Literature for Social Emotional Development: Books that Help Children Explore Feelings

by Jacky Howell, MA and Kimberly Reinhard, MsC
Jacky Howell, MA
ECE Training and Technical Assistant,
azspire@gmail.com
WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Kimberly Reinhard, MsC
Consultant, Trainer
reinhardconsulting@mail.com
Children’s Books

by Bev Bos

…I am often asked why I choose the books I do. While some have suggested I have developed a strong intuitive sense, I prefer to think that I have simply learned from experience. After reading books to young children for more than thirty years, a good book has to meet a certain criteria for me...

“A CONVERSATION....”

My philosophy is that books do not belong in the library or just on the bookshelf at home. Kids should have easy access to books all the time. At home, they should be under the pillows, stacked by the bed, in every nook and cranny. Every bathroom should have not only the newspaper but children's books, too. They should be in the car.

At school, we make sure the books are within easy reach of the children. Books and words need to be as familiar to children as the food they eat, the music they hear and the art they do. If we want our children to become literate then we must do everything we can to make them comfortable with books and language.
"Fill your house with stacks of books, in all the crannies and all the nooks."
— Dr. Seuss
STEP 1
FIND A STORY.

A good one.
It can have princesses and castles,
if you like that sort of thing,
or witches and trolls.
(As long as they're not too scary.)
WE LOVE CHILDREN’S BOOKS!
CHOOSING THE BOOKS!!!
Social-Emotional Intelligence: the ability to understand ourselves and other people, and in particular to be aware of, understand and use information about the emotional states of ourselves and others with competence. It includes the ability to understand, express and manage our own emotions, and respond to the emotions of others, in ways that are helpful to ourselves and others.
How Children’s Books Teach Social Emotional Learning

- Understand and manage own emotions and feelings
- Feel and show empathy for others
- Establish and maintain positive relationships
- Show emotions in a healthy way
- Conflict resolution/ Problem Solving Skills
- Self Reliance
- Patience
- Responsibility
- Calm and stilling skills
Books About Feelings
(and aren’t they all? 😊)

Cheri J. Meiners, M.Ed.

Molly Bang

Janan Cain
Books About Feelings
(and aren’t they all? 😊)

Kathryn Otashi
Bradley Trevor Greive
Cindy McKinley
Books on Kindness and Empathy

Edward van de Vendel

Jerry Pinkney

Rana DiOrio

Bob Samson
Brightly

“Promise me you’ll remember, you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think.”

—Winnie-the-Pooh
A.A. MILNE
STEP 2
FIND A READING BUDDY.

A good one.

A buddy can be older . . .

or younger . . .
or a person your age.

Or maybe not a person at all.

Make sure your reading buddy is nice and snuggly.
And make sure you both like the book.
If you don’t agree . . . go back to Step 1.
Sometimes it takes a few tries to find just the right book.
Time to Read....

- Relationships
- How You Read the Story
- Place

You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.
-Dr. Seuss
MEMORIES....
Books for Self Regulation

Elizabeth Verdick
“A children's story that can only be enjoyed by children is not a good children's story in the slightest.”
- C.S. Lewis
STEP 4

LOOK AT THE BOOK’S COVER.

Can you guess what it’s about?
Read the title. That might be a clue.
Choosing Good Books

• Would you like it read to you? Do you appreciate the story?

• Bev Bos notes - "If a kid doesn't say something on the first page, than I don't read it, I slip it away and choose another book."

• What does the story say? Will it make sense to children? Do the illustrations complement the words?

• Choose books from all sorts of genres! Nonfiction, wordless, science fiction, fantasy, etc.

• Beware of books connected to products, commercialized or contain bias.

* Know your “audience”….😊
Books for Transitions

Audrey Penn

The Kissing Hand

Norman Juster

Naptime

Elizabeth Verdick

The Hello, Goodbye Window
Books for Transitions

Miss B. Kindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten

Joseph Slate and Ashley Wolff

I Say a Little Prayer for You

Original song by Burt Bacharach and Hal David
Illustrated by Karrin Littlewood

Burt Bacharach and Hal David

Joseph Slate and Audrey Wolff
Books on Bullying

Patty Lovell

Elizabeth Verdick

Kathryn Otoshi

Erin Frankel
STEP 3
FIND A COZY READING SPOT.

Outside is fun . . . but not if it’s very cold. Unless you have thick woolen blankets, and hats and scarves, and cups of steaming hot cocoa.
I like it better here
where I can sit
just quietly and
smell the flowers.
—MUNRO LEAF, The Story of Ferdinand
“I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a good book.”

-J.K. Rowling
Spaces and Places
Spaces and Places
Spaces and Places
STEP 5
OPEN THE BOOK.

(This is the exciting part!)

"Once a
You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.

-Dr. Seuss
Difficult/ Serious Issues

• Death and Dying
• Health and Hospitalization
• Separation and Divorce
• Abuse
• Drugs and Alcohol Abuse
• Trauma
• More….
http://booksthathealkids.blogspot.com
Books That Help with Issues

Pat Schwiebert

Norma Simon

Shelley Moore
Thomas
Books on Difficult/ Serious Issues

Judith Viorst

- The Tenth Good Thing About Barney

Corinne Demas

- Saying Goodbye to Lulu

Fred Rogers

- When a Pet Dies
How to Use Books for Difficult or Serious Issues

• Read books to everyone that speak to children and say:
  “I am here for you. I see you. I hear you.”

Anthony Browne
Rachel Vail
How to Use Books for Difficult or Serious Issues

Read books to individual children to meet his/her individual needs.

Mem Fox

Melanie Walsh
How to Use Books for Difficult or Serious Issues

Offer books and resources to families.

HEALING STORIES

PICTURE BOOKS for the Big & Small Changes IN A CHILD’S LIFE

JACQUELINE GOLDING, Ph.D.
And then . . . if it was a really good story . . .
go right back to the beginning
and start all over again.
MANY Ways to Extend Stories

- Puppets
- Felt Board
- Plays
- Art
- Creating Your Own Stories/ Sequels
PUPPETS AS BOOK PALS...

Peter Yarrow & Lenny Lipton
FELT BOARDS AND STORYTELLING

Consider using the dust jacket as your characters!!
“Out of the Housekeeping Corner and Onto the Stage--Extending Dramatic Play.”
Howell, Jacky
Corbey-Scullen, Lynn;
Young Children, Sep 1997
CREATING YOUR OWN STORY OR SEQUEL
BOOKS GIVE A SOUL TO THE UNIVERSE, WINGS TO THE MIND, FLIGHT TO THE IMAGINATION, AND LIFE TO EVERYTHING
Sometimes it just takes One.
YOU CAN NOW PURCHASE OUR BOOK!

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LEARNING FROM THE LOVE OF SPORTS!!
Tuesday, April 12th 2016
1 pm - 4 pm
HELD AT THE VERIZON CENTER in Washington, DC!!!!

RESOURCE LIST
WE DO PRESENTATIONS!!!
WE CAN COME TO YOU!!!

CONTACT US:
Jacky Howell:
azspire@gmail.com

Kimberly Reinhard:
reinhardconsulting@mail.com