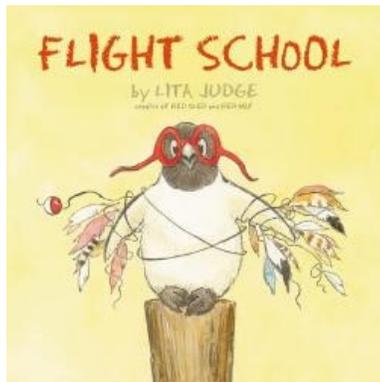


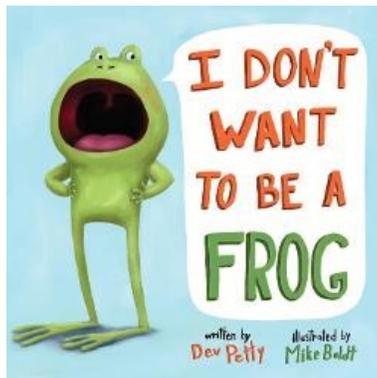
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Picture Books



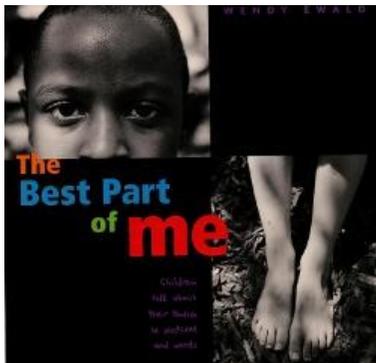
Flight School by Lita Judge

"Though little Penguin has the soul of an eagle, his body wasn't built to soar. But Penguin has an irrepressible spirit, and he adamantly follows his dreams to flip, flap, fly! Even if he needs a little help with the technical parts, this penguin is ready to live on the wind." — From Publisher



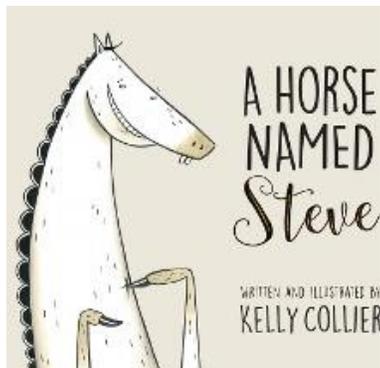
I Don't Want to Be a Frog by Dev Petty

"Frog wants to be anything but a slimy, wet frog. A cat, perhaps. Or a rabbit. An owl? But when a hungry wolf arrives--a wolf who HATES eating frogs--our hero decides that being himself isn't so bad after all." — From Publisher



The Best Part of Me by Wendy Ewald

"An award-winning photographer asked several children "What is the best part of you?", and presents their answers in this sometimes funny, sometimes moving, deeply personal book that includes striking black-and-white photographs taken by the author. Ideal for parents and teacher to use to discuss body image, self-esteem, and diversity with children." — From Publisher

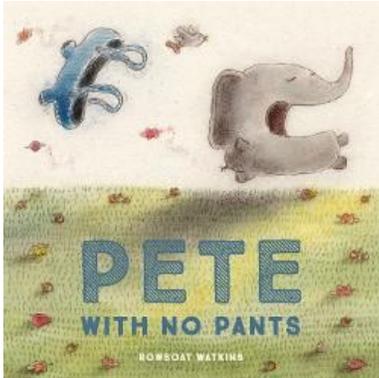


A Horse Named Steve by Kelly Collier

"Steve is a fine horse... But he thinks he could be finer. He wants to be EXCEPTIONAL. When Steve finds a beautiful gold horn lying on the ground in the forest, he realizes he has found his path to the exceptional! He immediately ties the horn to the top of his head and prances off to show his friends." — From Publisher

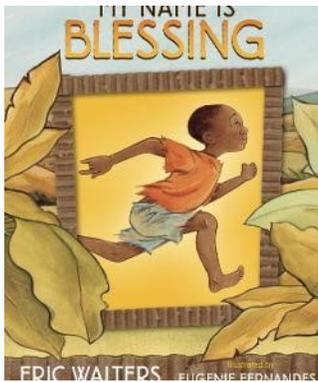
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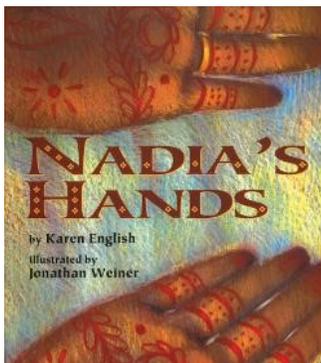
Pete With No Pants by Rowboat Watkins

"Join Pete in his quest to answer the world's oldest question: Why do I have to wear pants? Wait, that's the second oldest. Features a satisfying and touching ending that will encourage young readers to be true to themselves as it reminds the adults in their lives to support them no matter what." — From Publisher



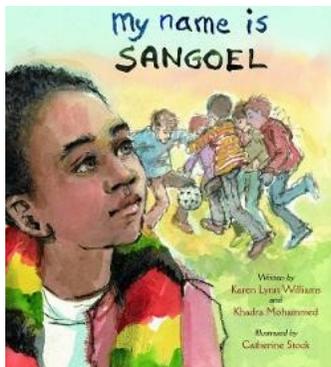
My Name is Blessing by Eric Walters

"Based on the life of a real boy, this warm-hearted, beautifully illustrated book tells the story of Baraka, a young Kenyan boy with a physical disability. Baraka and eight cousins live with their grandmother. A difficult choice must be made, and grandmother and grandchild set off on a journey to see if there is a place at the orphanage for Baraka." — From Publisher



Nadia's Hands by Karen English

"Nadia is excited to be asked to be flower girl in her aunt's wedding, but she is concerned about what her friends will say when they see her hands which have been decorated for the ceremony with traditional Pakistani henna designs." — From Publisher

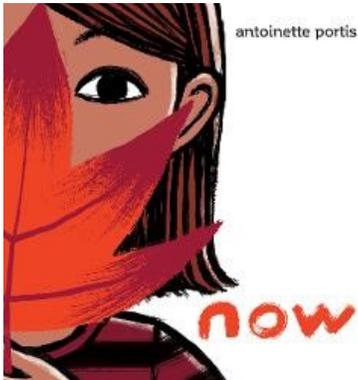


My Name is Sangoel by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed

"Sangoel is a refugee from Sudan adapting to his new life in the United States. He tries to cope with the fact that no one can pronounce his name at school." — From Publisher

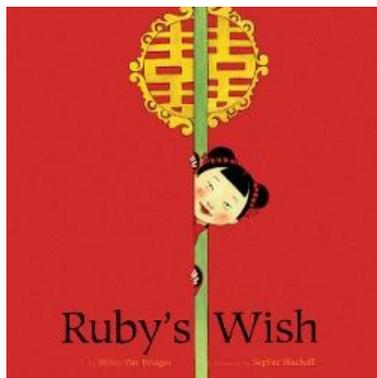
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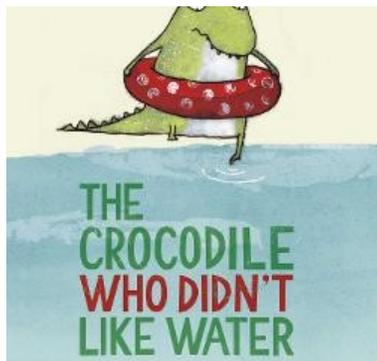
Now by Antoinette Portis

"Follow a little girl as she takes you on a tour through all of her favorite things, from the holes she digs to the hugs she gives in *Now*, a clever and poignant picture book by award-winning artist Antoinette Portis." — From Adrienne Gear—Connect.



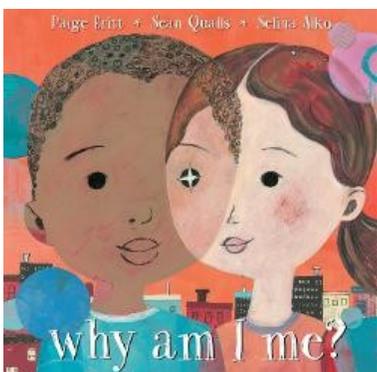
Ruby's Wish by Shirin Yim Bridges

"In a story set in a bygone era in China, a girl's wish to continue her education rather than marry is fulfilled when her perseverance with her at-home studies attracts her grandfather's notice. In a celebratory New Year's Day climax, Ruby's grandfather presents her with a letter of acceptance to a university." — From Publisher



The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water by Gemma Merino

"Everybody knows that crocodiles love water, but this little crocodile is different—he doesn't like it at all! He tries to his best to change, but when attempt at swimming causes a shiver then a sneeze—could it be that this little crocodile isn't a crocodile at all?" — From Publisher

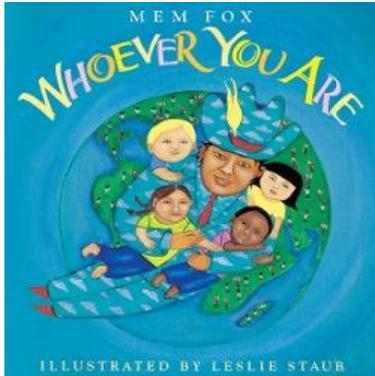


Why am I me? by Paige Britt

"Have you ever wondered why you are you? Or who you would be if you were someone else? Someone taller, faster, smaller, smarter? Someone lighter, older, darker, bolder? This beautiful celebration of our humanity and diversity invites readers of all ages to imagine a world where there is no you or me, only we." — Adrienne Gear recommends for Transform.

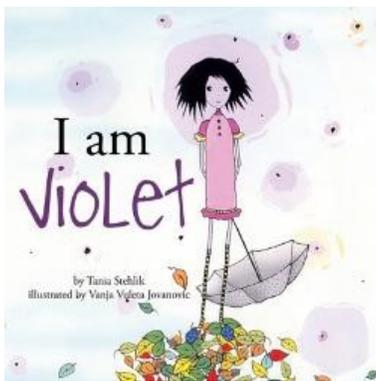
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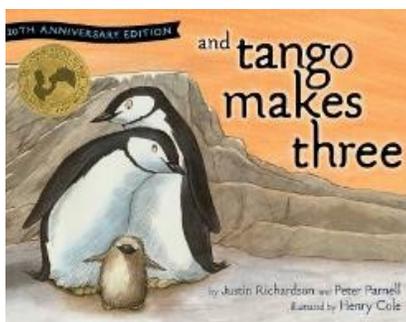
Whoever you Are by Mem Fox

"Despite the differences between people around the world, there are similarities that join us together, such as pain, joy, and love." — From Follett (beautiful illustrations and lyrical text)



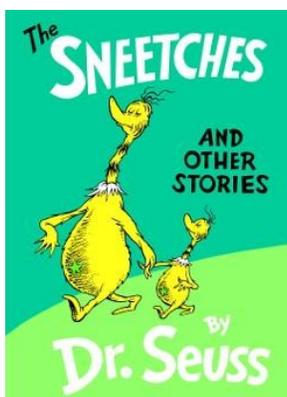
Violet by Tania Stehlik

"Like many people in the world, Violet is a beautiful mix of colors. But color isn't really that important. After all, it is what's inside us that counts." — From Publisher



Tango Makes Three by Justin Richardson

"At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo get the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own." — From Publisher

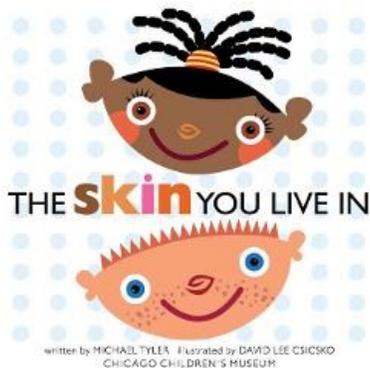


The Sneetches and Other Stories by Dr. Seuss

"After the regular Sneetches get stars, the star-bellied Sneetches take off their stars in order to stay special. They continue desperately switching until they all run out of money and, ultimately, become friends." — From Publisher

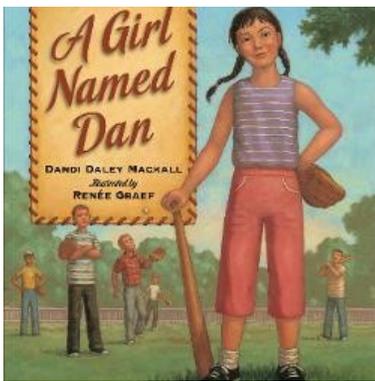
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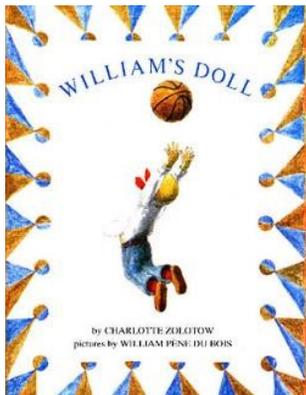
The Skin You Live In by Michael Tyler

"With the ease and simplicity of a nursery rhyme, this lively story delivers an important message of social acceptance to young readers." — From Publisher



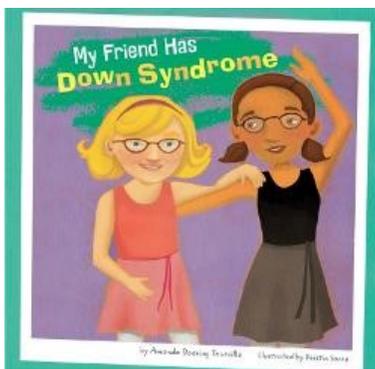
A Girl Named Dan by Dandi Daley Mackall

"Dandi enjoys nothing more than baseball, and so after the boys at school tell her their lunchtime game is now boys only, she enters an essay contest hoping to become a bat boy for the Kansas City A's, not realizing the contest is for boys only." — From Follett



William's Doll by Charlotte Zolotow

"More than anything, William wants a doll. "Don't be a creep," says his brother. "Sissy, sissy," chants the boy next door. Then one day someone really understands William's wish, and make it easy for others to understand, too. William gets a doll, so he can learn to be a loving parent someday." — From Publisher

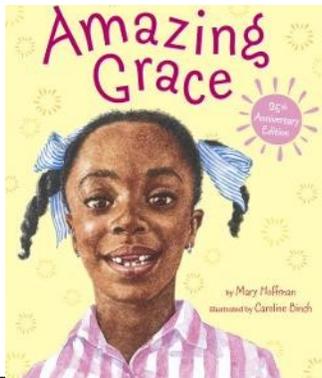


My Friend Has Down Syndrome by Jennifer Moore-Mallinos

"Explains some of the challenges and rewards of having a friend with Down syndrome, using everyday kid-friendly examples." — From Follett

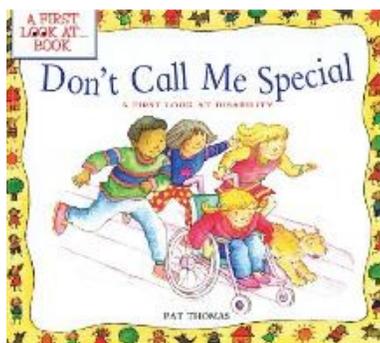
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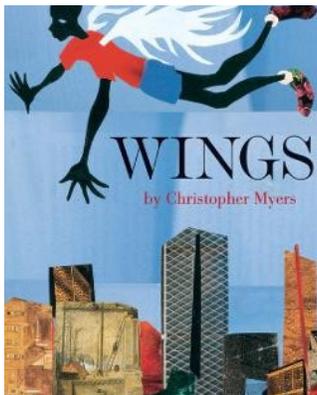
Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman

Sequel: *Boundless Grace*. "Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is African-American, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do." — From Follett



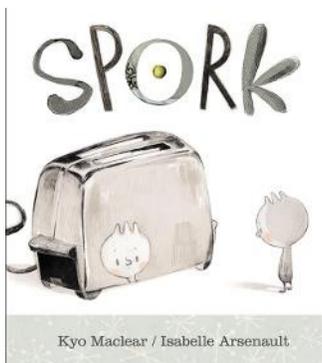
Don't Call Me Special: A First Look at Disability by Pat Thomas

"Introduces young children to the topic of disabilities, leading them to realize that everyone is different in some way, and that people should not be judged because of how they look or because they may need special help." — From Follett (*First Look At ... Series*)



Wings by Christopher Myers

"Ikarus Jackson, the new boy in school, is outcast because he has wings, but his resilient spirit inspires one girl to speak up for him and recognize his individuality." — From Follett

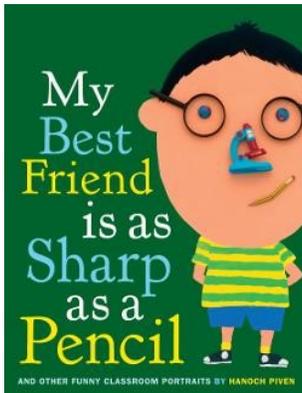


Spork by Kyo Maclear

"His mum is a spoon. His dad is a fork. And he's a bit of both. He's Spork! Spork sticks out in the regimented world of the cutlery drawer. The spoons think he's too pointy, while the forks find him too round. He never gets chosen to be at the table at mealtimes until one day a very messy ... thing arrives in the kitchen who has never heard of cutlery customs. Will Spork finally find his place at the table? This multi-cutlery tale is a humorous and lively commentary on individuality and tolerance. Its high-spirited illustrations capture the experience and emotions of anyone who has ever wondered about their place in the world." - From Publisher.

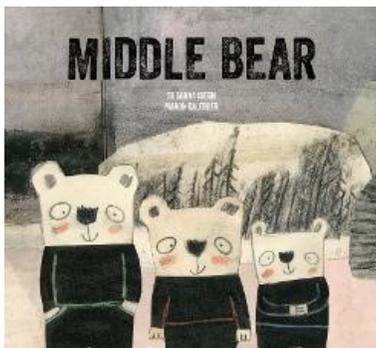
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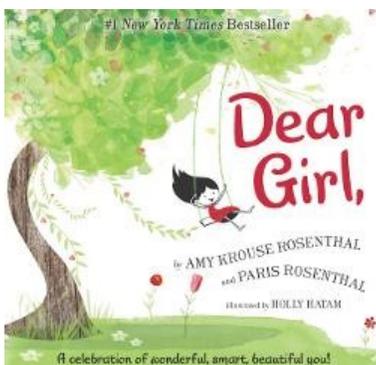
My Best Friend is as Sharp as a Pencil and Other Funny classroom Portraits by Hanoch Piven

"Learn how to create a funny librarian, a colorful art teacher, or your best friend by seeing how one girl does it in this simple, playful picture book that's comprised of portraits made of objects." — From Publisher



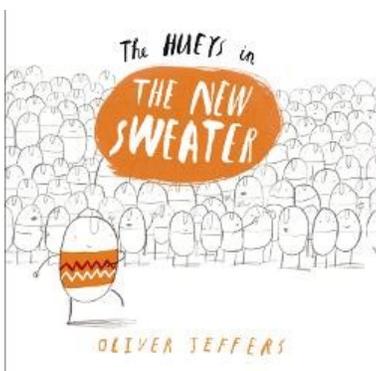
Middle Bear by Susanna Isern

"A middle child discovers his own unique gifts. He was the second of three brothers. He was not big, but he was not little, either. When you're always in the middle, sometimes it's hard to feel special. Until one day, his parents needed an important task to be done. And suddenly, middle-sized was the perfect size to be." — From Follett



Dear Girl, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

"Dear Girl, is a remarkable love letter written for the special girl in your life; a gentle reminder that she's powerful, strong, and holds a valuable place in the world." — From Publisher

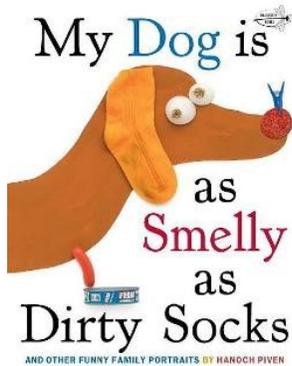


The Hueys in The New Sweater by Oliver Jeffers

"The Hueys are small and mischievous, unique compared to the world's other creatures--but hardly unique to one another. You see, each Huey looks the same, thinks the same, and does the same exact things. So you can imagine the chaos when one of them has the idea of knitting a sweater!" — From Publisher

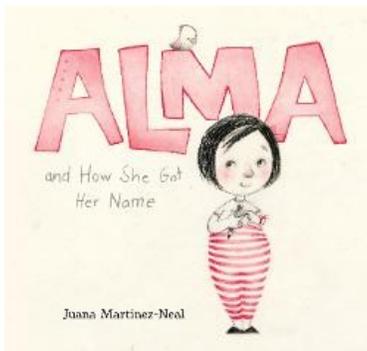
Identity

Compiled by Joan Pearce
Picture Books



My Dog is as Smelly as Dirty Socks and Other Funny Family Portraits by Hanoch Piven

"A young girl draws a family portrait, then makes it more accurate by adding common objects to show aspects of each member's personality, such as her father's playfulness, her mother's sweetness, and her brother's strength." — From Follett



Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal

"What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from -- and who she may one day be. If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza Jose Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel..." - Pub.



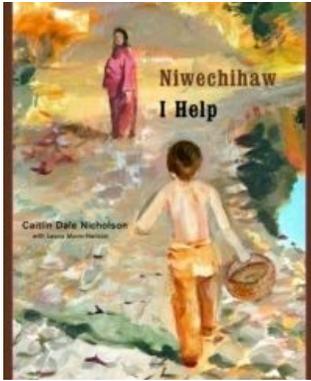
Hello, My Name is... How Adorabilis Got His Name by Marisa Polansky

"Meet Adorabilis--the newest, cutest, fits-in-the-palm-of-your-hand octopus in the ocean. He wasn't always called Adorabilis; in fact, when all the other sea creatures "meet" him on the ocean floor, he's nameless! Those sea creatures know what's in a name: Anglerfish uses his hook like an angler, Mimic Octopus can change shape and color, and Giant Squid is huge and powerful. But this little guy can't do any of those things. What will this adorable little octopus's name be?" - Pub.

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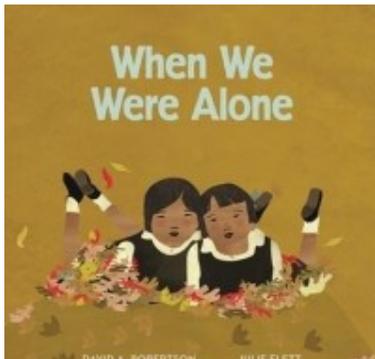
Compiled by Joan Pearce

Picture Books—Indigenous Focus



I Help / Niwechihaw by Caitlin Dale Nicholson

“Written and illustrated by members of the Tahltan and Cree nations, this sweet, simple story looks at a very special relationship. A young boy goes for a walk with his kohkom, or grandmother, listening, picking, praying, eating . . . just as she does. In doing so, he begins to learn the rich cultural traditions and values of his Cree heritage.” — *Strong Nations Publishing*



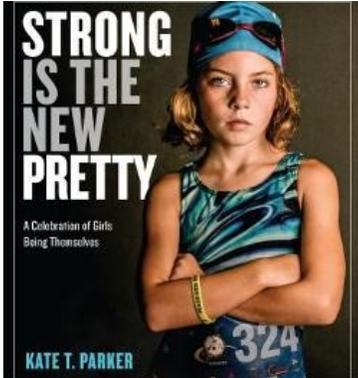
When We Were Alone by David A. Robertson

“When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long, braided hair and beautifully coloured clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away.” —From Strong Nations Pub.

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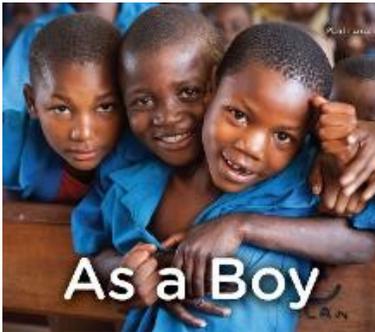
Compiled by Joan Pearce

Non-fiction



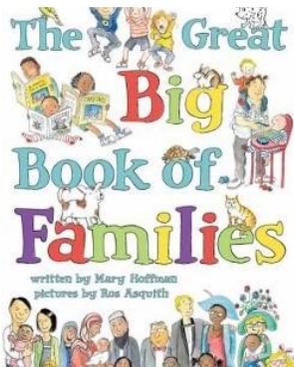
Strong is the new Pretty: A Celebration of Girls Being Themselves by Kate T. Parker

"Real beauty isn't about being a certain size, acting a certain way, wearing the right clothes, or having your hair done (or even brushed). Real beauty is about being your authentic self and owning it. Kate T. Parker is a professional photographer who finds the real beauty in girls, capturing it for all the world to see in candid and arresting images." - Amazon.com.



As a boy by Plan International

"Boys around the world are treated differently than girls just because of their gender. They are given an education and choices, but are also expected to be men, to work, to fight, to be brave. Amazing photographs of children are paired with simple text showing that these boys wish for the same choices and freedoms they have to be given to the girls and women in their lives. *As a Boy* is a valiant call for all children's voices to be heard." — From Publisher



The Great Big Book of Families by Mary Hoffman

"This fun and fascinating treasury features all kinds of families and their lives together. Each spread showcases one aspect of home life—from houses and holidays, to schools and pets, to feelings and family trees." — From Publisher



Helen's Big World: The Life of Helen Keller

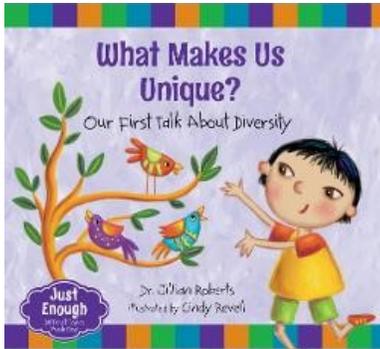
by Doreen Rappaport

"This oversize picture book about Helen Keller focuses primarily on her innovative education by Anne Sullivan, but the presentation goes beyond Keller's youth to include her later work supporting pacifism, workers' unions, women's suffrage, civil rights, and opportunities for those with disabilities." — From Booklist (Part of the *Big Words Series*)

Identity

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Non-fiction



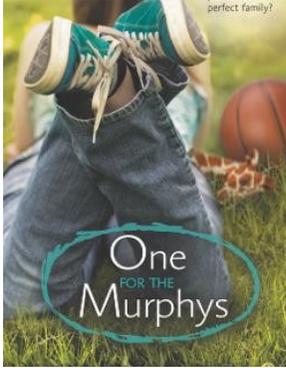
What Makes Us Unique? Our First Talk About Diversity

by Dr. Jillian Roberts

"When it comes to explaining physical, cultural and religious differences to children, it can be difficult to know where to begin. *What Makes Us Unique?* provides an accessible introduction to the concept of diversity, teaching children how to respect and celebrate people's differences and that ultimately, we are all much more alike than we are different." — From Publisher.

Identity

Compiled by Joan Pearce
Novels



One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
"Carley uses humor and street smarts to keep her emotional walls high and thick. But the day she becomes a foster child, and moves in with the Murphys, she's blindsided. This loving, bustling family shows Carley the stable family life she never thought existed, and she feels like an alien in their cookie-cutter-perfect household. Despite her resistance, the Murphys eventually show her what it feels like to belong." — From Publisher

GEORGE

ALEX GINO

George by Alex Gino
"When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. George really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part...because she's a boy. With the help of her best friend, Kelly, George comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte--but so everyone can know who she is, once and for all." - From Publisher