

Perseverance Character Education Theme

This bibliography was compiled by Shirley Lukenbill, Librarian, Wooldridge Elementary School, slukenbi@austinisd.org. In order to continue to add to this bibliography, Shirley would appreciate if you would email her if you find additional resources that we could add to this list of resources.

Adler, David. ***America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle***. Harcourt, 2000.

ISBN: 0152019693. (Nonfiction, Biography) \$16.00. (Ages 5-9)

Publisher's Note: Trudy Ederle loved to swim. And she was determined to be the best. At seventeen Trudy won three medals at the 1924 Olympics, in Paris. By the time she turned nineteen, Trudy had set twenty-nine U.S. and world records. But what she planned to do next had never been done--by a woman. She would tackle the most difficult swim of all time: the twenty-one miles of cold, choppy water that separate England from France. Trudy's historic fourteen-hour swim across the English Channel set a world record. She defied those who said it couldn't be done. And with her courage and endurance, Trudy Ederle became a symbol for women everywhere.

Aesop. ***The Hare and the Tortoise***, illus. by Carol Jones. Walter Lorraine Books, 1996.

ISBN: 0395813689. (Nonfiction, Fable) \$13.95. (Ages 5-8)

Sure of winning the race with a tortoise, a hare dawdles about to make it more fun. Full-page illustrations alternate with pages of text that have holes through which portions of the illustrated pages appear.

_____. ***The Tortoise and the Hare***, illus. by Janet Stevens. Holiday House, 1984. ISBN: 0823405109 (Nonfiction, Fable) (Ages 5-7) \$16.95.

Recounts the race between the boastful hare and the persevering tortoise.

Avi. ***The Secret School***. Harcourt, 2001. ISBN: 0152163751 \$16.00 (Ages 9-12)

Publisher's Note: More than anything, Ida Bidson wants to become a teacher. To do that, she must finish eighth grade, then go on to high school. But her dream falters when the one-room school in her remote Colorado town shuts down. Her only hope is to keep the school open without anyone finding out. Yet even a secret school needs a teacher. Ida can't be it. . . . Or can she?

Bruchac, Joseph. ***The Faithful Hunter : Abenaki Stories*** Greenfield Review Press, 1988.

ISBN: 0912678755 (paperback) \$10.75

Presents a collection of twelve Wabanaki stories based on the theme of relationships and relations.

Burton, Virginia Lee. ***Katy and the Big Snow***. Houghton Mifflin, 1972. ISBN: 0395181550

(Library binding) \$16.00 (Ages 4-8)

Publisher's Note: Katy, a brave and untiring tractor, who pushes a bulldozer in the summer and a snowplow in the winter, makes it possible for the townspeople to do their jobs.

_____. ***Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel***. Houghton Mifflin, 1976. ISBN: 0395169615. \$16.00. (Ages 4-8)

Editor's Note: Although steam shovels are being replaced by more modern machines, Mike Mulligan refuses to consign his beloved Mary Anne to the junk heap. Desperate for work, Mike promises to dig the cellar of Popperville's new town hall in just one day--or go without pay. All the townsfolk gather to watch Mike and Mary Anne in their race against the sun. They win, but in his haste, Mike forgets a very important detail. First published in 1939, this classic is full of informative illustrations, including a diagram of a steam shovel.

Carle, Eric. ***The Very Clumsy Click-Beetle***. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1999.

ISBN: 039923201X \$21.99 (Ages 3-7)

A clumsy young click beetle learns to land on its feet with encouragement from various animals and a wise old beetle. An electronic chip with a built-in battery creates clicking sounds to accompany the story.

Clement, Andrew. ***School Story***. Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0689825943. \$16.00 (Ages 9-11)
After twelve-year-old Natalie writes a wonderful novel, her friend Zoe helps her devise a scheme to get it accepted at the publishing house where Natalie's mother works as an editor.

Coerr, Eleanor. ***Sadako***, illustrated by Ed Young. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1993. ISBN: 0399217711. (Nonfiction, Biography) \$17.99. (Ages 5-9)
Hospitalized with the dreaded atom bomb disease, leukemia, a child in Hiroshima races against time to fold one thousand paper cranes to verify the legend that by doing so a sick person will become healthy.

_____. ***Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes***, illustrated by Ronald Himler. 25th anniversary ed. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 2002. ISBN: 0399237992. (Nonfiction, Biography) \$16.99 (Ages 6-10)
Hospitalized with the dreaded atom bomb disease, leukemia, a child in Hiroshima races against time to fold one thousand paper cranes to verify the legend that by doing so a sick person will become healthy.

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Because of Winn-Dixie***. Candlewick Press, 2000. ISBN: 0763607762. \$15.99 (Ages 8-12)
Publisher's Note: Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Falconer, Ian. ***Olivia Saves the Circus***. Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 068982954X. \$16.95. (Ages 5-7)
Publisher's Note: At school, Olivia tells about her summer vacation and how, when she went to the circus and all the performers were out sick, she saved the day, becoming Olivia the Tattooed Lady, Olivia the Lion Tamer, The Amazing Flying Olivia, and more.

Funke, Caroline. ***Princess Knight***. Scholastic, 2004. ISBN: 0439536308. \$15.95 (Ages 5-8)
Violetta is a small and spirited young princess who wants to be treated like her big brothers, who are training to be knights. But Violetta's father, the King, insists that she act ladylike and get married! He even arranges a knights' jousting contest to find Violetta a suitor. The feisty princess will not stand for this! So Violetta decides to disguise herself as a boy and take part in that very contest. Every night, she secretly practices to become the most nimble knight in the land. But when the big day arrives, will Violetta be able to prove -- once and for all -- what she's truly made of?

Gauch, Patricia Lee. ***Tanya and the Red Shoes***. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 2002. ISBN: 0399233148. \$16.99 (Ages 4-8)
Publisher's Note: Tanya, the spunky little ballerina who has danced through six other books by Gauch and Ichikawa, is growing up-but not as quickly as she wants to! When she sees the famous ballet The Red Shoes, Tanya wants to dance on toe, too. But everyone says "Not yet. One day, perhaps." When the day comes-and it does-her new point shoes are not at all what she dreamed. She feels like an elephant: clunk, clunk, clunk. Will Tanya ever make her dreams come true? Knowing Tanya, she will.

Henry, Marguerite. ***Misty of Chincoteague***. Simon & Schuster, 1988. ISBN: 0027436225. \$17.95 (Ages 12 and up)

Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.

Hurst, Carol Otis. ***Rocks in His Head***. Harper Collins, 2001. ISBN: 0060294035. (Nonfiction, Biography) \$15.99 (Ages 5-8)

Publisher's Note: Some people collect stamps. Other people collect coins. Carol Otis Hurst's father collected rocks. Nobody ever thought his obsession would amount to anything. They said, You've got rocks in your head and There's no money in rocks. But year after year he kept on collecting, trading, displaying, and labeling his rocks. The Depression forced the family to sell their gas station and their house, but his interest in rocks never wavered. And in the end the science museum he had visited so often realized that a person with rocks in his head was just what was needed.

Kehret, Peg. ***Small Steps***. Albert Whitman, 1996. ISBN: 0807574570. (Nonfiction) \$15.95. (Ages 9-12)

Publisher's Note: Acclaimed author Peg Kehret has written the true story of the year when she was twelve and stricken with polio. At first paralyzed and terrified, she fought her way to recovery, aided by doctors and therapists, a loving family, supportive roommates fighting their own battles with the disease, and plenty of grit and luck. With the humor and suspense that are her trademarks. Peg Kehret vividly recreates a year of heartbreak and triumph.

Kraus, Robert. ***Leo the Late Bloomer***. HarperCollins, 1971 ISBN: 0878070427. \$15.99 (Ages 4-8)

Publisher's Note: Leo isn't reading, or writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. But Leo's mother isn't. She knows her son will do all those things, and more, when he's ready.

Kraus, Ruth. ***The Carrot Seed***. HarperCollins, 1972. ISBN: 0060233508 \$14.99. (Ages 4-8)

Publisher's Note: Everyone is certain it won't grow, but a little boy remains confident in his carrot seed's potential. Watch as he carefully plants, tends to, and eventually harvests a carrot whose size is in direct proportion to his unflappable faith in it.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***Sarah, Plain and Tall***. Harper Collins, 1999. ISBN: 0060241020 (library binding) \$15.99. (Ages 8-11)

Winner of 1986 Newbery Medal. When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

Paulsen, Gary. ***Hatchet***. Simon & Schuster, 2000. ISBN: 0689840926 (Publisher reissue) \$16.95 (Ages 9-15)

Publisher's Note: Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the single engine plane in which he is flying crashes. Suddenly, Brian finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother has given him as a present -- and the dreadful secret that has been tearing him apart ever since his parents' divorce. But now Brian has no time for anger, self-pity, or despair -- it will take all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed, to survive. (Other books in the series with Brian as main character would also fit this character trait.)

Piper, Watty. ***The Little Engine That Could***. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1976. ISBN 0448405202. (Hardcover). \$17.99. (Ages 3-6)

Publisher's Note: Everyone loves ***The Little Engine That Could***, that classic tale of the determined little engine that, despite its size, triumphantly pulls a train full of toys to the waiting children on the other side of a mountain.

Raatma, Lucia. ***Determination***. Capstone Press, 2002. ISBN: 073681387X (Nonfiction) \$21.26. , (Ages 6-12)

Explains the virtue of determination and describes ways to show it in the home, school, and community.

Riddles, Libby. ***Storm Run: The Story of the First Woman to Win the Iditarod Sled Dog Race.*** Sasquatch Books, 2002. ISBN: 1570612986. * Nonfiction—Biography) \$16.95 (Ages 6-10)
Publisher's Note: In 1985, Libby Riddles made history by becoming the first woman to win the 1,100-mile Iditarod Sled Dog Race. This brand-new edition of Riddles's timeless adventure story is complete with updated narrative details, sidebars on all aspects of the race, photographs, and all-new illustrations by beloved illustrator Shannon Cartwright. An inspiration to children and adults everywhere, this is a compelling first-hand account of the arctic storms, freezing temperatures, loyal sled dogs, and utter determination that defined Riddles's Iditarod victory.

San Souci, Robert D. - ***The Faithful Friend.*** Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995.
ISBN: 0027861317 (Nonfiction, Folk Tale) \$14.40.(Ages 10 and up)
A retelling of the traditional tale from the French West Indies in which two friends, Clement and Hippolyte, encounter love, zombies, and danger on the island of Martinique.

Taylor, Mildred. ***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry,*** illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Dial, 2000. ISBN: 0803726473 (25th anniversary edition) \$17.99 (Grades 5-10)
Publisher's Note: Winner of the 1977 Newbery Medal, this is a remarkably moving novel—one that has impressed the hearts and minds of millions of readers. Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, it is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. And, too, it is Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers over the course of an important year why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.

Taylor, Theodore. ***The Cay.*** Bantam, Doubleday, Dell, 1989. ISBN: 0385079060. \$16.95.
(Ages 12 and up)
When the freighter on which they are traveling is torpedoed by a German submarine during World War II, an adolescent white boy, blinded by a blow on the head, and an old black man are stranded on a tiny Caribbean island where the boy acquires a new kind of vision, courage, and love from his old companion.

Tsuchiya, Yukio. ***Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People, and War.*** Houghton Mifflin, 1988. ISBN: 0613036107. (library binding) \$15.25 (Ages 12 and up) (Use with caution, very disturbing for sensitive children)
Publisher's Note: A zookeeper recounts the story of John, Tonky, and Wanly, three performing elephants at the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo, whose turn it is to die, and of their keepers, who weep and pray that World War II will end so their beloved elephants might be saved.

Williams, Karen Lynn. ***Galimoto.*** HarperCollins, 1990. ISBN: 0688087892. \$16.99 (Ages 5-8)
Publisher's Note: Kondi is determined to make a galimoto — a toy vehicle made of wires. His brother laughs at the idea, but all day Kondi goes about gathering up the wire he needs. By nightfall, his wonderful galimoto is ready for the village children to play with in the light of the moon.

Teens

Taylor, Mildred. ***The Land.*** Dial, 2001. ISBN: 0803719507. \$17.99 (Young Adult)
Newbery winner, 2002. Coretta Scott King Award, 2002
After the Civil War Paul, the son of a white father and a black mother, finds himself caught between the two worlds of colored folks and white folks as he pursues his dream of owning land of his own.

Wolff, Virginia. Euwer. ***True Believer.*** Simon & Schuster, 2002. ISBN: 0689852886. \$6.99.

The Barnes & Noble Review

Written in poignant and powerful blank verse, this National Book Award winner from Virginia Euwer Wolffe revisits the characters Wolffe first introduced in *Make Lemonade*. Now, LaVaughn, a 15-year-old teen who's determined to break free from her constricting inner city neighborhood, is starting tenth grade...and grappling with the distractions of first love, drifting apart from her lifelong friends, and realizing her intense desire to go to college.