

Second Step Book List PreK- 5

Compiled by Portland Public Schools Prevention Program, 4/12/2004

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
A Day's Work	Eve Bunting	A Mexican American boy finds that he has much to learn from his grandfather, even though his grandfather does not speak English.	Empathy	Grade 1: 1 Grade 2: 12
			Impulse Control	Grade 2: 10, 14
A Sister's Wish	Kate Jacobs	A girl with six brother wishes for a sister, then discovers that brothers will do in the meantime.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 4, 5
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 1
Aldo Applesauce	Johanna Hurwitz	When he and his family move to the suburbs, Aldo has difficulty finding friends.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 3, 7 Grade 5: 15
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 8
Aldo Peanut Butter	Johanna Hurwitz	When Aldo's parents go out of town, Aldo, his two sisters, and his two dogs, cause chaos in the house.	Empathy	Grade 5: 11
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 10
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 12, 14
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Judith Viorst	When Alexander wakes up with gum in his hair, trips on his skateboard, and drops his sweater in the sink, he knows it's going to be a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Alexander's day goes from bad to worse, and he contemplates moving to Australia. Eventually he realizes that some days are bad days, even in Australia.	Empathy	PreK/K: 2, 3, 5 Grade 1: 2, 5 Grade 2: 10
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 1
All in a Day	Mitsumasa Anno	Brief text and illustrations by ten internationally known artists reveal a day in the lives of children in eight different countries showing similarities and differences and emphasizing the commonality of humankind.	Similarities and differences.	Grade 4-5
All the Blue Moons at the Wallace Hotel	Phoebe Stone	Sisters Fiona and Wallace live in the shadow of their former lives; years after their father's death, their mother has still not processed her feelings.	Put-downs, identifying feelings, problem solving, reflections, peer pressure.	Grade 4-5
Amanda Pig on Her Own	Jean Van Leeuwen	Amanda discovers the troubles and joys of being by herself.	Empathy	Grade 1: 7 Grade 2: 9, 10 Grade 3: 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 2, 3
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Amelia's Notebook	Marisa Moss	Amelia records her feelings about moving to a new town and leaving her best friend behind.	Identifying feelings, reflection, joining in at the right time, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Angel Child, Dragon Child	Michele Maria Surat	Ut has just come to the United States from Vietnam, and she does not like her new American school. The children laugh when she speaks, a bully named Raymond picks on her, and most of all, she misses her mother in Vietnam. Eventually Ut solves her problems, and, to her surprise, befriends the bully.	Empathy	PreK/K: 2, 3, 4, 5, 11 Grade 1: 2, 3, 4, 5 Grade 3: 15, 17 Grade 4: 1 Grade 5: 16
			Anger Management	PreK/K: 4 Grade 1: 7 Grade 4: 6
The Ant Bully	John Nickle	Lucas learns a lesson about bullying when he is pulled into the ant hole he has been tormenting.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, reflection.	Grade 1-3
A Bad Case of Stripes	David Shannon	Camilla is so concerned about what others think that she is untrue to herself and comes down with a bizarre illness.	Peer pressure, identifying feelings, feelings change, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Baseball Saved Us	Ken Mochizuki	A Japanese-American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp; his ability to play helps him after the war is over.	Identifying feelings, name-calling and teasing, joining in at the right time, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Bat 6	Virginia Euwer Wolff	Told from a variety of perspectives, this story examines the effects and aftermath of WWII on a group of girls from Oregon.	Reflection, identifying feelings, perspectives, anger buttons, perceptions, consequences, problem solving, giving emotional support.	Grade 4-5
Be Good to Eddie Lee	Virginia Fleming	Although Christy considered him a pest, Eddie Lee, a boy with Down's Syndrome, shares several special discoveries with her.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, similarities and differences, accepting differences, being left out.	Grade 1-3

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Because of Winn-Dixie	Kate DiCamillo	Opal adopts a stray dog, and through her, forms many new friendships.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, perceptions, active listening, reflection, empathy.	Grade 4-5
Belle Prater's Boy	Ruth White	Woodrow comes to live with his grandparent's after his mother disappears; his arrival triggers his cousin Gypsy's hidden feelings and questions about her own family.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, perspectives, reflections.	Grade 4-5
Believing Sophie	Hazel Hutchins	After she is wrongly accused of shoplifting, Sophie must explain her side of the story to a shop owner	Identifying feelings, reflection, problem solving, fairness, communicating feelings, perspectives, dealing with an accusation.	Grade 1-3
Big Al	Andrew Clements	Although Big Al is friendly, all of the other fish are afraid to go near him. But when Al saves the fish from the fisherman's nets, he makes a sea full of friends.		PreK/K
Black, White, Just Right	Marguerite W. Davol	A girl explains how her parents are different in color and have different tastes in art and food, and how she herself is also different but just right.	Accepting differences, similarities and differences, reflection.	Grade 1-3
Blubber	Judy Blume	Jill joins her classmates in harassing Linda until she herself finds out what it feels like to be a victim. Available in Spanish: <i>La ballena</i>	Reflection, feelings change, being left out, gossip, put-downs, perceptions, identifying feelings, cause and effect, taking responsibility for your actions, consequences.	Grade 4-5
The Blushful Hippopotamus	Chris Raschka	Roosevelt's self-image improves as he begins to listen to his friend rather than his negative older sister.	Empathy	PreK/K :5 Grade 1: 5
			Anger Management	Grade 2: 9

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Brand New Kid	Katie Couric	When Lazlo transfers to a new school, he is teased by his classmates until two girls find the compassion to befriend him. Available in Spanish: <i>El niño nuevo</i> .	Reflection name-calling and teasing, peer pressure, identifying feelings, feelings change, accepting differences.	Grade 1-3
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Paterson	Two misfit children form a special friendship and create their own magical kingdom.		
Cages	Peg Kehret	Upset about problems at home and at school, Kit impulsively steals a gold bracelet from a department store-and gets caught. Through her sentence-volunteer work at the humane society-Kit finds new solutions to her problems.	Problem solving, keeping a promise, taking responsibility for your actions, feelings change, reflection.	Grades 4 5
The Case of the Cat's Meow	Crosby Bonsall	Four young private eyes investigate the disappearance of a cat.	Empathy	PreK/K: 5 Grade 1: 5
			Impulse Control	PreK/K: 2 Grade 1: 1,3 Grade 2: 11, 12
			Anger Management	Grade 2: 10
The Chocolate Covered Cookie Tantrum	Deborah Blumenthal	Seized with a desire for a cookie while in the park, Sophie discovers that throwing a terrible tantrum will not get her what she wants.	Empathy	PreK/K: 2, 3 Grade 1: 2, 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 8
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2
Circle of Gold	Candy Dawson Boyd	Mattie is sure that if she finds a way to buy the beautiful pin for her mother, everything in the family will be made all right again.	Empathy	Grade 4: 9
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4 Grade 5: 12, 14, 15
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 6, Grade 5: 10, 11, 13
Cousins	Virginia Hamilton	Cammie can't stand her too-perfect cousin Patty Ann until a tragedy teaches her about love and forgiveness.	Empathy	Grade 4: 1, 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 2

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Crash	Jerry Spinelli	Crash has bullied his neighbors and classmates his whole life; when his grandfather suffers a stroke, Crash suddenly find that friends and family have a new meaning for him.	Reflection, identifying feelings, accepting differences, perceptions.	Grade 4-5
Crickwing	Janell Cannon	A lonely cockroach named Crickwing has a creative idea that saves the day for the leaf-cutting ants when their fierce forest enemies attack them.	Being left out, Name-calling and teasing, identifying feelings, feelings change, fairness, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Darnell Rock Reporting	Walter Dean Myers	Darnell's perspectives are broadened when he interviews a homeless man for the school newspaper.	Reflection, accepting differences, problem solving, criticism, fear, similarities and differences, peer pressure.	Grade 4-5
The Daydreamer	Ian McEwan	Peter's vivid imagination leads him on many adventures and gets him in and out of trouble.	Reflection, keeping out of a fight.	Grade 4-5
Dear Mom, You're Ruining My Life	Jean Van Leeuwen	Sam's eleventh year includes losing her last baby teeth, towering over every boy in dance class, and being mortified by everything her mother does.	Empathy	Grade 4: 4, 9
			Impulse Control	Grade 5: 16
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 13
DeDe Takes Charge	Johanna Hurwitz	A year after her father has left home for good, DeDe helps her mother cope with the realities life after divorce.	Anger Management	Grade 5: 14
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 3
Digby and Kate	Betty Baker	Digby and Kate are very different; they have their ups and downs but remain good friends.	Anger Management	Grade 5: 10
			Empathy	Grade 1: 4 Grade 2: 9, 12 Grade 3: 17
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 1, 3 Grade 2: 10
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Dora's Box	Ann-Jeanette Campbell	In order to protect her, Dora's parents put anything that might frighten or hurt her into a box and tell her never to open it, but when she eventually does, her life is enriched by what she finds.	Identifying feelings, reflection, expressing concern.	Grades 1-3
Eagle Song	Joseph Bruchac	After moving from a Mohawk reservation to Brooklyn, New York, fourth-grader Danny Bigtree encounters stereotypes about his Native American heritage.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2,5
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 1, 8
Elizabeth Imagined an Iceberg	Chris Raschka	Elizabeth encounters Madame Uff Da when out riding her bicycle. Madame Uff Da intimidates Elizabeth, but she is able to draw on her inner resources and model the assertiveness skills that bring her to safety.)	Problem solving, self-talk.	Grade 1-3
Enemy Pie	Derek Munson	When Jeremy Ross moves into the neighborhood and becomes enemy number one, a boy's father helps him by making his famous enemy pie.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, problem solving, fairness.	Grade 1-3
Everybody Has Feelings, Todos Tenemos Sentimientos.	Seattle: Open Hand Publishing, Inc.,	A book of photographs.		PreK/K
Feelings,	Aliki	Pictures, dialogues, poems, stories portray various emotions we all feel.		PreK/K
Finding the Green Stone	Alice Walker	After saying unkind things to family and friends, Johnny loses both his green stone and his interest in life. He recovers them when he discovers love within his heart.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3 Grade 2: 10 Grade 3: 15, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 2, 8 Grade 2: 10, 14 Grade 3: 18
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5 Grade 3: 15
Follow That Mom!	Mary Riskind	Maxine creates as much mischief as possible in order to convince her mother to quit the Girl Scouts.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 6, 8, 9 Grade 5: 11
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 2, 3, 4
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2, 6 Grade 5: 12

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Fourth Grade Weirdo	Martha Freeman	Dexter's well-ordered life is disrupted by his uneasy interactions with his spontaneous teacher and his mother's re-election to the town's school board.	Identifying feelings, problem solving, accepting consequences, gossip, conflicting feelings, feelings change.	Grade 4-5
Freedom School, Yes!	Amy Littlesugar	When her house is attacked because her mother volunteered to take in a young white woman who has come to teach black children at the Freedom School, Jolie is afraid, but she overcomes her fear after learning the value of education.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, problem solving, accepting differences, fairness.	Grade 1-3
A Friend Like Ed	Karen Wagner	Mildred accepts her best friend Ed even though he is sometimes eccentric.	Reflection, accepting differences, similarities and differences.	Grade 1-3
Gaffer Samson's Luck	Jill Paton Walsh	After moving to a strange new place, James seeks acceptance from the established groups of friends and finds a friend in the old man next door.	Empathy	Grade 4: 5, 7 Grade 5: 15, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 2, 6, 9, 10 Grade 5: 13
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 8 Grade 5: 10, 13
The Gardener	Sarah Stewart	A series of letters relate what happens when, after her father loses his job, Lydia Grace goes to live with her Uncle Jim in the city and takes her love for gardening with her.	Identifying feelings, reflection.	Grade 1-3
Getting Near to Baby	Audrey Couloumbis	Two sisters are sent to stay with a well-intentioned but difficult aunt after their baby sister dies.	Reflection, preferences, identifying feelings, feelings change, perceptions, accepting differences.	Grade 4-5
Getting Rid of Katherine	Betty Ren Wright	When Emily's beloved grandfather remarries, Emily's summer is ruined. She decides to get rid of the new wife as soon as possible.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 4, 9
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 8
Give Us a Great Big Smile, Rosy Cole	Sheila Greenwald	After making Rosy's two older sisters famous, Uncle Ralph now wants to make untalented Rosy famous with a photo book about her violin playing.	Empathy	Grade 4: 6, 9
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Giver	Lois Lowry	Set in a futuristic society that has eliminated feelings and personal choices, the book tells of difficult decisions, Jonas must make that will affect his whole community.	Reflection, feelings of change, problem solving, perceptions, taking responsibility for your actions.	Grade 4-5
Going Home	Eve Bunting	Carlos's parents moved to the United States for their children's sake; on a visit back to Mexico, Carlos realizes his parents still consider Mexico home.	Reflection, identifying feelings,	Grade 1-3
Guests	Michael Dorris	Moss and Trouble, an Algonquin boy and girl, struggle with the problems of growing up in the Massachusetts area during the time of the first Thanksgiving.	Empathy	Grade 4: 7
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3
Harriet's Halloween Candy	Nancy Carlson	Sharing feels better than having something all to you.		PreK/K
Have a Happy...	Mildred Pitts Walter	It's Christmas time, and in addition to celebrating Christmas and Chris's eleventh birthday, Chris's family observes Kwanza, a seven-day celebration of African American heritage.	Empathy	Grade 5: 14
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 6, 9
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 10
He's My Brother	Joe Lasker	A boy talks about his brother, who has a learning disability. There are things he can and cannot do.	Empathy	PreK/K: 3, 4, 12 Grade 1: 2, 3, 4
			Anger Management	PreK/K: 4 Grade 1: 7
Hey, Little Ant	Phillip Hoose and Hannah Hoose	An ant pleads with a boy not to squash him. Can be read as a story, comes with musical notation.	Reflection, identifying feelings, dealing with peer pressure, perspectives, fairness.	Grade 1-3
The Honest-to-Goodness Truth	Patricia C. McKissack	After Libby is caught in a lie, she makes the decision to always tell the truth. After alienating all of her friends, she learns how to tell the truth without hurting other people's feelings.	Identifying feelings, problem solving, cause and effect, intentions, resisting the impulse to lie.	Grade 1-3
Hooray for Wodney Wat	Helen Lester	Rodney's speech impediment initially makes him the target of the class bully; later it makes him a hero.	Name-calling and teasing, identifying feelings.	Grade 1-3
How My Parents Learned to Eat	Ina R. Friedman	An American sailor courts a Japanese woman and each tries in secret, to learn the other's way of eating		Pre K/K
How to Fight a Girl	Thomas Rockwell	Joe and Alan's plan to get revenge on Billy backfires when their secret weapon, the prettiest girl in their class, becomes Billy's friend instead.	Empathy	Grade 4: 4
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 2, 3, 8 Grade 5: 12, 14
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 1, 2 Grade 5: 11, 12

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
How to Lose All Your Friends	Nancy Carlson	This humorous book shows children the importance of friendship.	Empathy	PreK/K: 6 Grade 2: 10, 12
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 8
How Would You Feel If Your Dad Was Gay?	Ann Heron and Meredith Maran	Jasmine, Michael, and Noah are all regular kids except for one thing: they have gay parents. Their unique concerns haven't been addressed at school until now.	Empathy	Grade 4: 5, 6, 9 Grade 5: 13, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 5: 14
The Hundred Dresses	Eleanor Estes	When Wanda, a shy girl from Poland, claims one day to have a hundred dresses at home, the other girls begin to tease her every day. It is only after Wanda goes away that the girls start to understand the effects of their teasing.	Empathy	Grade 4:1, 2, 8 Grade 5: 11, 12
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 10 Grade 5: 13
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 8
I Am Not a Cry Baby	Norma Simon	Situations when you may feel like crying.		Pre K/K
I, Amber Brown	Paula Danziger	After Amber's parents decide to share custody of her, she struggles to understand how to live in two homes with two different sets of rules.	Identifying feelings, apologizing, anger buttons, self talk, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
I Hate Camping	P.J. Petersen	Dan thinks he'll have a terrible time going camping with his mom's boyfriend and his two children, but the children form a surprising friendship.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 5, 6, 7, 8
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 2, 9
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2, 6
I Speak English For My Mom	Muriel Stanek	Mexican-American Lupe has mixed feelings about helping her mom with English, especially when her mom decides to learn English.	Empathy	Grade 1: 6 Grade 3: 14, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 2, 3
I Sure Am Glad to See You, Blackboard Bear	Martha Alexander	Neighborhood kids tease a boy; a bully steals his ice cream.		PreK/K
I'm Going to Be Famous	Tom Birdseye	Determined to achieve fame by breaking several strange world records, Arlo and his friends practice fiendishly under the disapproval of parents and school principal.	Impulse Control	Grade 4: 6 Grade 5: 13, 15, 16
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 12
In the Shade of the Nispero Tree	Carmen T. Bernier-Grand	Set in the 1960s in Puerto Rico, the story depicts Teresa's attempt to please her mother, who aspires to become part of an elite class, and her father, who has no need to define himself through others.	Feelings change, problem solving, dealing with peer pressure, dealing with gossip, being left out, similarities and differences, reflection, conflicting feelings, fairness.	Grade 4-5

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson	Bette Bao Lord	Ten-year-old Shirley Temple Wong arrives from China and struggles to fit in until she discovers Jackie Robinson and is inspired by how he overcame tremendous odds.	Goal setting, being left out, accepting differences.	Grade 4-5
The In-Between Days	Eve Bunting	Reluctant to see any changes in his life on Dove Island, George tries to get rid of his father's girlfriend.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 3, 4
			Impulse Control	Grade 3: 16 Grade 4: 8
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2 Grade 3: 13 Grade 4: 2
Ira Says Goodbye	Bernard Waber	Ira is surprised to discover that his best friend Reggie feels happy about having to move to a new town.	Empathy	PreK/K: 2, 3, 4 Grade 1: 2, 3, 4, 7
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 2
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5, 7
It Doesn't Have to Be This Way/No Tiene Que Ser Asi	Luis J. Rodriguez	Ramon becomes involved with a gang; when his cousin is injured, he must decide whether or not he will continue to be part of the gang. Written in both English and Spanish.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, cause and effect, consequences, expressing concern, peer pressure.	Grade 4-5
It's Mine!	Leo Lionni	Three selfish frogs fight until a toad helps them realize that getting along and sharing is more fun.	Empathy	Grade 1: 5 Grade 2: 12
			Impulse Control	PreK/K: 6
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2
Jake Drake, Bully Buster	Andrew Clements	When Link Baxter moves into his neighborhood, Jake becomes the target of bullying until he finds a way to relate to Link. Advanced reading.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, namecalling and teasing, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Janey's Girl	Gayle Friesen	On a trip to Vancouver to visit her grandmother, Janey learns much about herself and her mother's family.	Reflection, identifying feelings, perceptions, expressing concern, accepting differences.	Grade 4-5

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Janitor's Boy	Andrew Clements	Embarrassed that his father is the school janitor, Jack takes out his anger on his father; throughout the course of the novel, Jack's perceptions of his father are broadened as the two develop a new closeness.	Reflection, feelings change, perceptions, similarities and differences, gossip, identifying feelings.	Grade 4-5
Jenny Archer, Author	Ellen Conford	When given an assignment to write her autobiography, Jenny decides to spice up her boring life by using her imagination.	Empathy	Grade 5: 12, 13, 14
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 7 Grade 5: 11
Jeremiah Learns to Read	Mary Jo Baggart	Although Jeremiah is talented at many things, he doesn't know how to read. When he decides to learn, he not only excels, but teaches his teacher and students to do many new things	Reflection, self-talk.	Grade 1-3
Joey Pigza Loses Control	Jack Gantos	Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too hyper, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, frustration, anger buttons, problem solving, conflicting feelings, similarities and differences.	Grade 4-5
<i>Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key</i>	Jack Gantos	Joey's complicated life is further challenged by ADD; Joey, his mother, teachers, and doctors all work together to help Joey get himself under control.	Problem solving, dealing with frustration, identifying feelings, taking responsibility for your actions, calming down, reflection, self-talk.	Grade 4-5
Joshua T. Bates Takes Charge	Susan Shreve	Joshua, worried about fitting in at school, feels awkward when the new student he is supposed to be helping becomes the target of the fifth grade's biggest bully.	Empathy	Grade 4: 4 Grade 5: 15
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 6, 8, 9 Grade 5: 13
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 4 Grade 5: 13
<i>Judy Moody</i>	Megan McDonald	Judy is prone to grouchiness, but the process of working on her "ME" collage helps her focus on the positive aspects of her life.	Identifying feelings, accepting differences, feelings change, anger buttons, calming down.	Grade 1-3 Grade 4-5

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Julian's Glorious Summer	Ann Cameron	When his best friend Gloria receives a new bike, Julian spends the summer avoiding her because of his fear of bikes.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 4, 6, 9
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4, 9 Grade 5: 12
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 12
Junebug	Alice Mead	In the projects where Junebug lives, turning ten means joining a gang; Junebug tries to ignore his upcoming birthday.	Keeping out of a fight, fear, feelings change, identifying feelings, peer pressure, reflection.	Grade 4-5
Katherine's Doll	Elizabeth Winthrop	After quarreling over a doll, two girls realize that people make the best friends		Pre K/K
The Kid in the Red Jacket	Barbara Park	When Howard moves across the country, he is befriended by a six-year-old neighbor, and he worries that the friendship might interfere with his making friends his own age. Advanced reading.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, reflection, fairness, accepting differences.	Grade 1-3
Kiss Your Sister, Rose Marie!	Nancy White Carlstrom	Rose Marie has ambivalent feelings about her new sister.	Empathy	PreK/K: 5 Grade 1: 5 Grade 2: 12
			Anger Management	Grade 2: 10
Leo the Late Bloomer	Robert Kraus	Leo the lion can't seem to do anything right, but with time, and his mother's understanding, he blooms.	Identifying feelings.	Grade 1-3
A Letter to Amy	Ezra Jack Keats	Peter accidentally bumps into Amy when he rushes out to mail an invitation to her. (Identifying feelings, intentions.	Grade 1-3
Letters from Rifka	Karen Hesse	When Rifka and her family flee Russia during the 1917 Revolution, Rifka is denied passage on the boat to America for medical reasons and must spend the year alone.	Reflection, problem solving, identifying feelings, conflicting feelings, feelings change.	Grade 4-5
Let's be Enemies	, Janice May Udry	John thinks James is too bossy, and decides to go tell him they are enemies now, but by the time he delivers the message, they're friends again.		Pre K/K

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Lilith Summer	Hadley Irwin	Ellen reluctantly agrees to spend the summer "lady-sitting" her elderly neighbor in exchange for a bicycle; through the course of the summer, she overcomes her perceptions of the elderly and forms a deep bond with her neighbor.	Reflection, feelings change, perceptions, identifying feelings, active listening.	Grade 4-5
Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse	Kevin Henkes	Lilly loves everything about school, especially her teacher, but when he asks her to wait a while before showing her purse, she does something for which she is later very sorry. Available in Spanish: <i>Lily y su bolso de plastico</i> .	Anger buttons, calming down, identifying feelings, problem solving, apologizing.	Grade 1-3
Little Bear's Friend	Else Holmelund Minarik	Little Bear makes a friend.	Empathy	PreK/K: 12
			Impulse Control	PreK/K: 6
Losers, Inc.	Claudia Mills	Although he knows that his efforts to impress a beautiful student teacher and outdo his perfect older brother jeopardize his status in the losers' club that he and his best friend have started, Ethan realizes that he no longer wants to be a loser.	Cause and effect, problem solving, bullying, empathy, reflection, perceptions, taking responsibility for your actions.	Grade 4-5
Luke's Bully	Elizabeth Winthrop	Luke, a shy third-grader, cannot hide from Arthur, his personal bully, until it is time to pick roles for the school play.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2 Grade 3: 17
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2
Maggie Marmelstein for President	Majorie Weinman Sharmat	When Thad Smith turns down Maggie's offer to be his presidential campaign manager, she decides to run for president of the class herself.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 4 Grade 5: 13
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4 Grade 5: 12
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 6 Grade 5: 11, 13
The Magic Fan	Keith Baker	Despite being laughed at by fellow villagers, Yoshi uses his building skills to make a boat catch the moon, a kite to reach the clouds, and a bridge that mimics the rainbow.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 3: 17
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 7

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Matthew and Tilly,	Rebecca C. Jones	A fight and apologies occurs between two friends.		Pre K/K
Max	Bob Graham	Max, the son of superheroes, is late in learning how to fly.	Accepting differences, name-calling and teasing, dealing with criticism.	Grade 1-3
Maxie, Rosie and Earl: Partners in Grime	Barbara Park	Three misfits meet in the principal's office and proceed to get in even more trouble. They each must come to terms with their troublesome identities: a tattletale, a too-smart kid, and a boy who can't help being silly when he's nervous.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 6, 7, 9 Grade 5: 11, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 2, 3, 4, 9, 10
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 7 Grade 5: 14
The Meanest Thing to Say	Bill Cosby	When a new kid at school tries to get other students to put each other down, Little Bill turns to his father and learns a way to stop the situation.	Name-calling and teasing, identifying feelings, fairness, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
The Mommy Exchange	Amy Hest	After concluding that each other's home life is more appealing than their own, two young friends decide to swap homes and mothers	Empathy	Grade 1: 5
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 8
			Anger Management	Grade 1 : 5
My Louisiana Sky	Kimberly Willis Holt.	Tiger Ann, the daughter of mentally challenged parents, struggles with her peers' reaction to her family.	Reflection, identifying feelings, feelings change, perceptions, accepting differences, gossip, conflicting feelings.	Grade 4-5
My Name is Not Dummy	Elizabeth Crary	Children's Problem Solving Series: Each book introduces a specific problem familiar to most children and then prompts the child to consider alternative solutions.	Impulse Control	PreK/K-Grade 3: 1
			Anger Management	PreK/K: 4 Grade 1: 7
My Sister Annie	Bill Dodds	Growing up, trying to be accepted, and having a sister with Down's syndrome make life difficult for Charlie.	Empathy	Grade 3: 17 Grade 4: 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 5: 13
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2, 5

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Nadia's Hands	Karen English	When her hands are painted with henna for her aunt's wedding, Nadia worries about how her classmates will respond.	Identifying feelings, accepting differences, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Next Stop, Freedom: The Story of a Slave Girl	Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler	Emily, a slave girl who longs to read, escapes from slavery with the help of Harriet Tubman.	Empathy	Grade 4: 7 Grade 5: 13
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 9 Grade 5: 16
Odd Velvet	Mary E. Whitcomb	Although she dresses differently from the other girls and does unusual things, Velvet eventually teaches her classmates that even an outsider has something to offer.	Similarities and differences, dealing with peer pressure, dealing with being left out, identifying feelings, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Old Ramon	Jack Schaefer	When a young boy joins an old shepherd for a season with the sheep, he watches and learns about how to overcome fear, ease tension, and face death and responsibility.	Empathy	Grade 4: 4 Grade 5: 11, 14
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 9, 10
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 3
Oliver Button Is a Sissy	Tomie de Paola	His classmates' taunts don't stop Oliver from doing what he likes best.	Empathy	Grade 1: 4, 5 Grade 2: 9 Grade 3: 17
			Impulse Control	Grade 3: 17
			Anger Management	PreK/K: 4 Grade 1: 7 Grade 3: 13
The One in the Middle Is the Green Kangaroo	Judy Blume	Freddy hates being the middle one in the family until he gets a part in the school play.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3, 5
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5 Grade 2: 10
Onion Tears	Diana Kidd	A Vietnamese girls tries to come to terms with her grief over the loss of her family and her new life with an American family.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3, 4, 5 Grade 3: 14, 15, 16, 17
			Impulse Control	Grade 2: 11
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 7
Otherwise Known As Sheila the Great	Judy Blume	When Sheila's family goes to spend the summer in the suburbs, she must face such terrors as swimming lessons, dogs, and thunderstorms.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 3
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 1, 7 Grade 5: 10

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Our Sixth-Grade Sugar Babies	Eve Bunting	Vicki and her best friend fear that their school project, carrying around 5 lb. Bags of sugar to learn about parental responsibility, will make them look ridiculous in the eyes of the seventh-grade boy they both like.	Empathy	Grade 4: 4 Grade 5: 11, 13, 15
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 6, 8, 10 Grade 5: 12, 15
			Anger Management	Grade 5: 12
The Pain and the Great One	Judy Blume	Written from the perspectives of a brother and sister, two siblings describe each other and explain why the other gets preferential treatment.	Identifying feelings, dealing with being left out, anger buttons, fairness.	Grade 1-3
Peach and Blue	Sarah Kilborne	A frog helps Peach see the world, while Peach helps the frog see things he hasn't noticed.	Impulse Control	PreK/K-Grade 2: 1
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5
Rachel Parker, Kindergarten Show-Off	Ann Martin	Five-year-old Olivia's new neighbor, Rachel is in her kindergarten class, and they must overcome feelings of jealousy and competitiveness to be friends.	Empathy	PreK/K: 2, 3, 5
			Impulse Control	PreK/K: 6
Ramona, Forever	Beverly Cleary	Third-grader Ramona has to deal with being a latchkey kid, fighting with a sibling, waiting for a new baby, and more.	Empathy	Grade 2: 11, 12
			Impulse Control	Grade 1 : 2, 7 Grade 2: 14
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 7 Grade 3: 15
The Rat and the Tiger	Keiko Kasza	In his friendship with Rat, Tiger takes advantage and plays the bully because of his greater size, but one day	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3 Grade 2: 12
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 1
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2
Regina Calhoun Eats Dog Food	Lynn Cullen	When Regina's best friend starts sharing secrets with another girl, Regina tries everything to get her friend's attention.	Impulse Control	Grade 4: 2 Grade 5: 14
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 6, 7, 8
Ronald Morgan Goes to Bat	Patricia Reilly Giff	Although he can't hit or catch, Ronald loves to play baseball, and he's got a lot of spirit.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 2: 11, 12
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 4, 7 Grade 2: 9

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Rooster's Gift	Pam Conrad	A rooster thinks his "gift" of crowing in the morning makes the sun rise, until one morning when he accidentally oversleeps, and the sun rises without him.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3, 4, 5
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5
Rope Burn	Jan Siebold	While working on a writing assignment at his new school, Richard learns the meanings of various proverbs and how to express his feelings about his parents' divorce.	Identifying feelings, conflicting feelings, reflection, similarities and differences.	Grade 4-5
Sara's Secret	Suzanne Wanous	At first Sara doesn't want anyone at her new school to know about her younger brother Justin, who has Cerebral Palsy.	Empathy	Grade 3: 14, 17 Grade 4: 4, 5 Grade 5: 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 3: 17
The Saturday Kid	Edward Sorel	Leo wonders why Morty always causes him trouble, but after spending a Saturday with his violin teacher and then seeing himself in a newsreel at the movies, Leo doesn't worry anymore.	Dealing with name-calling and teasing, identifying feelings, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Six Crows	Leo Lionni	An owl helps a farmer and six crows reach a compromise over the rights to the wheat crop.	Impulse Control	PreK/K-Grade 2: 1
			Anger Management	PreK/K-Grade 2: 1
Sixth Grade Secrets	Louis Sachar	Laura starts a secret club with secret messages, secret codes, and something embarrassing from each member as insurance. Soon all the secrets begin to backfire.	Empathy	Grade 5: 11, 13
			Impulse Control	Grade 5: 13, 14
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 8 Grade 5: 12, 13
Slump	Dave Jarzyna	When Mitchie finds himself at odds with every aspect of his life, he realizes he needs to make some changes.	Feelings change, problem solving, taking responsibility for your actions, cause and effect, reflection.	Grade 4-5
So Much In Common	Laurie A. Jacobs	Two animals who seemingly have nothing in common appreciate each other's differences and find they have much to share.	Empathy	PreK/K: 8 Grade 1: 4 Grade 2: 9 Grade 3: 17
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 2

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
So, What?,	Miriam Cohen	A little boy learns to accept himself as he is.		Pre K/K
Sort of Forever	Sally Warner	Twelve-year-olds Cady and Nancy explore the strengths of their special friendship as they cope with Nana's cancer.	Identifying feelings, active listening, expressing concern, friendship, accepting differences, reflection, dealing with fear, conflicting feelings, similarities and differences, giving emotional support.	Grade 4-5
Stay Away From Simon!	Carol Carrick	Lucy and her younger brother examine their feelings about a mentally handicapped boy they both fear when he follows them home one snowy day.	Empathy	Grade 4: 1, 7 Grade 5: 12, 13, 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 9 Grade 5: 14
Staying Nine	Pam Conrad	Nine-year-old Heather doesn't want to turn ten until wacky Rosa Rita shows her that growing up isn't so bad.	Empathy	Grade 1: 2, 3, 4, 5 Grade 2: 9 Grade 3: 14, 16 Grade 4: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 Grade 5: 15
			Anger Management	Grade 1: 5 Grade 5: 5
The Stories Huey Tells	Ann Cameron	Huey problem solves his fear of the dark, tries new foods, and earns his brother's respect in this collection of humorous stories. Advanced reading.	Problem solving, identifying feelings, reflection, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Stranger in the Mirror	Allen Say	When a boy wakes up looking like his grandfather, he must come to terms with his stereotypes.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, reflection.	Grade 1-3
The Summer My Father Was Ten	Pat Brisson	A father tells the story of how he damaged a neighbor's tomato garden when he was a boy and what he did to make amends.	Identifying feelings, reflection, cause and effect, dealing with peer pressure, problem solving, accepting consequences, apologizing.	Grade 1-3

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Sunshine Home	Eve Bunting	When Tim and his parents visit his grandmother in the nursing home where she is recovering from a broken hip, everyone pretends to be happy until Tim helps them express their true feelings.	Identifying feelings, reflection, expressing concern, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Superfudge	Judy Blume	Peter describes the ups and downs of Life with his younger brother Fudge. Available in Spanish: <i>Supertoci</i>	Anger buttons, accepting differences, perceptions, identifying feelings.	Grade 4-5
Surviving Brick Johnson	Laurie Myers	When Brick, the big new kid at school, catches Alex imitating him, Alex is sure he will be bullied.	Feelings change, dealing with fear, reflection, accepting differences, intentions.	Grade 4-5
The Table Where Rich People Sit	Byrd Baylor	A girl discovers her impoverished family is rich in things that matter in life.	Identifying feelings, reflection, feelings change.	Grade 1-3
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing	Judy Blume	Peter tells about school, his family, and his troubles with his two-year-old brother Fudge.	Reflection, anger buttons, perceptions, identifying feelings.	Grade 4-5
Teammates	Peter Golenbock	Set in the 1940s, this book tells the story of the first African-American baseball player to play in the Major Leagues by focusing on the relationship between Jackie Robinson and teammate, Pee Wee Reese.	Giving emotional support, expressing concern, fairness, accepting differences, goal setting, dealing with fear, dealing with peer pressure, dealing with criticism.	Grade 4-5
Thank You, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.!	Eleanora E. Tate	Mary ELouise hates being reminded about her African-American heritage. But when two storytellers come to school with glorious tales of Africa, she finds a new way to see herself and her heritage	Accepting differences, conflicting feelings, active listening.	Grade 4-5
There's A Boy in the Girls' Bathroom	Louis Sachar	An unmanageable but lovable 11-year-old misfit bully learns to believe in himself when he gets to know the new school counselor, who is sort of a misfit too.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 3, 4, 7, 9 Grade 5: 12, 14
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 2, 7, 8, 10
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2 Grade 5: 10, 13

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Three Cheers for Catherine the Great!	Cari Best	When her grandmother announces she doesn't want gifts for her birthday, Sara struggles to figure out what she has of herself to give.	Reflection, identifying feelings, preferences.	Grade 1-3
Tough Beans	Betsy Bates	With the help of his best friend Cassie, Nat comes to terms with his diabetes and a bully named Jasper.	Empathy	Grade 4: 2, 3, 5, 8 Grade 5: 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 1, 2, 3, 9
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2, 4
Verdi	Janell Cannon	A young python does not want to grow slow and boring like the older snakes he sees in the tropical jungle where he lives.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, dealing with being left out, reflection.	Grade 1-3
The View From Saturday	E.L. Konisburg	Four students develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.	Empathy	Grade 4: 5, 6 Grade 5: 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 6 Grade 5: 16
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech	On the way to visit her estranged mother, Sal tells her grandparents about her friend Phoebe's mother. Available in Spanish: <i>Entre dos lunas</i> .	Reflection, feelings change, perceptions, expressing concern.	Grade 4-5
Wanted – Best Friend	A. M. Monson	Cat advertises for a new playmate when his best friend, Mouse refuses to play checkers.		Pre K/K
The Watsons Go to Birmingham	Christopher Paul Curtis	When the Watsons decide that their son Byron must spend the summer with his grandmother in Birmingham, the family drives him out and finds themselves in the middle of a racially charged situation.	Reflection, perceptions, identifying feelings, feelings change, dealing with fear.	Grade 4-5
Wendy and the Bullies	Nancy Robinson	Wendy's troubles with bullies in and out of school reach the point where she is afraid to go to school.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3, 9 Grade 5: 14, 15
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 2, 5 Grade 5: 13, 14

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
Weslandia	Paul Fleischman	When Wesley plants a garden, he is transformed from an outcast to a leader in his community.	Identifying feelings, dealing with being left out, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
What Jamie Saw	Carolyn Coman	Having fled to a family friend's hillside trailer after his mother's boyfriend tried to throw his baby sister against a wall, nine-year-old Jamie finds himself living an existence full of uncertainty and fear.	Empathy	Grade 4: 3
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 9
What Newt Could Do for Turtle	Jonathan London	After Turtle saves his life several times, Newt wonders how he can repay him.	Empathy	Grade 1: 7
			Impulse Control	Grade 1: 1
What's Cooking, Jenny Archer?	Ellen Conford	Jenny goes into business preparing lunches for friends at school but runs into trouble.	Empathy	Grade 4: 6 Grade 5: 11
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 3, 4
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 7 Grade 5: 12
When Zachary Beaver Came to Town	Kimberly Willis	During a difficult summer of change, meeting an unusual friend broadens Toby's perspective.	Identifying feelings, feelings change, perceptions, similarities and differences, giving emotional support, dealing with peer pressure.	Grade 4-5
Where in the World Is the Perfect Family?	Amy Hest	Complications in Cornie's life, among them divorced parents and a new baby half-sister, help Cornie and her best friend Megan find a theme for the school project.	Empathy	Grade 4: 1, 2, 3, 7, 9 Grade 5: 14
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 4, 7, 8
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge	Mem Fox	A small boy tries to discover the meaning of "memory" so he can restore that of an elderly friend. Available in Spanish: <i>Guillermo Jorge Manuel Jose</i> .	Reflection, problem solving, perspectives, friendship.	Grade 1-3
Will I Have a Friend?	Miriam Cohen	On a boy's first day of school, he watches kids play and wishes he could join in, then makes a friend by finding a common interest.		Pre K/K

Book	Author	Description	Unit	*Suggested Lessons
The Wish	Gail Carson Levine	A stranger on the bus grants unpopular Wilma a wish: it takes the newly popular Wilma only a little while to realize her wish was short-sighted.	Perceptions, similarities and differences, cause and effect, problem solving, dealing with peer pressure, accepting differences.	Grade 4-5
Wringer	Jerry Spinelli	Parker dreads his upcoming tenth birthday, when he will be expected to become a wringer, wringing the necks of pigeons for the annual Pigeon Day Shoot.	Dealing with fear, identifying feelings, expressing concern, dealing with peer pressure, conflicting feelings, taking responsibility for your actions.	Grade 4-5
Yang the Third and Her Impossible Family	Lensey Namioka	After moving to America from China, Yingmei tries hard to fit into the American way. It takes some embarrassing moments, but she eventually learns it is possible to be different and still get respect from people	Empathy	Grade 4: 4, 7 Grade 5: 16
			Impulse Control	Grade 4: 7 Grade 5: 13, 16
			Anger Management	Grade 4: 5
Yoko	Rosemary Wells	When her teacher realizes that the handmade sushi Yoko's mother packs for her lunch sets her apart from other students, she organizes an international potluck.	Similarities and differences, dealing with peer pressure, dealing with being left out, problem solving.	Grade 1-3
Yolanda's Genius	Carol Fenner	Yolanda knows that her brother is a genius, even though he can't read by the end of first grade; she must convince her mother of this while also struggling to adjust to a move from Chicago to a small Michigan town.	Reflection, problem solving, dealing with peer pressure, accepting consequences.	Grade 4-5

