical evaluation, and Joey is eventually able to return to his former school. There is hope for Joey on the last page--he sits in the Big Quiet Chair to read.^A (Grades 3-4) **Necessary for child to read or process with an adult

Cport Library

Just One Flick of a Finger

Marybeth Lorbiecki
(Dial, 1996)

Jack is tired of being afraid, so he takes his father's gun to school-not to use, but to scare off his tormentor, a bully named Reebo. When the gun accidentally goes off during a scuffle, events take a turn that Jack never expected. Vital truths about courage, friendship — and guns — unfold. No one is the same again.^S (Grades 3-4)

Newton

Leo the Late Bloomer

R. Kraus
(HarperTrophy, 1994)

Leo the lion isn't reading, writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. Leo's mother is not, she knows her son will do all those things and more, when he's ready.^A (Grades K-2)

FM Academy,
Tobin, King
Amigos

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

Kevin Henkes
(Green Willow, 1996)

A girl who has received a new toy is playing inappropriately with it during the school day and therefore gets in trouble with the teacher. As a result the child gets mad at the teacher. (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

SCHOOL ISSUES

Making the Grade

Carl Bosch
(Parenting Press, 1993)

Deals with setting priorities and dealing with the temptation to cheat in school.^B Part of the series "The Decision is Yours." (Grades 3-4)

Natick, Needham

My Mouth is a Volcano

Julia Cook
(CTC Publishing, 2006)

My Mouth Is A Volcano takes an empathetic approach to the habit of interrupting and teaches children a witty technique to capture their rambunctious thoughts and words for expression at an appropriate time.^A
(Grades K-2)

Phoebe Flower's Adventures: Phoebe's Best Best Friend

**Great series for girls with
ADHD
Barbara Roberts
(Advantage Books, 2000)

She encounters the challenging ups and downs of relationships with other girls. In the over-eager pursuit of one ill-starred friendship, her impulsivity and distractibility land her once again in trouble at school.^A (Grades 3-4)

Phoebe Flower's Adventures: That's What Kids Are For

**Great series for girls with
ADHD
Barbara Roberts
(Advantage Books)

Phoebe is an enthusiastic, creative girl but because of her high activity level, she struggles to pay attention in class and has only one good friend. Phoebe's principal and mother are sympathetic but also help Phoebe see that she has some responsibilities for her actions. In the end, Phoebe is the class heroine when she takes quick action to rescue a pet.^B (Grades 3-4)

SCHOOL ISSUES

Thank You, Mr. Faulker!

P. Polacco
(Philomel, 2002)

When Trisha looks at words and numbers, everything is a jumble. Trisha endures the cruel taunts of classmates who call her "dumb," and falls behind in her studies. But finally the encouragement and efforts of a new fifth grade teacher, Mr. Faulker, trigger a monumental turning point in Trisha's life. She begins to blossom and develop all of her talents, including reading.^A (Grades K-2)

The Don't Give Up Kid

Jeanne Gehret
(Verbal Images Press,
1996)

The story of a boy who is persistent and creative, but has difficulty learning to read. Eventually, his self-esteem begins to suffer.^B (Grades 1-4)

King Amigos,
Morse

Wemberly Worried

Kevin Henkes
(Greenwillow, 2000)

A little mouse worries about everything, especially her first day of school, but at school she makes a new friend that helps her ease her worries. (Grades K-3)

Cport Library

Will I have a Friend?

Miriam Cohen
(Aladdin, 1989)

Jim's anxieties on his first day of school are happily forgotten when he makes a new friend.^A (Grade K)

Graham & Parks,
Tobin

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

Title Author (Publishing Info.)	Synopsis (Grade/Reading Level)	Availability
A Bad Case of Stripes David Shannon (Blue Sky Press, 1998)	In order to ensure her popularity, Camilla Cream always does what is expected, until the day arrives when she no longer recognizes herself. ^C (Grades K-2)	Cport Library
Amazing Grace Mary Hoffman (Magi Publications, 2000)	Empowered by the strength of her imagination and the love of her mother and Nana, Grace, a dramatic, creative girl constantly adopts roles and identities. When her class plans a presentation of Peter Pan , "Grace knew who she wanted to be." She holds fast despite her classmates' demurrals; Nana, meanwhile, reminds her granddaughter that she can do anything she imagines. When Nana takes Grace to see a famous black ballerina--"from back home in Trinidad"--the determined youngster is aroused by the performance, and wins the role of her dreams. ^A	Cport Library
Amigo Means friend Louise Everett (Troll Communications 1999)	When Jose and George first met each thought that the other talked strangely, but now each can say something in the other's language. ^C (Grade K-2)	Cport Library
Black is Brown is Tan Arnold Adoff (Amistad, 2004)	Fragmented verse lovingly explores the colors of various multicultural families. ^A (Grades K-4)	Acton, Belmont, Dean College, Natick, Somerville/East

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

Families Meredith Tax	Describes different kinds of families. ^C	Cport Library
Families Susan Kuklin (Hyperion, 2006)	Children's narrative of their own unique families (Grades K-4)	Cport Library
Families are Different Nina Pellegrini (Holiday House 1991)	An adopted Korean girl discovers that her classmates have different types of families. ^C	Cport Library: audio recording
Families: a celebration of diversity, commitment, and love Jenness Aylette (Houghton Mifflin, 1989)	Photographs and text depict the lives of seventeen families from around the country, some with step relationships, divorce, gay parents, foster siblings, and other diverse components. The material was originally a traveling exhibition, begun at the Children's Museum in Boston. ^C	Cport Library
I Hate English! Ellen Levine (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1995)	Mei Mei, a Chinese immigrant, loves America, until she goes to school where everyone speaks English and she resists — until a caring teacher shows her that she can speak both languages and still be herself. ^S (Grade: K-3; R.L. 1.8)	Baldwin, CRLS, Graham & Parks, King Open, Morse, Peabody, Tobin
Ian's Walk Laurie Lears (Albert Whitman & Co., 2003)	Julie is unhappy when her autistic brother wants to come with her because his actions sometimes embarrass her, but when he gets lost, Julie must step into his shoes to find him. ^D (Grades K-2)	King Open

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

<p>Just Add One Chinese Sister Patricia McMahon and Conor Clarke McCarthy (Boyd's Mills Press, 2005)</p>	<p>A brother journals his thoughts throughout the process of his family adopting his little sister from China.^C</p>	<p>Cport Library</p>
<p>Leo the Late Bloomer R. Kraus (HarperTrophy, 1994)</p>	<p>Leo the lion isn't reading, writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. Leo's mother is not, she knows her son will do all those things and more, when he's ready.^A (Grades K-2)</p>	<p>FM Academy, Tobin, King Amigos</p>
<p>Marvin Redpost: Am I a Girl? Marvin Redpost series Louis Sachar (Random House Books for Young Readers, 1993)</p>	<p>Here he gets a lot of fun out of the identity confusion, and kids will love the frankness about grade-school gender wars and social taboos. There are no neat answers, but a lot of droll questions, including "What's normal?"^A (Reading level 1.8; Lexile level 290; Ages 4-8; Grades K-4)</p>	<p>FM Academy, King/Amigos, King Open, Tobin</p>
<p>Money Troubles Bill Cosby (Cartwheel, 1998)</p>	<p>While trying to raise enough money for a telescope, Little Bill makes a discovery about generosity and the needs of others.^A (Grades 1-2)</p>	<p>Baldwin, King/Amigos, Tobin</p>

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

Thank You, Mr. Faulker!

P. Polacco
(Philomel, 2002)

When Trisha looks at words and numbers, everything is a jumble. Trisha endures the cruel taunts of classmates who call her "dumb," and falls behind in her studies. But finally the encouragement and efforts of a new fifth grade teacher, Mr. Faulker, trigger a monumental turning point in Trisha's life. She begins to blossom and develop all of her talents, including reading.^A
(Grades K-2)

That's a Family

Video with an accompanying teacher guide that depicts families of all kinds speaking about their lives and unique family experiences.^C

Cport Library

The Aunt in Our House

Angela Johnson
(Orchard Books, 1996)

A small boy and his sister like it when Daddy's adult sister comes to live with them. The aunt (who's white) finds a place in this happy bi-racial family. . . but sometimes the aunt is sad and stares out the window all day. . . . Many kids will relate to the story of an adult they love but whose sadness they can't fully understand.^S (Grades K-3)

Cport Library

The Hundred Dresses

Eleanor Estes
(Voyager Books, 1974)

Wanda Petronski tells classmates she has a hundred dresses of all varieties in her closet at home. So why does she always wear the same old worn dress to school? The teasing that follows seems harmless, but it's not. This book explores the hurt that comes from thoughtless words, and offers a painful, but heart-warming lesson in forgiveness. Touches on a friend who did not stand up for Wanda and feels guilty after Wanda moves to a new school.^A
(Grades 3-4)

Baldwin, FM
Academy,
Graham & Parks,
Haggerty,
KennLong, King
Amigos, King
Open, Morse,
Peabody, Tobin

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

The Other Side

Jacqueline Woodson
(Putnam Juvenile, 2001)

Two girls, one white and one African-American, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.^C

Cport Library

We Adopted You, Benjamin Koo!

Linda Girard
(Albert Whitman & Co.,
1992)

About International and inter-racial adoption. Benjamin Koo, nine, narrates his own story: his birth mother left him at an orphanage in Korea when he was only a few days old; and, in America, his adoptive parents were longing to have a child and were just waiting for one to become available. Benjamin also confides his worries and wonderings. Finally, Benjamin offers wise counsel: "You might have been born somewhere else or look different from your parents, but that has nothing to do with love."^A (Grades K-2)

FM Academy,
Graham & Parks,
King Open,
KennLong, Tobin

When I Grow Up I Want to be Me

Sandra Magsamen
(Orchard, 2002)

Girls of diverse colors, shapes, and sizes who say, "I'll be everything I imagine I can be. I'll be happy with who I am and what I see." (Grades K-2)

Cport Library

Appendix A: Accompanying Activities

A simple conversation or follow up with the child after they have finished reading the book can facilitate greater insight into the story, as well as help the child recognize how the story relates to their life which can result in the child learning more from the book. Below are suggested activities surrounding the topics in this resource manual that can be easily implemented on an individual or classroom level within the context of school. Please know that this is not a comprehensive list by any means; please consult the counseling office for more social/emotional activity resources and suggestions for activities.

(** indicates there is a guide outlining the activity at the end of this appendix)

General

- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Which character did you relate to?
 - How are you similar to the character in the story? How are you different?
 - How did the character overcome the problem?
 - What lesson did the character learn?
 - What did you learn from the story?

Adoption

- Homework project: Create a family tree by interviewing family members
- Homework project: Interview family members about how you were adopted, write a story based on what people tell you and add pictures.
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Name the people in your family
 - What is the definition of family?
 - Write a story about your family
 - Discuss the definition of “unconditional love.” List or write about people who you have unconditional love for, why? List or write about people who have unconditional love for you, how can you tell?

ADHD

- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - List 3 things that will help you listen to the teacher
 - List a time when you became angry, what happened to make you angry? How could you have avoided getting angry?

- How did the person in the story act/feel? Do you sometimes act/feel like this?

Bullying

- “Either Or” Activity
- “Using Compromise as a Strategy”**
- “Generating Multiple Strategies”**
- “Classmate Pact” Activity**
- Friendship Tag Game**
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Think of a time when someone bullied you (write or share what happened without using names and how it made you feel). Then think of a time when you bullied/were mean to someone else (write or share what happened without using names and how it made you feel).
 - What are the characteristics/qualities of a bully?
 - How can you help someone who is a bully?
 - How can you try to not be a bully?
 - How can you help someone else not be a bully?

Death, Loss

- Draw a picture of your favorite memory with the deceased person
- Write a card to the person (a chance to say goodbye, or tell them something they never got the chance to while they were alive; a sense of closure).
- Get a photograph of that person and put it in a special place at home
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Describe or draw a picture of your favorite memory with that person
 - Describe or draw a picture of the person (sometimes children feel that they will soon not remember what the deceased person looks like and this creates a lot of sorrow, anxiety and guilt in the child)
 - Where do you think the person is now? (Draw a picture of where the person is now, for younger children)

Disability and Disorders

- Draw a picture or describe something you’re good at
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - How did the person in the story use their disability/disorder in a positive way?
 - How are you different from your classmates? How does it feel? How are you the same as the rest of your classmates?
 - List five things you like about yourself

- List five things you are good at
- List five things that are difficult for you to do/List five things that are easy for you to do

Divorce

- (See activities accompanying books at the end of the Divorce Booklist section of resource)
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - What is a divorce? Or What happens when people get a divorce?
 - Why do people get divorced?
 - Discuss the definition of “unconditional love.” List or write about people who you have unconditional love for, why? List or write about people who have unconditional love for you, how can you tell?
 - How is your family similar/different from the family in the story?

Family Topics

- Draw a picture of your family
- Create a family tree
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - What is the definition of “family”?
 - Who do you consider your family? Why?
 - What parts of your family are you proud of? What parts of your family do you not like so much?
 - How is your family similar/different from the family in the story?

Feelings

- Draw/create faces for specific emotions (For younger children, color faces of emotions and talk about what each emotion means, or when you feel like that)**
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - List things that make you sad/happy/lonely/angry etc. (younger children can draw these things)
 - Write a poem about one’s feelings

Friendship Issues

- “What Makes a Good Friend”**
- “Dealing With Rejection”**
- “Using Compromise as a Strategy”**
- “Sharing Hurt Feelings with Friends”**
- “Generating Multiple Strategies”**
- “Classmate Pact” Activity**

- Friendship Tag Game**
- Rainbow Fish Activity**
- Going for the Gold**
- Practice greetings, introducing yourself to a new person, or introducing your old friend to a new friend.
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - What are the qualities that a friend has? (For younger students: What do good friends do?)
 - What are ways that we make friends?
 - Draw a picture of you being a good friend

School Issues

- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Describe what a “good” day at school is like; Point out the child’s emotions/mood or events that make the day positive for him/her. Or have the child do the first prompt, followed by describing what a “bad” day at school is like, then have the child describe or list what is different between the two days or for younger children point out the differences between the days to them
 - List a goal for school

Understanding Differences

- “Proud to Be Me” and “Proud to Be Different”**
- Paper Folding Activity**
- “This Or That” Activity**
- “Going for the Gold”**
- Writing Prompts or Discussion Topics:
 - Think of a person in your class—how are you similar to that person and how are you different?
 - Name different kinds of differences; What are ways you can be different from another person?
 - How are differences a good thing?; Why is it good that we are different from other people?

Appendix B: Resources and References

Citation Key:

A: <http://www.Amazon.com>

B : <http://www.baltimorepsych.com/books.htm>

C: Cambridge School District Library Catalogue

D: <http://depression.about.com/cs/toppicks/tp/depbookskids.htm>

S: Scholastic Books

Resources

- Cambridgeport Elementary Online Library Catalogue
 - <http://www.cpsd.us/cambport/>
- Cambridge Public School District Online Library Catalogue
 - Accessed through Cambridgeport Library website
 - <http://www.cpsd.us/cambport/>
- Minuteman Library Network (Massachusetts public library network)
 - <http://www.mln.lib.ma.us/>
- Scholastic Books (Marietta, February 2007)
 - <http://www.scholastic.com/librarians/>
- Character Counts! (Marietta, February 2007)
 - http://www.charactercounts.org/booklist_search.php
- PBS
 - <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/>
- <http://www.baltimorepsych.com/books.htm>
- <http://depression.about.com/cs/toppicks/tp/depbookskids.htm>
- Amazon or other bookstore websites
- Ask your local or school librarian!

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