

## BOOK LIST

The following titles have been carefully selected by educational professionals. New titles are added every year. Grade categories are a guide; children may choose from any level according to their interests and abilities.

Central Plains Mennonite Conference keeps a library of Shalom Readers books for check out by Central Plains congregations. This library includes books that are out of print. Keep in mind that only books that are still in print are available for reward books. Please note that a \$15.00 fee will be charged for each book that is borrowed from the Central Plains Shalom Readers Library and not returned. This fee will be used to purchase replacement books.

\*Books noted with an asterisk are out of print.

### Preschool through Grade Two

\**Abuela's Weave* by Omar Castenada. Lee & Low Books, Inc., 1993. A girl and her grandmother take their weaves to the marketplace.

*A Crocodile for Aminata: A Story from Burkina Faso* by Carol Shenk Bornman. Trafford Publishing, 2004. The people in Aminata's village work together to build a dam and eliminate their long walks to get fresh water.

*Adrian Simcox Does Not Have a Horse* by Marcy Campbell, Illust. by Corinna Luyken, Dial, 2018. Adrian tells anyone that will listen that he has a beautiful horse but Chloe does not believe him because he lives in a tiny house and has holes in his shoes.

*All Kinds of Children* by Norma Simon. Albert Whitman & Co. 1999. Children all over the world have many things in common including their need for food, clothes, people to love them and a time to play.

*All Things Bright & Beautiful* by Cecil Frances Alexander. Ideals, 1992. A timeless message rings anew in appreciation of God's creation.

*Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman. Dial Books, 1991. What makes Grace so amazing? She'll surprise you.

*Amelia's Road* by Linda J. Altman. Lee & Low, 1993. A young migrant girl finds a permanent home.

\**Angel Child, Dragon Child* by Michele Maria Surat. Raintree Publishers, 1983. A Vietnamese girl is teased in her new American school by a boy who doesn't know her story. They find a magnificent way to be friends.

\**The Animals' Peace Day* by Jan Wahl. New York, Crown: 1970 (Outstanding Illustrations). The animals gather for a peace day and dinner, and in no time, they get entangled in a quarrel. When fighting ends, they say they will try again tomorrow.

\**Apples for Immigrants* by Lois Thieszen Preheim. Blue River Publishing, 1999. The lessons of sharing with a new Mennonite immigrant group over 100 years ago prompt sharing again.

\**Are You My Friend?* By Janice Derby. Herald Press, 1993. A child notices how much people are alike aside from the way they look.

*Be Kind* by Pat Zietlow Miller, Illust. by Jen Hill, Roaring Brook Press, 2018. When Tanisha spills grape juice all over herself it causes a classmate to begin thinking about how to show kindness in all sorts of situations.

*Beatrice's Goat* by Page McBrier. Atheneum, c2001. A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of Heifer Project.

*Bein' with You This Way* by W. Nikola-Lisa; ill. by Michael Bryant. Lee & Low Books, 1994. A lively rap poem about human differences and similarities.

*Best of All* by Max Lucado. Illustrated by Sergio Martinez. Crossway Books Good News Publishers 2003. In a village where everyone has been carved from wood, an uppity Miss Bess Stovall claims her maple "ancestree" is superior until the day a shunned willow fellow saves her life.

\**Bully Bill* by Joy Birky. Herald Press, c2007. Bully Bill is like all bullies in the world: he thinks that because he can fight, he can get his own way. But when he meets another boy who makes friends by helping others, Bill becomes curious about how this happens. When Hal introduces Jesus and the Golden Rule to Bill, things begin to change for the better.

\**Castle on Viola Street* by DyAnne Disalvo. Harper Collins, 2001. When a young boy hears about an organization that turns abandoned houses into homes, he discovers that his "castle" is on Viola Street.

*Cats in Krasinski Square* by Karen Hesse. Illustrated by Wendy Watson. Scholastic, Inc. c2004. The cats in Krasinski Square once belonged to someone...And so did a young girl, whose family has been destroyed by war. Even as she and her sister struggle to survive amid the war's chaos, they risk their lives on a plan to help those still trapped behind Warsaw's infamous Ghetto wall.

*Cheyenne Again* by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Irving Toddy c. 1995, 2002 by HMH Books for Young Readers. A boy named Young Bull is taken from his parents and sent to boarding school, where he struggles to hold on to his Cheyenne heritage even as he must learn the white man's ways.

\**Chinese Eyes* by Marjorie An Waybill. Herald Press, 1974. Schoolmates tease a young girl about her eyes but she learns from her mother how great her eyes are.

\**The Color of Home* by Mary Hoffman. Phyllis Fogelman Books, 2002. Hasson, feeling homesick after being forced to flee war-torn Somalia, paints a picture at school that shows his old home in Africa as well as the reason his family had to leave.

\**The Cornhusk Doll* by Eveyln Minsull. Herald Press, 1987. A white pioneer girl tries to befriend the daughter of an Indian man injured in the family's bear trap.

*Cookies: bite-size life lessons* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal; illustrated by Jane Dyer. HarperCollins, 2006. Cookies is a new kind of dictionary, one that defines mysteries such as "fair" and "unfair" and what it really means to "cooperate."

\**Cups Held Out* by Judith Roth. Herald Press, 2006. A young girl and her father cross the border into Mexico where the child encounters poverty for the first time. Together, she and her dad consider what they can do to help.

*The Crayon Box that Talked* by Shane DeRolf; illustrated by Michael Letzig. Random House 1997. Although they are many different colors, the crayons in a box discover that when they get together, they can appreciate each other and make a complete picture.

*The Curious Garden* by Peter Brown, Little Brown & Company, c2009. Liam can be spotted on each page as he teaches himself to garden and his city becomes more vibrantly colorful.

\**Doorway to the World* by Ronald Kidd. Habitat for Humanity, 1996. Ben dreams he is flying on a door to many homes in different parts of the world and helping to build homes.

*Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners* by Laurie Keller. Henry Holt, 2007. Mr. Rabbit worries about getting along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the Golden Rule.

*Douglas, You're a Genius!* by Ged Adamson Author and Illust., Schwartz & Wade, 2018. Nancy has several hilarious plans for Douglas to get their ball back after it disappears through the fence but Douglas comes up with a genius plan that works.

*Each Kindness*-by Jacqueline Woodson, ill. by E. B. Lewis, Nancy Paulsen Books, 2012. Chloe realizes she missed out on the opportunity for a friendship with new girl Maya.

*Effie's Image* by N. L. Sharp; ill. by Dorothea Rohner. Prairieland Press, 2005. Through the love and acceptance of children, an elderly woman finds new meaning for her life.

*Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson. Chronicle Books, 2000. Hoping that the enemy pie which his father makes will help him get rid of his enemy, a young boy finds that instead it helps him make a new friend.

*Everybody Cooks Rice* by Norah Dooley. Carolrhada Books, 1991. A girl goes to find her brother and ends up in different households, each cooking rice in different ways.

\**Faith the Cow* by Susan Bame Hoover. Brethren Press, 1995. The story of how Heifer Project began.

*Families are Different* by Nina Pellegrini. Holiday House, 1991. Nico, an adopted Korean girl, realizes how different families can be and what makes each special.

\**A Farm Boy's Year* by David McPhail. Athenaeum, 1992. A boy's life on a New England farm in the 1800's as glimpsed throughout the year.

*Feathers and Fools: A Modern Fable* by Mem Fox. Harcourt Brace, 1996. The mistrust of the swans and peacocks leads to a terrible fight but there is hope in the young who haven't learned to hate each other.

*The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story* retold by Joseph Bruchac. Penguin Young Readers Group 1998. This legend explains the origins of strawberries, grown by the sun to help the first man and woman patch a quarrel.

\**The Folks in the Valley—a Pennsylvania Dutch ABC* by Jim Aylesworth. Harper Collins, 1994. A Pennsylvania Dutch Alphabet book about the people and activities of a Pennsylvania Dutch settlement in a rural valley.

*Four Feet, Two Sandals* by Karen Williams. Eerdmans, c2007. Two young Afghani girls living in a refugee camp in Pakistan share a precious pair of sandals brought by relief workers.

*The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. Harper & Row, 1964. A boy and a tree are friends.

*Good Rosie* by Kate DiCamillo; illustrated by Harry Bliss. Candlewick, c2018. Rosie learns to make friends in the comic book panels of this book.

*The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest* by Lynne Cherry. Harcourt Brace, c1990. The many different animals that live in a great kapok tree in the Brazilian rain forest try to convince a man with an ax of the importance of not cutting down their home.

*Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert. Harcourt Brace, 1987. Father and child share the simple joy of planting, watering and watching seeds grow in the family garden.

*Henry and the Kite Dragon* by Bruce Edward Hall; illustrated by William Low. Philomel Books, 2004. In a story based on real events in New York's Chinatown in the 1920's, children from Little Italy keep demolishing Grandfather Chin's magnificent kites. After Henry Chu and his friends discover why, the children negotiate a satisfying resolution for their problem.

*Hike* by Pete Oswald, Candlewick Press, 2020. In this wordless picture book, a dad and child wake early to hike in the mountains, where they become closer while experiencing the joys and challenges of nature and help preserve its wonders.

*How Full Is Your Bucket? For Kids* by Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer. Gallup Press, 2009. A little boy named Felix learns that being kind to others not only helps them, but him as well.

*How to Apologize* by David LaRochelle, Ill. by Mike Wohanoutka, Candlewick Press, 2021. A humorous guidebook to when, where, why, how, and how not to apologize.

*I Sing for the Animals* by Paul Goble. Bradbury Press, 1991. Reflections on how all things in nature relate to their Creator.

*If You Plant a Seed* by Kadir Nelson c. 2015 Balzer & Bray. With spare text and breathtaking oil paintings, this story demonstrates not only the process of planting and growing for young children but also how a seed of kindness can bear sweet fruit.

*I Know A Lady* by Charlotte Zolotow. Puffin, 1986. A child describes the many things she enjoys about her elderly neighbor.

*In the Trunk of Grandma's Car: The Story of Edna Ruth Byler and Ten Thousand Villages* by Donna J. Stoltzfus. Masthof Press, 2014. (Available at Mastof Press.com) The true story of Edna Ruth Byler and her trip to Puerto Rico in 1946, where she met women who struggled to find employment so they could feed their families. Her humble efforts to help the women by selling their hand-crafted items grew to become Ten Thousand Villages, a fair-trade company that markets hand crafted items from all around the world.

*Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig; illustrated by Patrice Barton. Random House Children's Books, c.2013. Brian Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . .until, that is, a new kid comes to class. When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine.

\**It's George* by Miriam Cohen. Greenwillow, 1988. George's classmates make fun of him until they have a surprise.

*It's Mine! a Fable* by Leo Lionni. Alfred K. Knopf, 1985. It's better to share.

*I Walk with Vanessa: A Story About a Simple Act of Kindness* by Kerascoet. Schwartz & Wade c 2018. A single act of kindness leads to a community of upstanders in this wordless picture book.

*Jamaica's Find* by Juanita Havill. Houghton Mifflin, 1987. A girl finds a stuffed dog in the park and decides to take it home.

\**Just Like Us* by Hiaroyn Oram. MorehouseÄBarlow, 1987. Billy lives on one side of a wall and the other side is forbidden. What is the surprise on the other side?

*The Kindness Quilt* by Nancy Wallace. M. Cavendish Children, c2006. Minna does a lot of thinking about her project to do something kind, make a picture about what she did, and share it with her classmates, but finally comes up with an idea that spreads to the whole school.

*Lailah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story* by Reem Faruqi. Illustrated by Lea Lyon. Tilbury House Publishers, 2015. Lailah is excited to finally be old enough to fast for Ramadan but worried that her new classmates in her new school and new country won't understand why she is doing it.

*Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt De La Pena; illustrated by Christian Robinson. Putman's c2015. A young boy, CJ, rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

\**The Legend of the Valentine* by Katherine Grace Bond; illustrated by Don Tate. Zonderkidz2001. On Valentines Day during the sixties, Marcus, an African-American boy in a newly integrated school, used St. Valentine as a role model to heal the hate in his classroom.

*Let's Be Enemies* by Janice May Udry. Harper Collins, 1961. Two friends experience the happiness but also unexpected difficulties that go with a friendship relationship.

\**Let's Make a Garden* by Tamara Awad Lobe. Herald Press, 1995. Children from many different cultures work together.

*A Light to Share* by Natalie Frisk, ill by Marie Diaz Perera, Herald Press, 2025. The stories of 12 Jesus followers and how they shared their love with others and changed the world.

*Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg and the Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. Dial, 2009. Tells the story of Dr. Greg Mortenson's promise to build a school in a remote Himalayan village after the villagers saved his life.

*Little Blue Truck* and *Little Blue Truck Leads the Way* by Alice Schertle, Illust. by Jill McElmurry, Harcourt Children's Books, 2008, 2009. Old favorites that show in rhyming text how a helping hand from a friend or taking turns can get us out of sticky situations

*Maddi's Fridge* by Lois Brandt; illustrated by Vin Vogel. Flashlight Press, 2014. Maddi's fridge is almost empty, while Sophia's is full of food. How can Sophia help her friend Maddi without breaking her promise not to tell anyone?

\**Make Someone Smile, and 40 More Ways to Be a Peaceful Person* by Judy Lalli. Free Spirit Publishing, 1996. A collection of photographs (with words) of children modeling the skills of peacemaking and conflict resolution.

*Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match / Marisol McDonald no Combina* by Monica Brown; illustrated by Sara Palacios. Lee and Low, 2011. Marisol McDonald, a biracial, nonconformist, soccer-playing pirate-princess with brown skin and red hair, celebrates her uniqueness.

*Migrant* by Maxine Trottier. Groundwood Books, c2011. Anna belongs to a group of Mennonites who moved to Mexico in the 1920s, but still migrate to Canada annually to labor in the fields. She wonders what it would be like to be a tree with deep roots as opposed to a feather in the wind.

*Milo and the Magic Stone* by Mark Pfister. Scholastic, 1995. A story with two endings. One shows the consequences of the failure to care for the earth and others, the other ending shows the reward of giving and sharing.

\**My Favorite Place* by Susan Sargent and Donna Aaron Wirt. Abingdon Press, 1987. A blind child describes a trip to the seashore telling of the sounds, smells, tastes, and other wonderful things to be found.

\**Nicholas, Where Have You Been?* By Leo Lionni. Knopf 1987. A mouse is caught up in the claws of a huge bird and carried into the sky. how does he get the berries he was hoping to find?

*Nobody Hugs a Cactus*-by Carter Goodrich Author and Illust., Simon and Schuster, 2019. Hank, the cranky cacti doesn't like noise, rowdiness or hugs. Or does he?

\**Not So Fast, Songolo* by Niki Daly. Theneum, 1985. A young village boy helps his grandmother do errands in the big city and is surprised in the end.

*Odd Velvet* by Mary Whitcomb. Chronicle Books, 1998. Although she dresses differently from the other girls and does things which are unusual, Velvet eventually teaches her classmates that even an "outsider" has something to offer.

*Old Turtle* by Douglas Wood. Pfeifer Hamilton, 1991. A wise old turtle reminds all the earth creatures, plants, and people that God is in everything.

*On Meadowview Street* by Henry Cole. Greenwillow Books, 2007. Upon moving to a new house, a young girl and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow and birds and animals to stay in their yard, which soon has the whole suburban street living up to its name.

*One Green Apple* by Eve Bunting. Clarion, 2006. What does it feel like to be different and alone? We learn that each person has something unique to contribute to the good of all.

*One Smile* by Cynthia McKinley; illustrated by Mary Gregg Byrne. Illumination 2002. When a child smiles at a stranger, she sets off a chain of kindness that eventually comes full circle.

*The Other Side* by Jacqueline Woodson. GP Putnam's Sons, 2001. Two girls are forbidden to play with each other on the other side of the fence. They become friends anyway while sitting on the fence and talking.

*A Pair of Red Clogs* by Masako Matsuno. Purple House Press, 2002. (Reissue from 1981) A child's delight in a new pair of shoes is the same all over the world, whether the shoes are patent leather sandals, deerskin moccasins, or wooden clogs.

*Peace Begins With You* by Katherine Scholes. Sierra Club Books/Little Brown, 1989. Poetic style of prose describes the many feelings and conditions of peace and the absence of peace.

*The Peace Book* by Todd Parr. Little Brown, 2004. Each page shows a different definition of peace.

*Peace Week in Miss Fox's Class* by Eileen Spinelli. Albert Whitman & Company, 2009. For "Peace Week", the animals in Miss Fox's class find ways to be peaceful instead of squabbling with each other.

*Perfect* by Waka T Brown, ill by Yuko Jones, Quill Tree books, 2024. Miki demands that everything in her life be perfect so when she drops her favorite tea cup can she ever use it again?

*Peter's Chair* by Ezra Jack Keats. Harper Collins, 1967. There is a new baby in the family and Peter needs to make adjustments.

\**Planting Seeds* by Patricia Quinlan. Annick Press Ltd., 1988. Parents explain that, like children, countries need to cooperate instead of fight.

\**Potatoes, Potatoes* by Anita Lobel. Harper & Row, 1967. An old woman had a potato farm and two sons. One son joined the army of the East. The other son joined the army of the West. Find out what happened when the army met in front of the potato farm.

\**Praying With Our Feet* by Lisa D. Weaver, illustrated by Ingrid Hess. A group of friends go on a special walk to remind their neighbors that war does not bring peace in our world. They are praying with their feet, walking with the God of Peace.

*The Quarreling Book* by Charlotte Zolotow. Harper Collins, 1982. The reality and challenge of facing everyday encounters in story form.

*The Rag Coat* by Lauren Mills. Little Brown & Co., 1991. Minna wears her new coat to school, where she receives interesting responses.

*Rainbow Fish and the Big Blue Whale* by Marcus Pfister. North-South Books, 1998. The fish with jagged fins wonders about the big blue whale. "Look out!" he warns. How do they find a way to make peace?

\**Raising Yoder's Barn* by Jane Yolen; illustrated by Bernie Fuchs. Little Brown, 2002. An Amish community comes together to help when a family is in need.

*Room for Everyone* by Naaz Khan, Ill. Merce Lopez, Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2021. In this rhyming counting book set in Zanzibar, the driver of the daladala (bus) extends kindness to everyone he meets.

\**Rose for Abby* by Donna Guthrie. Abingdon Press, 1988. Abby asks herself the question, "Why are people hungry, cold and living in the streets?" Then she knows what she must do and she does it.

*Say Something* by Peggy Moss; ill. by Lea Lyon. Tilbury House, 2004. A child who never says anything when other children are being teased or bullied finds herself in their position one day when jokes are made at her expense and no one speaks up.

*Say Something* by Peter H. Reynolds, Orchard Books, 2019. Encourages children (people) to find their voices and use them to make the world a better place.

*The Seagoing Cowboy* by Peggy Reiff Miller, Illustrated by Claire Ewart. Brethren Press, 2016. Tells the story of young men who cared for farm animals as they traveled to Europe where the animals were then given to European families after the war.

*Sensing Peace* by Suzana E. Yoder, ill. by Rachel Hoffman-Bayles, Herald Press, 2010. Children are encouraged to see what peace looks, sounds, feels, smells, and tastes like in their everyday moments.

*Seven Brave Women* by Betsy Hearne. Greenwillow, 1997. A young girl tells a short story about the adventures of seven of her female ancestors including one who is a Mennonite.

*Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad* by James Rumford. Roaring Book Press, 2008. As bombs and missiles fall on Baghdad in 2003, a young boy uses the art of calligraphy to distance himself from the horror of war.

*The Skin You Live In* by Michael Tyler. Chicago Children's Museum, 2005. A rhyming verse that looks at human diversity by focusing on skin.

*Snow in Jerusalem* by Deborah da Costa. Albert Whitman & Company 2001. Although they live in different quarters in Jerusalem, a Jewish boy and a Muslim boy are surprised to discover they have been caring for the same stray cat.

*Somewhere Today: A Book of Peace* by Shelley Moore Thomas. Albert Whitman & Co., 1998. This book gives examples of ways in which people bring about peace by doing things to help and care for one another and their world.

*The Spelling Window* by Dawn L. Watkins. Bob Jones University Press, 1993. Shelly doesn't like her deaf neighbor Seth's loud voice and exuberance the way her sister Kathy does, until a field trip and an emergency help her to better understand his feelings.

*The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles. Scholastic, 1995. The story of six-year-old Ruby's faith and courage in 1960 as the first black child to attend an all-white elementary school in New Orleans.

*The Story of Ferdinand* by Monro Leaf. Viking Press, 1936. A bull would rather sit and smell the flowers than be a vicious bull for a matador in a bull fight.

\**The Sun and the Wind: An Aesop Fable* retold by Cornelia Lehn. Faith & Life Press, 1983. Who is stronger, the sun or the wind?

*Tap-Tap* by Karen Lynn Williams: Clarion, 1995. A young Haitian girl is finally old enough to help her mother carry baskets of fruit to market and is rewarded with a ride on a “tap-tap”, a brightly painted truck/taxi.

*Ten Beautiful Things*-by Molly Beth Griffin, Illust. by Marilbel Lechuga, Charlesbridge, 2021. Lily and her grandmother search for 10 beautiful things as they take a long car ride to Lily’s new home with Gran, finding beauty in ordinary things.

*Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*-by Mem Fox, Illust. by Helen Oxenbury, Walker Books, 2009. A lovely rhyme about babies the world over who all have ten little fingers and ten little toes.

*Thank You, Omu!* Oge Mora, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2018. Omu, (Grandma) gives away bowls of soup until there is none left for her own supper, but the community returns to share with her.

\**Thank You World* by Alice McGinty; illustrated by Wendy Halperin. Dial, 2007. Children from eight different countries celebrate the common joys of childhood, with illustrations that show how each boy and girl experiences sunshine, clouds, swings, and a mother’s love.

*This Is the Way We Go To School* by Edith Baer. Scholastic, 1990. How do children around the world go to school? In many ways!

*This Little Light of Mine* ill. by E. B. Lewis. Simon and Schuster, 2005. An illustrated version of the traditional song about letting one's light shine. Illustrations show how one boy becomes a shining light in his own neighborhood.

*Tomas and the Library Lady* by Pat Mora. Random House, 1997. A young migrant worker boy is befriended by a small-town librarian and discovers the joy of books the summer he is in the area.

*Too Many Carrots* by Katy Hudson. Capstone c2016. Rabbit has lots of carrots, and he attempts to take them with him when he moves in with friends – until he realizes that the best thing to do is share his carrots with all his friends.

\**Trouble* by Jane Kurtz. Harcourt Brace, 1997. The father of a young goatherd makes him a *gebeta* board in hopes of keeping him out of trouble, but he finds adventure anyway.

*The Two of Them* by Aliko. Greenwillow Books, 1979. The relationship between a grandfather and a granddaughter are described.

\**Two Sides of the River* by David Crippen. Abingdon Press, 1976. The author, who lives in Kenya, tells the story of two feuding Kenyan families who live on opposite sides of a river and must come to terms with the meaning of brotherhood.

*Walk in Peace* by Ingrid Hess. Herald Press, 2009. This book depicts children from all over the world engaged in various activities, each ending with a prayer for God's protection and a reminder to walk in peace.

*Wake Up, Bertha Bear* by Chad Mason. Down East Books, 2006. The animals of the forest hatch a plan to help a lost cub who has become separated from his mother.

*Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa* by Jeanette Winter. Harcourt, 2008. Tells the story of Wangari Maathai, a Nobel Prize-winning environmentalist who, shocked to see entire forests being cut down in her native country of Kenya, decides to take action, beginning with the planting of nine seedlings in her own backyard.

*The War Between the Vowels and the Consonants* by Priscilla Turner. Farrar Straus Giroux, 1996. In the hidden life of letters, enemies become friends and discover that the pen really is mightier than the sword.

*Watercress* by Andrea Wang, Illust. by Jason Chin, Neal Porter Books, 2021. Based on the author's own memories of being the child of Chinese immigrant parents she recalls her resistance to stopping the family car to pick watercress in a roadside ditch believing that "free is bad" until her mother shares a story from her past.

*We Can Get Along; A Child's Book of Choices* by Lauren Murphy Payne. Free Spirit Publishing, 1997. The simple text describes how it feels when people get along well together and when they do not. It explains that one has control over how one reacts in both kinds of situations.

*We Planted a Tree* by Diane Muldrow; illustrated by Bob Staake. Golden Books, 2010. Two young families in two very different parts of the world plant a tree. As the trees flourish, so do the families...while trees all over the world help clean the air, enrich the soil, and give fruit and shade.

*We Share One World* by Jane Hoffelt; illustrated by Marty Husted. Illumination 2006. A young boy dreams of world peace as he realizes that people everywhere are really the same.

*The Wednesday Surprise* by Eve Bunting; illustrated by Donald Carrick. Houghton Mifflin 1989. Anna and Grandma are planning a surprise for Dad's birthday. Dad thinks he has received all his presents, but Grandma stands up and gives him the best one of all: she reads aloud the stories that Anna has taught her.

*What Does It Mean To Be Global* by Rana DiOrio; illustrated by Chris Hill. Source Books Little Pickle Press c. 2009. Can you say "hello" in nine languages? You can! Join children from around the world as they play, sing, and travel, trying all types of food and experiencing other traditions. Living respectfully and peacefully with one another, they celebrate diversity, see how their actions affect another person's experience, and come to understand that being global means being a citizen of the world.

*What Does Peace Feel Like?* by V. Radunsky. Atheneum, 2004. Portrays what peace looks, sounds, tastes, smells, and feels like to children around the world.

\**What I Like* by Catherine & Lawrence Anholt. Putnames, 1991. Children share likes and dislikes and discover they feel the same.

*What if the Zebras Lost Their Stripes* by John Reitano. Paulist Press, 1998. Would zebras stop being friends and fight each other if they lost their stripes and became different from each other?

*When Beavers Flew* by Kristen Tracy, ill by Luisa Uribe, Random House, 2024. In 1948 McCall, Idaho had a beaver problem-too many of them. What could they do? Non-fiction

*When Charlie Met Emma* by Amy Webb. Illustrated by Merrilee Liddiard. Beaming Books, 2019. Charlie and Emma, a girl in a wheelchair, meet at the playground and discover differences are great.

*When God Made You* by Matthew Paul Turner, ill. by David Catrow, Convergent Books, 2017. "God was thinking of you long before your debut."

*Where's Chimpy?* by Bernice Rabe. Albert Whitman, 1988. A little girl and her father search for a lost stuffed monkey.

*The Whispering Town* by Jennifer Elvgren, illustrator Fabio Santomauro, c. 2014 by Kar-Ben Publishing. The dramatic story of Anett and her parents living in a small Danish fishing village who, during the Holocaust, shelter a Jewish family in their cellar until they can be ferried to safety in Sweden.

*Whoever You Are* by Mem Fox. Harcourt Brace, 1997. Although there are many differences between people throughout the world, there are similarities that join us together such as pain, joy and love.

*Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox. Kane Miller, 1985. A young boy befriends residents in a nursing home and helps one find her memories.

\**You Are Not My Best Friend Anymore* by Charlotte Pomerantz. Dial Books, 1998. Best friends Molly and Ben share everything until their big fight. Then they find a way to work out their difference.

*You Are Special* by Max Lucado. Crossway c1997. Eli the woodcarver helps Punchinello understand how special he is – no matter what other Wemmicks may think.

### Grades Three through Five

*Abby Takes a Stand* by Patricia McKissack; ill. by Gordan C. James. Viking, 2005. A grandmother recalls for her grandchildren what happened in 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee, when at the age of ten she passed out flyers while her cousin and other adults held peaceful protests to end segregation.

*Act* by Kayla Miller, HMH Books for Young Readers, 2020. In this graphic novel, when Olive finds out that a school policy is keeping some kids from going on the class field trip, she decides to act, and runs for office in the student council. Do students have the power to make a difference? Book includes a list of groups that brought about change by peaceful protests throughout history.

*Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay* by Susan Hood; illustrated by Sally Wern Comport. Simon & Shuster Books for Young Readers, c2016. The true story of an orchestra made up of children who play instruments made of recycled trash.

*An Angel for Solomon Singer* by Cynthia Rylant. Orchard Books, 1992. A sensitive treatment of loneliness.

*Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki. Lee & Low Books, NY 1993. A Japanese-American boy in an internment camp during WW II learns to funnel his anger into a baseball game.

*Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea. Delacorte Press, 2010. Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.

\**The Bedford Adventure* by Murial Leeson. Herald Press, 1987. While on vacation in England, Pete Murray learns personal lessons from the long dead John Bunyan, the author of the *Pilgrim's Progress*.

\**The Big Book for Peace* by various authors and illustrators. Dutton, 1990. Filled with stories, pictures, poems and even a song, this is a book about many kinds of peace. Funny, fanciful, serious and moving. It will be enjoyed by readers of all ages.

*The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond* by Brenda Woods. Penguin, c2015. A biracial girl finally gets to meet the African American side of her family.

*Bringing Back the Wolves: How a Predator Restored an Ecosystem* by Jude Isabella, Illust. by Kim Smith, Kids Can Press, 2020, nonfiction. The book tells how so many things in Yellowstone National Park changed after 1926 with the removal of the last of the wolves and how the reintroduction of wolves in 1995 is restoring its ecosystem.

*Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan* by Mary Williams. Lee and Low Books, Inc. 2005. A young boy unites with thousands of other orphaned boys to walk to safety to a refugee

camp in another country after war destroys their villages in southern Sudan. Based on actual events.

*The Bracelet* by Yoshiko Uchida. Philomel Books, NY, 1976. A Japanese-American girl remembers her friends as she leaves home to live in an internment camp during WW II.

\**The Bully of Barkham Street* by Mary Stolz. Harper and Row, 1963. School bully Martin struggles with his reputation—wanting to change but not knowing how.

*The Butter Battle Book* by Dr. Seuss. Random House, 1984. Engaged in a long-running battle, the Yooks and the Zooks develop more and more sophisticated weaponry as they attempt to outdo each other.

*The Butterfly* by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2000. During the Nazi occupation of France, a French girl discovers that a young Jewish girl has been hiding in her cellar.

\**Cecil's Story* by George Ella Lyon. Orchard Books, NY, 1991. A young farm boy faces his fears as his father goes to fight in the Civil War.

*Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco. Philomel Books, 1992. A Jewish girl and two African-American friends win over a shopkeeper and get a sunbonnet for the boys' grandmother.

*Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate* by Janice Cohn. Albert Whitman & Co, 1995. Two families; one Jewish, one Christian; and a community resolve to stand together against hate filled actions in their community. The story is based on real events in Billings, Montana in 1993.

\**Coals of Fire* by Elizabeth Hershberger Bauman. Herald Press, 1954. Seventeen stories from various geographic locations and religions in which people overcame evil with good.

*Copycat: Nature Inspired Design Around the World* by Christy Hale Author and Illust., Lee & Low Books, 2022, nonfiction. Illustrations and photography show how inventors and designers use nature to inspire innovation in new products and technologies. Accompanying narrative written in poetry form called Tanka.

\**Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom* by Jim Tingle. Cingo Puntos Press, c2006. In the 1800's, a Choctaw girl becomes friends with a slave boy from a plantation across the great river, and when she learns that his family is in trouble, she helps them cross to freedom.

*Dad, Jackie, and Me* by Myron Uhlberg. Peachtree, 2005. In Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, a boy learns about discrimination and tolerance as he and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodgers' first baseman, Jackie Robinson.

\**Dad, Why'd You Leave Me?* by Dorothy Fast. Herald Press, 1992. When Ronnie's father dies, he is confused and lonely, and he slowly learns to cope.

*El Deafo* by Cece Bell. Harry N. Abrams, c2014. In this graphic novel, the author recounts her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her “superpower.”

*Erika’s Story* by Ruth Vander Zee, ill. by Roberto Innocenti, Creative Editions, 2003. A Jewish woman tells how as an infant, her mother spared her from the horrors of the holocaust.

\**Desmond Tutu: Bishop of Peace* by Carol Greene. Children’s Press, 1986. A picture story biography about a great South African anti-apartheid leader.

*Every Last Drop: Bringing Clean Water Home* by Michelle Mulder. Orca Book Publishers c2014 - In the developed world, if you want a drink of water, you just turn on a tap or open a bottle. But for millions of families worldwide, finding clean water is a daily challenge, and kids are often the ones responsible for carrying water to their homes. *Every Last Drop* looks at why the world’s water resources are at risk and how communities around the world are finding innovative ways to quench their thirst and water their crops. Maybe you’re not ready to drink fog, as they do in Chile, or use water made from treated sewage, but you can get a low-flush toilet, plant a tree, protect a wetland or just take shorter showers. Every last drop counts!

*Extra Credit* by Andrew Clements. Atheneum, c2009. Three young middle-school-age children, Abby, Amira, and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan and begin to bridge a gap across cultural and religious divides.

*Fire on the Mountain* by Jane Kurtz. Simon & Schuster, 1994. A clever young shepherd boy uses his wits to gain a fortune for himself and his sister from a boastful rich man.

*14 Cows for America* by Carmen Agra Deedy; illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez. Peachtree, 2009. Presents an illustrated tale of a gift of fourteen cows given by the Masai people of Kenya to the U.S. as a gesture of comfort and friendship in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001.

*Freedom Train* by Dorothy Sterling. Scholastic, 1970. A biography of Harriet Tubman, who escaped from slavery, then led others along the same underground railroad.

*Freewater* by Amina Luqman-Dawson, Jimmy Patterson, 2022. Twelve-year old Homer and his sister Ada flee the plantation where they were enslaved and find a home with other escaped slaves in the swamp at Freewater.

*Full Cicada Moon* by Mailyn Hilton. Puffin Books, 2017. In 1969 females were discouraged from an interest in science. That, and Mimi’s mixed race, make it difficult for her to find her place in mostly white Vermont in this novel in verse.

*Gleam and Glow* by Eve Bunting. Harcourt Press, 2001. When Viktor's family has to flee their home, he puts his pet goldfish in their backyard pond hoping they will somehow survive until he can return to care for them.

*The Goat Lady* by Jane Bregoli. Tilbury House, 2004. Tells the story of an elderly French-Canadian woman who lived in Massachusetts and raised goats to provide milk for people who needed it. Heifer Project benefited from her generosity.

*Goin' Somewhere Special* by Patricia McKissack: Atheneum 2001. A young girl visits a special place where all are welcome, regardless of their skin color.

\**The Great Shalom* by Peter J. Dyck. Herald Press, 1990. Another one of Peter's delightful stories shared for young people growing in the Christian faith.

*How to Find What You're Not Looking For* by Veera Hiranandani, Kokila, 2022. As the only Jewish girl in her class, Ariel faces antisemitism on a daily basis and sees how it affects her parent's bakery but when Ariel's older sister elopes with an Indian man named Raj, it opens up Ariel's eyes to her parent's racist beliefs.

*The Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes. Harcourt Brace, 1994. A story about friendships and hurtful teasing.

*If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World's People* by David J. Smith; illustrated by Shelagh Armstrong. Kids Can Press, 2002. Imagine the world as a village of just 100 people. This book tells us who we are, where we live, what languages we speak, and what religions we practice.

\**I'm Sorry Almira Ann* by Jane Kurtz. Henry Holt & Co., 1999. Eight-year-old Sarah's lively spirit helps make her family's long journey from Missouri to Oregon by covered wagon more bearable. But her impulsiveness also causes major trouble for her best friend. Sara finds a way to make it up to her.

*The Jacket* by Andrew Clements. Simon and Schuster, 2002. Sixth-grader Phil comes to an awareness of his own racial prejudice after he sees Daniel, an African-American boy, wearing his brother's one-of-a-kind jacket and leaps to the conclusion that Daniel has stolen the coat.

\**Jacob's Little Giant* by Barbara Smucker. Viking Kestrel, 1987. A family becomes involved an exciting experiment—raising geese to help save them from extinction.

*Jake Drake, Bully Buster* by Andrew Clements; illustrated by Amanda Harvey. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2001. Jake faces the challenge of cooperating with the school bully on a class project.

\**Julia's Words* by Judith L. Roth; illustrated by Brooke Rothshank. Herald Press, 1990. At summer camp, a girl learns to experience the world more fully through all of her senses as her deaf bunkmate, Julia, teaches her to communicate through sign language.

*Just A Dream* by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton Mifflin, 1990. A young boy dreams about a future earth devastated by pollution and then understands the importance of caring for the earth now.

*The Kid Who Changed the World* by Andy Andrews. Thomas Nelson, c2014. Based on true stories, this book shows how ordinary kids can grow up and change the world.

*Lasagna Means I Love You* by Kate O'Shaughnessy, Yearling, 2024. Eleven-year-old Mo's life is upended when she loses her caregiver grandmother. That causes Mo to be put in the foster care system and she is looking for a family to love.

*Leagues Apart: The Men and Times of the Negro Baseball League* by Lawrence S. Ritter. Morrow Jr. Books, 1995. A story of the players in the league and the racism they faced.

\**A Leap of Faith, True Stories for Young and Old* by Peter J. Dyck. Herald Press, 1990. A collection of true stories that are written to inform, motivate and educate.

*The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. When a brother and sister set up competing lemonade stands, they see how arguments can escalate beyond anyone's intent.

\**Lenka of Emma Creek* by Sophia Unruh. Faith & Life Press, 1989. Based on a true story of how a young girl discovered and helped a person treated unkindly by others.

*The Liberation of Gabriel King* by K.L. Going. Putnam's, c2005. Gabriel, a white boy who is being bullied, and Frita, an African-American girl facing prejudice, decide to overcome their many fears together as they enter fifth grade in Georgia in 1976.

\**The Lily Cupboard, A Story of the Holocaust* by Shulamith level Oppenheim. A Trophy Picture Book, 1992. A young Jewish girl is sent into hiding during World War II to live with a non-Jewish farm couple.

\**The Long March: The Choctaw's Gift Irish Famine Relief* by Marie-Louis Fitzpatrick. Tricycle Press, 2001. In 1847, when Choona and his Choctaw tribe hear of the famine in Ireland, they reach out across the ocean to help them.

*A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. Clarion, 2010. When the Sudanese civil war reaches his village in 1985, eleven-year-old Salva becomes separated from his family and must walk with other Dinka tribe members through southern Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya in search of safe haven. Based on the life of Salva Dut, who, after emigrating to America in 1996, began a project to dig water wells in Sudan.

*The Lotus Seed* by Sherry Garland. Harcourt Brace & Co., 1993. A grandmother recalls life in Vietnam and passes along her family's rich heritage to her grandchildren in America.

*Making Waves, Fifty Stories About Sharing Love and Changing the World* by Judy Clemons, ill. by David Leonard. Herald Press, 2020. This book is a showcase of 50 heroes who have stood up for what's right to make the world a better place.

*The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families* by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore. Lee & Low, 2011. With alternating verse and prose passages, this book invites readers to discover how

Dr. Gordon Sato's mangrove tree-planting project transformed an impoverished village into a self-sufficient community.

\**Martha Berry: A Woman of Courageous Spirit and Bold Dreams* by Joyce Blackburn. Peachtree, 1992. A farsighted pioneer in education started a school for underprivileged children in a tiny log cabin in the mountains of Georgia.

\**Martin Luther King: The Peaceful Warrior* by Ed Clayton. Prentice Hall, 1967. The Story of the life and ideas of this famous civil rights leader.

*Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Doreen Rappaport. Jump Sun, 2001. Provides information about King and his crusade for civil rights, as well as a sample of his own powerful words.

*Mascot* by Charles Water, Traci Sorell, Charlesbridge Publishing, 2023. What if a school mascot is seen as racist by some but not by everyone?

*The Medicine Quilt-Inspired by a True Story* by Margaret Doom, Illust. by LaShawn Medicine Horn, Archway, 2021. A small town journeys from anger and mistrust to forgiveness and respect.

\**Mayfield Crossing* by Vaunt Micheaux Nelson. Putnam Publishing, 1993. This is a story about baseball, school, friendships, and overcoming racial differences.

\**The Miracle Tree* by Christobel Mattingley. Harcourt Brace, 1986. A tender sad story, and yet hope is expressed in this peace book.

*Mississippi Morning*-by Ruth Vander Zee, ill. by Floyd Cooper, Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, reprint 2017. In the midst of the great depression, James William has a hard time grasping the harsh reality of the Klan and their hanging tree, until an unexpected encounter brings the issue even closer to home.

*Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine. Philomel, 2010. Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

*Molly's Pilgrim* by Barbara Cohen. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1983. Molly brings her Pilgrim doll to school and the whole third grade learns that it takes all kinds of Pilgrims to make a Thanksgiving.

\**Mother Theresa, Sister to the Poor* by Patrica Reilly Giff. Puffing Books, 1986. A profile of the saint of Calcutta who cared for the starving and homeless whom others had abandoned.

*Mr. Lincoln's Way* by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2001. When Mr. Lincoln, the coolest principal in the whole world, discovers that Eugene the school bully knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

*Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale* by John Steptoe. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1987. One sister is rewarded for her kindness to the people and animals she meets on her journey.

\**My Hiroshima* by Junko Marmoto. Viking, 1987 or Puffin Books, 1992. The author remembers her childhood in Hiroshima, Japan during World War II and surviving the nuclear attack.

*My Name is Maria Isabel* by Alma Flor Ada. Simon & Schuster, 1995. Maria Isabel, born in Puerto Rico and now living in the United States, wants badly to fit in at school, and the teacher's writing assignment "My Greatest Wish" gives her that opportunity.

\**Nathan's Secret* by N Geraldine Plunkett. Brethren Press, 2000. Nathan's father's commitment to God does not allow him to fight in the Civil War. Although he is hiding from conscripts, he risks his life to save a wounded soldier.

*Navajo Long Walk* by Nancy M. Armstrong. Scholastic, 1994. A young Navajo boy, Kee, must travel 300 miles with his family by order of the US cavalry. He makes friends with the Captain's son, but still hopes they will be able to return to their beloved land and way of life.

*Night Boat to Freedom* by Margot Theis Raven. Illustrated by E. B. Lewis. Farrar Straus Giroux Publisher, 2006. Twelve-year-old Christmas John rows escaping slaves across the river from Kentucky to Ohio, and he dreams of the day he and Granny can also make the trip.

*Nour's Secret Library* by Vali Mintzi, Barefoot Books, 2022. When their neighborhood in Damascus, Syria is bombed Nour and Amir begin collecting books for a secret underground library. The library and their brave spirits show hope and resilience in the worst of situations. Based on the author's life experience and inspired by a true story.

*One Grain of Rice* by Demi. Scholastic, 1997. A mathematical tale that has a young peasant girl reminding the Ruler of the benefits of caring for and feeding the people around him.

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper. Simon and Schuster, 2010. Considered by many to be mentally challenged, a brilliant young girl with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that allows her to speak for the first time in her life. At last, she has a voice, but not everyone is ready to hear it.

*Pax* by Sara Pennypacker, ill. by Jon Klassen, Balzer + Bray, 2019. Peter and Pax have been inseparable since Peter rescued Pax as a kit. Now Peter is forced to return Pax to the wild. What will happen to Pax and to Peter?

\**Peace Be With You* by Cornelia Lehn. Faith & Life Press, 1980. But what of peace heroes? This book is filled with stories of heroes from biblical to present day "warriors" who have lived the Christian way of peace.

*\*Peaceful Protest: The Life of Nelson Mandela* by Malcah Zeldis McDonough; illustrations by Malcah Zeldis. Walker, 2002. A biography of the black South African leader who became a civil rights activist, political prisoner, and president of South Africa.

*Peace Tales: World Folktales to Talk About* by Margaret Read MacDonald. Linnet Books, 1992. Stories of peace from around the world.

*Peace, Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson. Putnam's, 2009. When war directly affects the family, 12-year-old Lonnie ("Locomotion") begins to hope and pray for peace and to grapple with its meaning.

*\*A Penny and Two Fried Eggs* by Geraldine Gross Harder. Herald Press, 1991. Exciting stories about Christopher Dock, Christian Krehbeil and others. They had dreams to become leaders in early America.

*People* by Peter Spier. Double Day, 1980. Delightful illustrations with words celebrating the many differences of people around the world.

*A Picture Book of Anne Frank* by David A. Adler. Holiday House, 1994. An introduction to Anne Frank's life story in pictures and an outline of events in her life.

*Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco. Philomel Books, 1994. Two young boys - one black, one white - desert the army during the Civil War. Only one lives to tell of their friendship and dangerous journey.

*\*Pink Paper Swans* by Virginia Kroll. William B. Erdman's Publishing Co., 1994. A young girl learns Japanese paper folding from a woman whose arthritic hands prevent her from doing the work.

*Playing War* by Kathy Beckwith. Tilbury house, 2005. Four neighborhood boys enjoy dividing into soldiers and enemies to play war, but when Sameer, a new boy in the neighborhood tells of losing his family in a real war, they come to feel differently about the game.

*The Pushcart War* by Jean Merrill. Dell, 1987. A light hearted but perceptive satire on war. Pushcarts and giant trucks engage in the streets of New York.

*\*The Queen's Smuggler* by Dave and Neta Jackson. Bethany House, 1991. A thrilling adventure story involving William Tyndale, a Christian hero of the past.

*\*A Quiet Strength* by Amelia Mueller. Faith & Life Press, 1992. The true story of Susana Ruth Krehbiel, a strong and brave woman.

*The Quiltmaker's Gift* by Jeff Brumbeau. Pfeifer Hamilton, 2000. A generous quiltmaker gives only to the poor, so how will the greedy king get one of her quilts? Through a change of heart, of course!

*The Quiltmaker's Journey* by Jeff Brumbeau; ill. by Gail de Marcken. Orchard Books, 2004. Prequel to *The Quiltmaker's Gift*. The quiltmaker grows up wealthy and sheltered, but radically changes her life after she discovers the poverty and need outside her town and finds happiness through giving.

\**Race for Land* by Esther Loewen Vogt. Herald Press, 1992. Arriving from Russia, a Mennonite family participates in the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1893.

*Reign, Rain* by Ann M Martin, Feiwel & Friends c2014 - Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms. She's thrilled that her own name is a homonym, and she purposely gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign, Rein), which, according to Rose's rules of homonyms, is very special. Not everyone understands Rose's "rules" and other things that make her different – not her teachers, not other kids, and not her single father. When a storm hits their rural town, the roads are flooded, and Rain goes missing. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her safe places to search.

*Remember: The Journey to School Integration* by Toni Morrison. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Photographs from the 1950s bring to life the experiences and emotions of the African-American students who were at the center of school integration. The author imagines the thoughts and feelings of some of the people in the pictures to help us understand this time in history.

*Restart* by Gordon Korman, Scholastic, 2018. After Chase falls off a roof and is left with amnesia, he realizes that he had been the biggest bully in school. Now he hopes to reinvent himself but it's hard when most of his acquaintances are afraid of him.

*Rez Dogs* by Joseph Bruchac, Dial Books, 2021. In this novel in verse, Malian was visiting her grandparents on the Penacook Reservation when shelter in place orders are given for COVID-19. So she makes the best of the extended amount of time with her grandparents while her parents are back home in Boston, doing school online, listening to the stories of the old ways, enjoying traditional foods, and making friends with a protector dog.

\**Rosa Parks, My Story* by Rosa Parks. Deal, 1992. Rosa's courage and extraordinary life show many accomplishments.

*Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr. Putnam, 1977. Sadako is a Japanese heroine who died at age twelve of leukemia as a result of radioactivity after an atom bomb was dropped on the city of Hiroshima.

*Sara, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan, Harper Collins, 1985. Sara answers an ad in the newspaper and moves from Maine to a prairie home. Happiness comes with hope and a loving family.

*Saving Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Simon and Schuster, 1999. The last in the trilogy. The boy and Shiloh help Jeb by compassionate caring and receive help from Jeb in return.

\**Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt* by Barbara Sucker. Crown Publishers, 1996. Selina's family's Mennonite religion forbids them to go to war so they must leave their home in Pennsylvania and flee to Canada.

*Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation* by Duncan Tonatiuh. Harry N. Abrams, c2014. Years before the US Supreme Court ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*, Sylvia Mendez, an eight-year-old of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in a landmark 1946 California desegregation case.

\**Shalom At Last* by Peter J. Dyck. Herald Press, 1992. Sequel to *Great Shalom* in which the forest animals make a real peace with Mr. Farmer and a happy ending results.

*Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Dell, 1992. A heartwarming story about a lost beagle and his search for a good home.

*Shiloh Season* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Simon and Schuster, 1996. A sequel to *Shiloh*. The boy uses his dog Shiloh to begin a friendship with Jeb, who had mistreated Shiloh.

*Sit-in: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down* by Andrea Davis Pinkney; illustrated by Brian Pinkney. Little Brown, 2009. Tells the story of four young men who followed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s words of peaceful protest and dared to sit at the "whites only" Woolworths lunch counter.

*Smoky Night* by Eve Bunting. Harcourt Brace, 1994. When riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood in Los Angeles, a young boy and his mother learn the value of getting along with others no matter what their nationality.

*Spy for the Night Rider* by David and NEA Jackson. Bethany House Publisher, 1992. A biography of Martin Luther written through the eyes of a young person.

\**Starting School with an Enemy* by Elisa Carbone. Cloonfad Press, 2005. (available directly from publisher: [www.cloonfadpress.com](http://www.cloonfadpress.com)) Worried about finding friends when's he moves to a new school, ten-year-old Sarah gets off to a bad start by making an enemy of a boy, but with help, works out a solution to the conflict.

\**Storytime Jamboree* by Peter J. Dyck. Herald Press, 1994. Bible stories portrayed by animals: of peace, fairness, and living out the faith.

*Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt* by Deborah Hopkinson. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1993. A young slave girl stitches a quilt with a map pattern which guides her to freedom in the north.

*Swords to Plowshares: The Creation of John P. Klassen's MCC Medallion* by Lisa Weaver; designed by Allison King; illustrated by Amanda Huston. Lion and Lamb Peace Arts Center of Bluffton, Ohio, 2014. (Available at <http://bluffton.edu/lionlamb>). This book shares the true story of Klassen gathering bullets scattered throughout his village in the Ukraine in the 1920's and transforming them into a work of art, told through the eyes of young Isaak. Through his artistic

gift, Klassen shares a message of transformation: bullets to bread, violence to peace, fear to courage, and despair to hope.

*Sylvia & Aki* by Winifred Conkling. Tricycle Press 2011. At the start of World War II, Japanese-American third-grader Aki and her family are sent to an internment camp in Poston, Arizona, while Mexican-American third-grader Sylvia's family leases their Orange County, California, farm and begins a fight to stop school segregation.

*The Table Where Rich People Sit* by Byrd Baylor. Macmillan Publishing, 1994. Mountain Girl's parents help her understand that although they do not have lots of money, they are rich in the things that matter, like seeing sunsets every day and hearing coyotes.

*Tale of Three Trees Retold* by Angela Elwell Hunt. David C. Cook c.1914. Featuring the wonderful illustrations of Tim Jonke, this best-selling children's book tells the Easter story from a new and unusual point of view. Children will be deeply touched as they understand, perhaps for the first time, the significance of Christ's life and his atoning sacrifice on the cross.

*The Talk* by Alicia D. Williams, Illust. by Briana Mukodiri Uchendu, Atheneum, 2022. As a cute little boy, Jay's favorite things are having fun with his family and friends but as he grows bigger his parents and grandparents worry about how his community will perceive him as a black youth and have to talk to him about things to be aware of and behaviors to avoid. Thought provoking for all races.

*Talking Walls* by Margy Burns Knight. Tilbury House Publishers, 1992. An illustrated description of walls around the world, from the Great Wall of China to the Berlin Wall, and information about their significance.

*Teammates* by Peter Golenbock, illustrator Paul Bacon c. 1990 HMH Books for Young Readers. The moving story of how Jackie Robinson became the first black player on a Major League baseball team when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in the 1940s. On a fateful day in Cincinnati, Pee Wee Reese took a stand and declared Jackie his teammate. Illustrated with a blend of historic photographs and striking watercolors.

\**Ted Studebaker: A Man Who Loved Peace* by Joy Hofacker Moore. Herald Press, 1987. The true story of a young conscientious objector from Ohio who went to Vietnam during the Vietnam War, not as a soldier, but as an agricultural worker.

*Tiger Boy* by Mitali Perkins and Jamie Hogan. Charlesbridge, c2015. Neel races to find the escaped tiger cub before the poachers.

\**A Toad for Tuesday* by Russel Erickson. Beech Tree Books, 1974. An owl plans to keep and eat a toad he caught for a birthday meal, but then a wonderful thing happens.

*Train to Somewhere* by Eve Bunting, illustrator Ronald Himler c. 1996, 2000 HMH Books for Young Readers. Historical fiction. Marianne, heading west in the 1920s with fourteen other children on an Orphan Train, is sure her mother will show up at one of the stations along the

way. Stop after stop goes by, and there's no sign of her mother in the crowds that come to look over the children. No one shows any interest in adopting shy, plain Marianne, either. Then the train pulls into its final stop, a town called Somewhere in Iowa, where her new life begins, and hope and faith sustain her.

*Treasure Hunt: A Shenandoah Valley Mystery* by Eunice Geil Smith. Herald Press, 2006. An old diary hidden in the cellar leads Maggie to learn more about her family's actions in the Civil War and their decision to be peaceful Mennonites.

*Troublemaker* by Andrew Clements. Atheneum, 2011. When his older brother gets in serious trouble, sixth grader Clay decides to change his own mischief-making ways, but he cannot seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.

*Uncle Jed's Barbershop* by Marjorie King Mitchel. Simon & Schuster, 1993. Despite some serious obstacles and setbacks, Sara Jean's Uncle Jed, the only black barber in the county, pursues his dream of opening his own barbershop.

*Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen* by Dyanne DiSalvo Ryan. Morrow Junior Books, 1991. A boy spends a day with Uncle Willie at the soup kitchen where he works preparing food for the hungry.

*Walking With Jesus: Stories About Real People Who Return Good For Evil* by Mary Clemens Meyer. Herald Press, 1992. A collection of twenty short stories.

*The Wall* by Eve Bunting. Clarion Books, 1990. A boy and his father visit the Vietnam War Memorial to find the boy's grandfather's name.

\**The War* by Anais Vaugelade. Carolrhoda Books, Inc., 2001. Prince Favian does not want to fight his father's war so he is sent into exile where he devises a clever plan to trick the Reds and Blues into stopping their war.

*We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball* by Kadir Nelson. Little Brown Books for Young Readers, 2008. The story of the Negro Leagues is the story of many players who persisted through incredible discrimination and hardships to play baseball.

*Wish Tree* by Katherine Applegate, illustrator Charles Santoso c. 2017 Feiwel Friends. Red, an oak tree who is many rings old, is the neighborhood "wishtree"—people write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches. You might say Red has seen it all, until a new family moves in. Not everyone is welcoming, and Red's experiences as a wishtree are more important than ever.

*White Bird: A Wonder Story* by RJ Palacio, Knopf Book for Young Readers, 2019, Graphic Novel. A character from the book *Wonder*, Grandmere tells of her Jewish girlhood in German occupied France and of being protected by the classmate she helped bully.

\**The White Feather* by Ruth Eitzen. Herald Press, 1995. Based on a true story experience near Cincinnati, Ohio in the early 1800's, this is the story of a Quaker family who lived their peace convictions by treating the Indians as friends and equals.

*A Wolf at the Gate* by Mark Van Steenwyck; illustrated by Joel Hedstrom. Mennonite Worker, 2015. An imaginative retelling of the legend of St. Francis and the Wolf. Red Wolf hates humankind for destroying the forest, but an encounter with a humble beggar teaches her a better way to confront injustice.

*The World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney. Putnam's, 2004. Told from the point of view of Humphrey, the classroom pet hamster, this story could lead to a discussion of how we all make a contribution to learning if we see the needs of those around us. Humphrey's views underscore the importance of knowing the full story before making judgments, and his presence makes a positive difference in the lives of the people he meets.

*The Wump World* by Bill Peet. Houghton Mifflin, c1970. The Wump World is an unspoiled place until huge monsters bring hordes of tiny creatures from the planet Pollutus.

*The Yellow Star* by Carmen Agra Deedy. Peachtree Publishers, 2000. The story of how King Christian of Denmark led his people in civil disobedience by wearing the yellow star so that the occupying Nazi army could not tell who was a Jew and who was not.

## Grades Six through Eight

*After Ever After* by Jordan Sonnenblick. Scholastic, 2010. Jeffrey has been cancer-free for five years, but he and his friend Tad still have to cope with the emotional and physical aftermath of childhood cancer.

*Aleutian Sparrow* by Karen Hesse. McElderry, 2005. An Aleutian Islander recounts her suffering during World War II in American internment camps designed to “protect” the population from the invading Japanese.

*Anything But Typical* by Nora Raleigh Baskin. Simon and Shuster, 2009. Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.

\**Assassins in the Cathedral* by Dave and Neta Jackson. Bethany House, 1999. A young Ugandan Christian boy learns the strength of loving enemies through tragedy in his family and the love of his church leaders during the terrible reign of Idi Amin.

*The Attack of the Black Rectangles* by Amu Sarag King, Scholastic, 2022. Mac and his classmates discover that passages of their classroom read holocaust book “The Devil’s Arithmetic” by Jane Yolen are blacked out and wonder who did it and why.

*Belle Teal* by Ann M. Martin. Scholastic, 2001. A young white girl witnesses the integration of her public school in the early 1960's and realizes the importance of reaching out to others, even when it is difficult.

\**The Betrayer’s Fortune* by Dave and Neta Jackson. Bethany House Publishers, 1994. In Antwerp, Belgium in 1543 after his mother is arrested as a heretic, 15-year-old Adrien Wens flees with the Anabaptist preacher Menno Simons and must decide whether or not to turn Simons in to save his mother from death.

\**Blizzards Wake* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Atheneum, 2002. A survival story is combined with a teenage girl’s struggle to overcome hatred and learn to forgive.

*Blue Jasmine* by Kashmira Sheth. Hyperion, 2004. When twelve-year-old Seema moves to Iowa City with her parents and younger sister, she leaves friends and family behind in her native India but gradually begins to feel at home in her new country.

*Breaking Through* by Francisco Jimenez. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. In this sequel to *The Circuit*, we learn about the prejudice and challenges a migrant family faces as they try to improve their lives and get an education.

*Breakout* by Kate Messner, Bloomsbury Childrens, 2018. Through letters, poems, text messages, news stories and comics, three middle schoolers discuss how they and the people in their town change when two inmates break out of the nearby maximum-security prison.

*The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare. Houghton Mifflin, 1961. This novel traces Daniel Bar Jamin's contact with Jesus and how it transforms his life.

\**The Christmas Surprise* by Ruth Nulton Moore. Herald Press, 1989. Indians burn her home, kill her parents and take her brother captive. Kate is taken by her uncle Josh to the Moravian town of Bethlehem, PA, here she experiences the love of peace and friendship for all people.

*The Circuit* by Francisco Jimenez. Houghton Mifflin, 1999. Tells of a migrant family's experiences moving through labor camps and facing poverty, and discusses how they endure through faith, hope, and back-breaking work.

\**Color Me Dark* by Patricia McKissack. Scholastic, 2000. Like many other African American's, Nellie Lee's family moves north in search of a better life, hoping to escape the racism of the rural south and take advantage of opportunities in the city.

*Counting by 7's* by Holly Goldberg Sloan, Puffin Books, reprint 2014. Willow Chance is a 12-year-old genius, with her own unique obsessions and quirks. She really only connected well with her parents but now that they have both died in a car accident, read this book to see how Willow copes with her grief, finds a new family and triumphs in this baffling world.

*Crash* by Jerry Spinelli. Knopf Books for Young Readers. 1996. "Crash" has always been comfortable with his aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship.

\**Dakota Sons* by Audrey Distad. Harper & Row, 1972. The story of a boy who finds out what friendship really means in the setting of American Indian life.

*Darby* by Jonathon Scott Fuqua. Candlewick Press, 2002. Darby stirs up strong emotions in her small South Carolina town when she writes a story for the local newspaper promoting racial equality.

\**The Day Pearl Harbor was Bombed—a Photo History of WWII* by George Sullivan. Scholastic Books, 1991. A documentary containing historical photos and information about the Second World War.

*Dinged* by Tommy Greenwald, Amulet Books, 2022. A high school star football player deals with his former star football player dad's erratic behavior and weighs the value of sports hero glory over permanent physical damage.

*Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings, A Memoir* by Margarita Engle. Atheneum, 2015. Margarita tells of growing up during a time of hostility between the two countries that are home and the cultures she loves.

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan. Scholastic, 2000. Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers.

*Everything Sad is Untrue: (A True Story)* by Daniel Nayeri, Levine Querido, 2020. Khosrou, whom his Oklahoman classmates call Daniel, stands before his class to tell stories of his former life in Iran, of fleeing in the middle of the night, of life in an Italian refugee camp and of adjusting to his new life in the United States. The reader is left with hope and the knowledge that there is a God who loves us.

*Farther Than the Moon* by Lindsay Lackey, Square Fish, 2025. Two brothers dream of being astronauts but one brother has cerebral palsy. Includes lots of space travel information.

*The Fighting Ground* by Avi. Harper & Row, 1984. The reader follows one day in the life of Jonathan, a Revolutionary War 13-year-old, as his view of war changes.

*Finding Anna Bee* by Cindy Snider. Herald Press, c2007. Anna Bee and her new friends at Camp Amani Ya Juu discover a mysterious bridge to the past where their adventures teach them first-hand about Christian faith heroes - and about themselves, each other, and the way of peace.

*Fish* by L. S. Matthews. Delacorte, 2004. Like the guide who looks out for Tiger's family as he leads them to safety, Tiger, a young child, protects a fish rescued before the family flees a war-torn country.

*Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt. Penguin Random House c2015 very time she lands in a new school, Ally is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of.

*The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle* by Victoria Williamson, Kelpies, 2018. Syrian immigrant Reema runs to remember the life she left behind, Glaswegian neighbor Caylin runs to find what she's lost and together they form a shaky friendship over hiding an injured fox and her cubs.

\**The Fragile Flag* by Jane Langton. Harper Collins, 1984. Georgie knew she had to march from her home in Massachusetts to Washington, DC with her fragile flag and her letter to the president. A serious, funny, crisis-jammed story.

\**Friends and Enemies* by Luann Gaeddart. Antheneum Books, 2000. In 1941 in Kansas, as America enters WWII, 14-year-old William finds himself alienated from his friend Jim, a Mennonite who does not believe in fighting for any reason and refuses to support the war effort in any way.

\**Gideon's People* by Carolyn Meyer. Gulliver Books, 1996. Two boys, one Jewish and the other Amish, face youthful rebellion against their traditional heritage and find similarities between the two religions.

*Global: One Fragile World. An Epic Fight for Survival* by Eoin Colfer, Andrew Donkin, Illust. by Giovanni Rigano, Sourcebooks, 2023. This graphic novel tells the parallel stories of Sami and his grandfather who live on the Indian Ocean and are finding it more and more difficult to earn their living by fishing, and Yuki who lives in northern Canada where warming temperatures are melting the ice causing Polar bears to come into town to search for food.

\**Grab Hands and Run* by Francis Temple. Orchard Books, 1993. A boy, his younger sister and their mother make the dangerous journey north to Canada from El Salvador after the boy's father disappears and is presumed murdered by government soldiers.

*Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson. Delacorte, 2004. Sixteen-year-old Hattie Brooks, who inherits her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana in 1917 while the U. S. is at war, encounters anti-German bias that endangers her new friends.

*Henry's Red Sea* by Barbara Smucker. Herald Press, 1955. A Mennonite history story of people fleeing homes and villages in Russia for new beginnings. The story of Mennonite Central Committee, Peter and Elfrieda Dyck, and the miracle of deliverance to freedom.

*House Arrest* by K. A. Holt, Chronicle Books, 2016. Timothy is a good kid who did a bad thing and now he's under house arrest for a whole year. This novel in verse tells about his experiences with his sick younger brother, missing father, overwhelmed mother and how he tries to help and cope.

*How Many Days to America?* by Eve Bunting. Houghton Mifflin, 1990. A modern Thanksgiving story in which a boatload of Caribbean refugees wonders if they will make it to America and how they feel when they arrive.

*I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick. Young Readers Edition. Little Brown 2014. At the age of fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price for her desire to be educated. Malala has become the global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

*Illegal* by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin. Illustrated by Giovanni Rigano. Sourcebooks Young Readers, 2018. In this graphic novel Ebo travels alone from Ghana on a hazardous journey in an attempt to reunite with his brother and sister and find a better life in Europe.

\**Jim Thorpe, 20th Century Jock* by Robert Lisyte. Harper Collins, 1993. A biography of an outstanding Native American Athlete.

*Journey to Jo'burg* by Beverly Naidoo. Harper & Row, 1986. Thirteen-year-old Naledi and her nine-year-old brother, Tiro, travel by themselves through more than 300 kilometers of South African countryside to save their baby sister.

*The Land I Lost; Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam* by Huynh Quang Nhuong. Harper Collins, 1982. The true story of a Vietnamese boy describes the tragedy caused by conflict.

*Linked* by Gordon Korman, Scholastic, 2021. When a swastika shows up on the wall of the middle school students are shocked and wonder who put it there. Media attention and finger-pointing follow as more swastikas appear and crimes of the past and present are probed for answers. As this tears the town apart, one group of students tries to bring people together

*Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy* by Gary D. Schmidt. Clarion, c2004. In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine. Things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a nearby poor island community founded by former slaves, which the town fathers - and Turner's - want to change into a tourist spot.

\**A Long Way from Home* by Marueen Crane Wartski. Westminster, 1982. A Holocaust survivor recounts her liberation from a Nazi concentration camp, her search for surviving family members, and her struggle to reach America.

*Louder than Hunger* by John Schu, Candlewick Press, 2024. In this novel in verse, 13-year-old Jake is bullied at school which triggers an eating disorder. The book is based on the author's experiences and emotions living in residential treatment facilities as a young teen with an eating disorder.

*A Mango-shaped Space* by Wendy Mass. Little Brown, 2005. Mia lives with synesthesia, an unusual condition she keeps a secret until 8th grade. When her condition makes learning impossibly confusing, she must go to her parents and a doctor for help.

*Maniac McGee* by Jerry Spinelli. Little Brown & Co. 1990. After his parents died his life changed and he became a legend. Kids still talk about how fast he could run and his fame at untangling a knot.

*March Forward by Girl: From Young Warrior to Little Rock Nine* by Melba Pattillo Beals. Illustrated by Frank Morrison. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018. Long before she was one of the Little Rock Nine, Melba had questions about the rules that kept African Americans separate and unequal from whites.

*Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani, Puffin Books, c2019. Twelve-year-old Nisha writes letters to her deceased mother describing her life as a refugee in 1947 following India's independence from Britain.

*Nowhere Boy* by Katherine Marsh, Square Fish, reprint 2020. Ahmed is struggling alone in Brussels, Belgium as a refugee from Syria. He meets Max from Washington DC, who is in Brussels with his family but struggling in this new culture and school.

*Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry. Dell, 1992. Somehow Anymore must find strength and courage to save her best friend's life in 1943 as Nazi soldiers march through towns and the war progresses. Life in Copenhagen, Denmark is experienced with food shortages and many changes.

\**Oasis of Peace* by Laurie and Ben Dolphin. Scholastic, 1993. Two Israeli boys, one Jewish and one Muslim meet at school and learn about each other's cultures and ways of life. They confront their fears and develop a bond of respect and friendship.

*Off to War: Voices of Soldiers' Children* by Deborah Ellis. Groundwood Books, 2008. A collection of essays in which the children of Canadian and American soldiers who have been sent to war in Iraq share their feelings on their fathers' experiences and the impact they have had on their family.

*On Fire For Christ* by Dave and Neta Jackson. Herald Press, 1989. A collection of stories about Anabaptist martyrs.

*The Only Road* by Alexandra Diaz, Simon & Schuster, 2016. Inspired by true events, this is the story of a boy who feels that leaving home and everything he knows is his only chance for not only a better life, but to live and the treacherous journey he takes to get there.

*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hess c. 1997, 2005 Scholastic Inc. When Billie Jo is just fourteen, she must endure heart-wrenching ordeals, but the quiet strength she displays is as surprising as it is inspiring. Written in free verse, this award-winning story is set in the heart of the Great Depression and chronicles Oklahoma's staggering dust storms, and the environmental--and emotional--turmoil they leave in their path.

*Petey* by Ben Mikaelson. Hyperion, 1998. Through his friendship with Petey, whose cerebral palsy was misdiagnosed in his youth and who has spent his lifetime in institutions, a young teen learns that everyone deserves respect and dignity.

*Plant a Seed of Peace* by Rebecca Seiling. Herald Press, c2007. Forty-three illustrated stories of peacemakers from today and the past that tell of people whose lives point to something beyond themselves - a transforming faith in God.

*Project Mulberry* by Linda Sue Park. Clarion, 2005. Julia, a Korean-American, and her friend Patrick learn about tolerance, friendship, and patience while working together on a project about silkworms.

*Radical Jesus: A Graphic History of Faith* edited by Paul Buhle et. al. c. 2013 Herald Press. This is arguably the first modern effort to convey through comic art the meaning of Jesus and his social message, not just in his own time, but also in the Radical Reformation, recent centuries, and in our own time.

\**The Ramsay Scallop* by Francis Temple. Orchard Books, 1994. A betrothed young girl and young man in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century are sent by the village priest on a mission for the village. They learn each other's strengths and how to work together.

*Refugee* by Alan Gratz, Scholastic Press, 2017. Josef is a Jewish boy trying to escape with his family from Nazi Germany in the 1930's, Isabel is trying to escape from Cuba with her family in

1994, and Mahmoud is trying to escape from Syria with his family in 2015. Chapters alternate between the experiences of the three.

*Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor. Dial Books 1991. During the 1930's the Logan family children struggle to understand and do not accept the disparities they face in their school and everyday lives compared to the white school and community.

*Rules* by Cynthia Lord. Scholastic 2006. Frustrated by life with an autistic brother, Catherine longs for a normal existence, but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

\**Runaway to Freedom, a story of the Underground Railroad* by Barbara Smucker. Harper Collins, 1979. Two young slave girls escape from a plantation and wind a hazardous route toward freedom. Also published as *Underground to Canada*.

\**Running on Eggs* by Anna Levine. Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999. When Karen and Yasmine become friends while members of a mixed Arab and Jewish track team, their family and friends disapprove. But the girls hold on to their friendship and the others learn from it.

\**Sarah's Summer* by Naomi R. Stucky. Herald Press, 1990. A gentle story of everyday life in a Hutterite Colony.

\**The Second Bend in the River* by Ann Rinaldi. Scholastic Press, 1997. An historical romantic novel about a friendship between a white pioneer girl and a powerful Indian chief.

*Shades of Gray* by Carolyn Reeder. Macmillan, 1989. Fiercely loyal to the Confederate cause, twelve-year-old Will has lost all his immediate family in the Civil War and goes to live with his aunt and her family. There he learns that although Uncle Jed refused to fight, he is not a coward or a traitor.

*The Shepherd's Grand-daughter* by Anne Laurel Carter. Groundwood Books, 2008. Amani, whose lifelong dream is to be a shepherd like her beloved grandfather, Seedo, is devastated to discover that the Israelis are going to build a settlement on the family homestead in Palestine. But while her uncle and brother prepare to take a militant stance, help comes from unexpected sources.

*Silver People: Voices From the Panama Canal* by Margarita Engle. Houghton Mifflin, c2014. Fourteen-year-old Mateo and other Caribbean islanders face discrimination, segregation, and harsh working conditions when American recruiters lure them to the Panamanian rain forest in 1906 to build the great canal.

*Six Million Paper Clips: The Making Of A Children's Holocaust Memorial* by Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand and Peter W. Schroeder. Kar-Ben Copies Ltd. c2004 describes the efforts of middle school students from the rural Tennessee town of Whitwell to create a Holocaust memorial, based on a collection of millions of paper clips intended to represent all of the victims exterminated by the Nazis.

*So B. It* by Sarah Weeks. Laura Geringer Books, 2004. After spending her life with her mentally disabled mother and being helped by their next-door neighbor's loving attention, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out on a cross-country trip to find out who she is.

*Souder* by William H. Armstrong. Harper & Row, 1969. This classic story tells what it is like to be poor, cold, and starving while your father is in jail.

*Squint* by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown. Shadow Mountain, c2018. Two new friends learn to trust each other and discover what matters most while dealing with their own challenges.

*Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli. Scholastic c2000. A teen with a colorful personality, Stargirl, suddenly finds herself shunned because of her refusal to conform.

\**The Storyteller's Beads* by Jane Kurtz. Harcourt Brace, 1998. Two Ethiopian girls face hardships and overcome prejudices in order to survive as they flee famine and war.

\**The Story of My Life: An Afghan Girl on the Other Side of the Sky* by Farah Ahmedi. Farah, the victim of a land mine accident when she was a child, tells about her childhood in Afghanistan, a country trapped in war throughout her entire life. She discusses the challenges she has faced as a result of losing her leg, and in trying to adapt to living in the United States.

*Sugar* by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Little Brown, c 2013. In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where a spunky girl named Sugar has always lived. Here is a story of unlikely friendships and how they can change our lives forever.

*Summer of My German Soldier* by Bette Greene. Dial Press, 1973. The story of an unlikely friendship between a twelve-year-old Jewish girl and an escaped German POW from an Arkansas camp during the 1940's.

*Taste of Salt: A Story of Modern Haiti* by Frances Temple. Orchard Books, 1992. Djo, a seventeen-year-old boy, tells his life story from a hospital bed after being beaten by government thugs. Jeremie listens and also tells her story. They both worked for Father (and later President) Aristide.

*Thin Wood Walls* by David Patneaude. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, Joe Hanada and his family face growing prejudice, eventually being torn away from their home and sent to a relocation camp in California, even as his older brother joins the U.S. Army to fight in the war

*Threads* by Ami Polonsky. Chicken House c2009. *To Whom It May Concern: Please, we need help!* The day twelve-year-old Clara finds a desperate note in a purse in Bellman's department store, she is still reeling from the death of her adopted sister, Lola. Meanwhile, on the other side of the world, thirteen-year-old Yuming has lost hope that the note she stashed in the purse will ever be found. She may be stuck sewing in the pale pink factory outside of Beijing forever. Clara grows more and more convinced that she was meant to find Yuming's note. Lola would have wanted her to do something about it. But how can Clara talk her parents, who are also in

mourning, into going on a trip to China? Finally, the time comes when Yuming weighs the options, measures the risk, and attempts a daring escape.

*Three Cups of Tea: Young Reader's Edition* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Dial, 2009. Adapts for young readers Greg Mortenson's book in which he recounts the experiences he had while trying to help impoverished villages in Pakistan's Himalaya build schools for their children.

*Trouble* by Gary D. Schmidt. Clarion, 2008. Fourteen-year-old Henry, wishing to honor his brother Franklin's dying wish, sets out to hike Maine's Mount Katahdin with his best friend and dog, but fate adds another companion – the Cambodian refugee accused of fatally injuring Franklin – and reveals troubles that predate the accident.

*The Trouble with Heroes* by Kate Messner, Bloomsbury Children's, 2025. Wrestling with grief and anger since the death of his father, 13-year-old Finn makes restitution and experiences the healing power of nature by attempting to climb 46 mountain peaks by Labor Day.

\**To Life* by Ruth Minsky Sender. Puffin, 1990. A Holocaust survivor recounts her liberation from a Nazi concentration camp, her search for surviving family members and her struggle to reach America.

\**Tree Tall and the Whiteskins* by Shirlee Evans. Herald Press, 1985. An Indian boy in frontier Oregon has his first encounter with white people and from one family learns to know Jesus and the Jesus way.

*Under the Same Sky* by Cynthia DeFelice. Farrar Straus & Girous, 2003. While trying to earn money, a teen-aged boy becomes involved with the Mexicans who work on his family's farm. A thought-provoking book on the role and rights of migrant workers in the U.S.

*Views from Our Shoes: Growing Up with a Brother or Sister with Special Needs*; edited by Donald J. Meyer, illustrator Cary Pillo c. 1997 Woodbine House. Forty-five siblings, ages four to eighteen, share their experiences as the brother or sister of someone with a disability: autism, cerebral palsy, development delays, ADD, hydrocephalus, visual and hearing impairments, Down and Tourette syndromes. Their personal stories introduce young people to others like them, perhaps for the first time, and allow them to compare experiences. A glossary of disabilities provides easy--to—understand definitions of many of the conditions mentioned.

*The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* by Russell Freedman. Clarion Books 2004. Tells the life story of singer Marian Anderson, describing her famous 1939 Lincoln Memorial performance.

\**Waiting for the Rain: A Novel of South Africa* by Sheila Gordon. Orchard Books, 1987. The story covers nine years in the lives of two friends—one black and one white—and the conflicts imposed on them by their cultures.

*The War Game* by Michael Foreman. Arcade Publishing, 1993. Some soldiers form friendships with "the enemy" in World War I.

*The Well: David's Story* by Mildred Taylor. Dial Books, 1995. When the wells run dry an African American family shares their well with all neighbors, including whites, who are not happy about the situation.

\**Winnie Mandela, the Soul of South Africa* by Milton Meltzer. Viking, 1986. Winnie Mandela has endured hardship and banishment to challenge her nation's racist policies.

*White Rose* by Kip Wilson. Versify, c2019. This is the true story of a young nonviolent resister to Nazis during World War II, told in poetry form.

*With the Might of Angels: The Diary of Dawnie Rae Johnson Hadley, Virginia 1954* by Andrea Davis Pinkney. Scholastic, 2011. Dear America Series. In the year 1955 in the state of Virginia, twelve-year-old Dawnie Rae, a tomboy who excels at baseball and at her studies, becomes the first African American student to attend the all-white Prettyman Coburn school, turning her world upside down.

*The Witness* by Karen Hesse. Scholastic Press, 2001. In a series of poems, people in a small Vermont town tell their story of how the KKK came and went.

*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. Knopf 2012. Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a middle school, which entails enduring the taunts and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

*Words by Heart* by Ouida Sebestyan. Bantam Books, 1981. A young black girl learns that winning a scripture memory contest may not overcome racial prejudices.

*Zlata's Diary, A Child's Life in Sarajevo* by Zlata Filipovic. Viking, 1994. A teenage girl chronicles her life while there is a war in her country and city.