

Respect 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.

- Bender, Marie. *I Am Respectful*. Abdo Publishing Co., 2003. ISBN: 1577658299. (Hardcover) \$19.93. (Ages 4-8)
Describes some of the many ways of showing respect, including using good manners, listening to other people, and helping the environment.
- _____. *Respect Counts*. Abdo Publishing Co., 2002. ISBN: 1577658736. (Hardcover) \$22.78 (Ages 9-12)
Defines respect as a character trait and discusses how to show respect at home, with friends, at school, in the community, and toward oneself.
- Bunting, Eve. *A Day's Work*. Houghton, Mifflin, 1994. ISBN: 0395673216. (library binding) \$16.00 (Ages 5-8)
Publisher's Note: Francisco, a young Mexican-American boy, helps his grandfather find work as a gardener, even though the old man cannot speak English and knows nothing about gardening.
- _____. *Smoky Night*. Sagebrush Education Resources, 1999. ISBN: 0613182790. (library binding) \$14.15. (Ages 5 and up)
When the Los Angeles riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood, a young boy and his mother learn the values of getting along with others no matter what their background or nationality.
- Dylan, Matthew. *Respect*. Raintree, 2003. ISBN: 0739857800. (Hardcover) \$24.26. (Ages 4-8)
Examines the concept of respect and gives examples of people and situations that demonstrate this virtue.
- Flor Ada, Alma. *Me llamo María Isabel (My Name Is María Isabel)*. Simon & Schuster, 1994. ISBN: 0689319630. Ages 4-9.
Third grader Maria Isabel, born in Puerto Rico and now living in the U.S., wants badly to fit in at school; and the teacher's writing assignment "My Greatest Wish" gives her that opportunity.
- George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain*. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1988. ISBN: 0525463461. \$15.99. Grades 4-8.
Publisher's note: Sam Gibley is terribly unhappy living in his family's crowded New York City apartment. So, armed with just the bare necessities -- a penknife, a ball of cord, some flint and steel, and the clothes on his back -- he runs away to the mountains. There, Sam must rely on his own ingenuity and the resources of the great outdoors to survive -- and he discovers a side of himself he never knew existed.
Additional information for theme: Sam develops a respect for the environment and develops a relationship with a hawk that is his companion.
- Guntly, Jenette Donovan. *I Can Show Respect*. Gareth Stevens Pub., 2004. ISBN: 0836842480. (Hardcover) \$18.60
Teaches young children important lessons about courtesy and showing respect for others by saying please and thank you, waiting patiently in line, and following directions.
- Hayes, Joe. *Estrellita de oro / Little Gold Star: A Cinderella Cuento*. Cinco Punto Press, 2002. Bilingual, Spanish/English. ISBN: 0938317687. Ages 4-8. \$7.95 (paperback)

Publisher's note:In this Cinderella tale from the Southwest, each of the sisters has an encounter with a magical hawk, but the heroine is kind to the bird and receives a gold star on her forehead. Her spiteful stepsisters go in search of their own gold stars but are rewarded with a donkey's ear and a cow's horn. You can imagine which sister the prince marries!

Hoose, Phillip, and Hoose, Hannah, . **Hey, Little Ant.** Ten Speed Press, 1998. ISBN: 1883672546. \$14.95 (hardcover) (Ages 5-8)

Publisher's Note: A young boy talks to an ant trembling in the shadow of his sneaker. This playful story brings up questions about ethics and peer pressure, encouraging the very youngest citizens to decide for themselves: to squish . . . or not to squish.

Kadahota, Cynthia. **Kira-Kira.** Simon & Schuster, 2004. ISBN: 0689856393. \$16.95 (Ages 11 and up) Newbery Award winner, 2005.

Publishers Weekly Review: Set in the 1950s and '60s, Kadohata's moving first novel is narrated by a first-generation Japanese-American girl who moves with her family from Iowa to Georgia when their "Oriental foods grocery store" goes out of business. There, Katie and her family face hardships, including discrimination (she is ignored by the girls at school, for example), and the harsh conditions at the poultry plant where her mother works ("thugs" make sure workers do not gather so that they cannot organize). Katie's father often sleeps at the hatchery between shifts, and when their babysitter goes away, Katie and her brother must stay in the hot car outside the plant while their mother works. But it's her doting older sister Lynn's struggle with lymphoma that really tests her family. Katie's narrative begins almost as stream-of-consciousness, reflecting a younger child's way of seeing the world. But as she matures through the challenges her family faces, so does the prose. Kadohata movingly captures the family's sustaining love-Lynn and Katie secretly save their treat money for years so they can help their parents buy a house, and when ailing Lynn gets to pick the house, she chooses a sky blue one, because Katie as a "little girl,... had told her [she] wanted our first to be sky blue." The family's devotion to one another, and Lynn's ability to teach Katie to appreciate the "kira-kira," or glittering, in everyday life makes this novel shine. Ages 11-up. (Feb.) Copyright 2004 Reed Business Information.

Kyle, Kathryn. **Respect.** Child's World, 2002. ISBN: 1567660924. (Hardcover) \$21.26. (Ages 4-8) Suggests ways of showing respect for your school, friends, country, family, the environment, and others.

Loewen, Nancy. **Treat Me Right!: Kids Talk about Respect.** Picture Window Books, 2003. ISBN: 1404800344. (Hardcover) \$23.93. (Ages 5-10) Information about various ways of showing respect for others, for property, and for oneself are presented in the form of an advice column.

Lovell, Patty. **Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon.** Penguin Putnam Books for Young People, 2001. ISBN: 0399234160. \$15.99 Molly Lou Melon is short and clumsy, has buckteeth, and has a voice that sounds like a bullfrog being squeezed by a boa constrictor. She doesn't mind. Her grandma has always told her to walk proud, smile big, and sing loud, and she takes that to heart.

Meiners, Cheri J. **Respect and Take Care of Things.** FreeSpirit, 2004. ISBN: 1575421607. (Paperback) \$10.95. (Ages 4-8) Teaches children respect, responsibility, and stewardship, concepts that even young children can relate to because they have things they value. Includes activities.

Parr, Todd. **It's Okay to Be Different.** Little, Brown and Co., 2001. ISBN: 0316666033. (Hardcover) \$15.99. (Ages 4-8)

From Barnes and Noble Editors:

Celebrate individuality with the king of color, Todd Parr. Well known for his use of bold and primary colors and funky, freewheeling style, Parr offers kids a lesson in being happy with who you are. To all those kids who are self-conscious about missing teeth, or being small, or feeling

embarrassed -- it's okay. Supportive messages like "It's okay to come from a different place" and "It's okay to have an invisible friend" fill the pages of this awesome book. Each page fosters personality and the unique traits of everyone around us. Writing in simple language, Parr informs young readers that understanding and accepting our differences is what makes everybody great. An intense message that is conveyed with ease and carefree fun. The praiseworthy message "It's okay to talk about your feelings" is matched with a picture of a very talkative lion purring and roaring. And "It's okay to say no to bad things" features two fish staring head-on at a fishhook. Ah, the creative and hilarious genius of Todd Parr.

Raatma, Lucia. **Respect**. Bridgestone Books/Capstone Press, 2000. ISBN: 0736803718. (Hardcover) \$18.60. (Ages 6-8)

Describes respect as a virtue and suggests ways in which children can recognize and practice being respectful.

_____. **Self-Respect**. Bridgestone Books/Capstone Press, 2002. ISBN: 0736811338. (Hardcover) \$21.26. (Ages 6-9)

Explains the virtue of self-respect and gives tips on how to have self-respect in your home, school, and community.

Riehecky, Janet. **Respect**. Capstone Press, 2005. ISBN: 0736836829. (Hardcover) \$21.26. (Ages 6-9)

Introduces respect through examples of everyday situations where this character trait can be used.

Spinelli, Jerry. **Maniac Magee**. Sagebrush Educational, 1999. ISBN: 0833585568 (Hardcover) \$14.45. (Ages 9-12)

Publisher's Note: After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

Taylor, Mildred. **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**. Dial Press, 2000. ISBN: 0803726473. (25th Anniversary Edition) \$17.99 (Ages 10-14)

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.

Teens

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Speak**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999. ISBN: 0374371520. \$17.00

Publisher's Note: 1999 National Book Award Finalist, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year, Booklist Editors' Choice

Melinda is a friendless outcast at Merryweather High. She busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops, and now nobody will talk to her, let alone listen to her. As time passes, she becomes increasingly isolated and practically stops talking altogether. It is through her work on an art project that she is finally able to face what really happened at that terrible party: she was raped by an upperclassman, a guy who still attends Merryweather and who is still a threat to her. It will take another violent encounter with him to make Melinda fight back. This time she refuses to be silent.

Flinn, Alex. **Breathing Underwater**. Harper Collins, 2002. ISBN: 0064472574. \$15.99.

Publisher's Note: Sent to counseling for hitting his girlfriend, Caitlin, and ordered to keep a journal, sixteen-year-old Nick recounts his relationship with Caitlin, examines his controlling behavior and anger, and describes living with his abusive father.

- Macaventa, Courtney, and Vander Plum, Andrea. ***Respect: A Girl's Guide to Getting Respect & Dealing When Your Line Is Crossed***. Free Spirit, 2005. ISBN 1-57542-177-1. \$15.95.
Publisher's Note: To be respected, girls need to know how they want to be treated, treat themselves that way, and let others know (respectfully, of course) to do the same. This smart, savvy book helps teen girls get respect and hold on to it no matter what. It covers topics they deal with daily, like body image, family, friends, the media, school, relationships, and rumors. It confronts tough issues like sexual harassment, date rape, sex, drugs, and alcohol. And it debunks the myths and stereotypes that hold girls back. Sidebars, scenarios, quotes from teens, tips, definitions, activities, and writing exercises get girls' attention and keep them involved. The understanding, supportive "big sister" style inspires trust. Girls learn that respect is connected to everything, that every girl deserves respect, and that respect is always within reach because it starts on the inside. See the website for this book: <http://www.respectgirls.com/>
Audience is teen girls, 13 years and older.
- Ryan, Mary E. ***The Trouble with Perfect***. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995.
Thirteen-year-old Kyle, who is hopeless in math, is tempted to cheat on an exam to please his demanding, heavily drinking father.
- Taylor, Mildred. ***The Land***. Sagebrush Education Resources, 2003. ISBN: 0613865200. (library binding) \$15.30.
2002 Coretta Scott King Award
Publisher's Note: 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.