



# Children's Literature Supporting Activities for Building Character and Social-Emotional Learning

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GRADES **PreK–K**

GRADES **1–2**

GRADES **3–5**

GRADES **6–8**

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## Activities for Building Character and Social-Emotional Learning, Grades PreK–K

- *ABC, I Like Me!* by Nancy Carlson
- *Accept and Value Each Person* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Be Careful and Stay Safe* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Being Bullied* by Kate Petty
- *Being Responsible* by Robin Nelson
- *Be Polite and Kind* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Best, Best Friends* by Margaret Chodos-Irvine
- *The Biggest and Brightest Light: A True Story of the Heart* by Marilyn Perlyn
- *A Boy and a Bear* by Lori Lite
- *Bully* by Judith Caseley
- *Can I Play?* by Janet Thomas
- *Cosmo Zooms* by Arthur Howard
- *The Day It Rained Hearts* by Felicia Bond
- *Deep in the Forest* by Brinton Turkle
- *Dinosaurs Beware! A Safety Guide* by Stephen Krensky
- *Dr. Pompo's Nose* by Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers
- *Duck and Goose* by Tad Hills
- *The Family Book* by Todd Parr
- *The Feelings Book* by Todd Parr
- *Franklin Fibs* by Paulette Bourgeois
- *Franklin Is Bossy* by Paulette Bourgeois
- *Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel
- *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Caralyn Buehner and Mark Buehner
- *Hands Are Not for Hitting* by Martine Agassi
- *Hedgehog Bakes a Cake* by Maryann Macdonald
- *Horace and Morrice but Mostly Dolores* by James Howe
- *How Are You Peeling?* by Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers
- *How to Be a Friend* by Laurie Krasny Brown
- *Hunter's Best Friend at School* by Laura Malone Elliot
- *Hurty Feelings* by Helen Lester
- *I Am Responsible* by Mary Elizabeth Salzmann
- *I Am Sorry* by Kelly Doudna
- *I Am Sorry* by Sam McBratney
- *I Love You Just the Same* by Erica Wolf
- *I'm Like You, You're Like Me* by Cindy Gainer
- *I'm Mad* by Elizabeth Crary
- *I Wanna Iguana* by Karen Kaufman Orloff
- *I Want to Be Somebody New!* by Robert Lopshire
- *I Want to Play* by Elizabeth Crary
- *Join In and Play* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Jooka Saves the Day* by Gilles Eduar

- *Julius' Candy Corn* by Kevin Henkes
- *The Kindness Quilt* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace
- *Know and Follow Rules* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Let's Be Enemies* by Janice May Udry
- *The Lion and the Mouse: An Aesop Fable* by Bernadette Watts
- *Listen and Learn* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Listen Buddy* by Helen Lester
- *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper
- *Look! Look! Look!* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace
- *Mouse Mess* by Linnea Asplind Riley
- *Mrs. Mooley* by Jack Kent
- *My Mouth Is a Volcano* by Julia Cook
- *My Name Is Not Dummy* by Elizabeth Crary
- *Oh, the Places You'll Go* by Dr. Seuss
- *One Smile* by Cindy McKinley
- *Oops! Sorry! A First Book of Manners* by Richard Morgan
- *Pass the Peas, Please* by Dina Anastasio
- *The Peace Book* by Todd Parr
- *Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter
- *The Pet Show* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *Play Fair, Have Fun: A Book About Making Good Choices* by Tisha Hamilton
- *A Rainbow of Friends* by P. K. Hallinan
- *Riley and Rose in the Picture* by Susanna Gretz
- *Share and Take Turns* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Sharing: How Kindness Grows* by Fran Shaw
- *Sheila Rae's Peppermint Stick* by Kevin Henkes
- *Shortcut* by Donald Crews
- *Simon Says* by Shen Roddie
- *The Skin You Live In* by Michael Tyler
- *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson
- *Sometimes I Feel Like a Mouse* by Jeanne Modesitt
- *A Splendid Friend Indeed* by Suzanne Bloom
- *Stone Soup* by Heather Forest
- *Stop Picking on Me* by Pat Thomas
- *Suki's Kimono* by Chieri Uegaki
- *Superdog: The Heart of a Hero* by Caralyn Buehner
- *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni
- *Tacky the Penguin* by Helen Lester
- *Talk and Work It Out* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *The Tattle Tail Tale* by Tandy Braid
- *Tattlin' Madeline* by Carol Cummings
- *Understand and Care* by Cheri J. Meiners

- *We Can Get Along: A Child's Book of Choices* by Lauren Murphy Payne
- *What Makes Me Happy* by Catherine Anholt and Laurence Anholt
- *When I Care About Others* by Cornelia Maude Spelman
- *When I Feel Angry* by Cornelia Maude Spelman
- *When I Grow Up* by Mercer Mayer
- *Whistle for Willie* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox
- *Winners Never Quit* by Mia Hamm
- *Win-Win Day* by Carol Cummings
- *Words Are Not for Hurting* by Elizabeth Verdick

### Activities for Building Character and Social-Emotional Learning, Grades 1–2

- *All the Colors of the Earth* by Sheila Hamanaka
- *Amos & Boris* by William Steig
- *Being Bullied* by Kate Petty
- *Believing Sophie* by Hazel Hutchins
- *The Best Friends Book* by Todd Parr
- *Bootsie Barker Bites* by Barbara Bottner
- *Brave Irene* by William Steig
- *But Not Kate* by Marissa Moss
- *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes
- *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type* by Doreen Cronin
- *Different Just Like Me* by Lori Mitchell
- *Don't Squeal Unless It's a Big Deal* by Jeanie Franz Ransom
- *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins
- *Emily's Art* by Peter Catalanotto
- *The Family Book* by Todd Parr
- *Feeling Left Out* by Kate Petty and Charlotte Firmin
- *Franklin's Bad Day* by Paulette Bourgeois
- *Glad Monster, Sad Monster* by Ed Emberley and Anne Miranda
- *The Grouchy Ladybug* by Eric Carle
- *Hands Are Not for Hitting* by Martine Agassi
- *Heartprints* by P. K. Hallinan
- *I Can Be Safe* by Pat Thomas
- *I Can't Wait* by Elizabeth Crary
- *If Only I Could!* by David Vision and Mutiya Vision
- *I'm Like You, You're Like Me* by Cindy Gainer
- *I'm Telling the Truth: A First Look at Honesty* by Pat Thomas
- *It's a Spoon, Not a Shovel* by Caralyn Buehner
- *It's Not Fair!* by Carl Sommer
- *It Wasn't My Fault* by Helen Lester
- *I Want It* by Elizabeth Crary

- *Jack and the Beanstalk* as retold by Carol Ottolenghi
- *Jamaica and the Substitute Teacher* by Juanita Havill
- *Jamaica's Blue Marker* by Juanita Havill
- *Jason Takes Responsibility* by Virginia Kroll
- *Join In and Play* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Katharine's Doll* by Elizabeth Winthrop
- *King of the Playground* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *Lilly's Big Day* by Kevin Henkes
- *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes
- *The Lion and the Mouse* by Aesop, retold by Gail Herman
- *Listen, Buddy* by Helen Lester
- *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers
- *The Little Red Ant and the Great Big Crumb* by Shirley Climo
- *The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone
- *Loudmouth George and the Sixth-Grade Bully* by Nancy Carlson
- *Matthew and Tilly* by Rebecca C. Jones
- *Matthew's Dream* by Leo Lionni
- *Me First* by Helen Lester
- *Michael's Golden Rules* by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan
- *Mind Your Manners: In School* by Arianna Candell
- *A Mitten Tree* by Candace Christiansen
- *My Big Lie* by Bill Cosby
- *The Name Quilt* by Phyllis Root
- *Noisy Nora* by Rosemary Wells
- *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann
- *Oliver Button Is a Sissy* by Tomie de Paula
- *The Owl and the Woodpecker* by Brian Wildsmith
- *The Peace Book* by Todd Parr
- *Please Say Please! Penguin's Guide to Manners* by Margery Cuyler
- *The Quilt* by Ann Jonas
- *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister
- *A Rainbow of Friends* by P. K. Hallinan
- *The Recess Queen* by Alexis O'Neill
- *Ronald Morgan Goes to Bat* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Rosie and Michael* by Judith Viorst
- *Ruby the Copycat* by Peggy Rathmann
- *Shrinking Violet* by Cari Best
- *Sing, Sophie!* by Dayle Ann Dodds
- *Smile-A-Saurus* by Matt Mitter
- *Spinky Sulks* by William Steig
- *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Mellon* by Patty Lovell
- *Stephanie's Ponytail* by Robert Munsch

- *Stop Picking On Me* by Pat Thomas
- *Talk and Work It Out* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *The Way I Feel* by Janan Cain
- *We Are Best Friends* by Aliko
- *A Weekend with Wendell* by Kevin Henkes
- *Wemberly Worried* by Kevin Henkes
- *When I Care About Others* by Cornelia Maude Spelman
- *When I Feel Angry* by Cornelia Maude Spelman
- *When I Grow Up* by P. K. Hallinan
- *Whoopi's Big Book of Manners* by Whoopi Goldberg
- *Why Am I Different?* by Norma Simon and Dora Leder
- *Willa the Wonderful* by Susan Milord
- *Working Together* by Pam Scheunemann

### Activities for Building Character and Social-Emotional Learning, Grades 3–5

- *A to Z: Do You Ever Feel Like Me?* by Bonnie Hausman and Sandi Fellman
- *Always and Forever* by Alan Durant
- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman
- *America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle* by David A. Adler
- *Angel Child, Dragon Child* by Michele Maria Surat
- *The Ant Bully* by John Nickle
- *Arthur and the True Francine* by Marc Brown
- *Arthur's Computer Disaster* by Marc Brown
- *Bean Thirteen* by Matthew McElligott
- *Berenstain Bears and the Trouble with Friends* by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- *The Black Snowman* by Phil Mendez
- *Boy, Can He Dance!* by Eileen Spinelli
- *The Boys' & Girls' Book of Dealing with Feelings* by Eric Dlugokinski
- *The Brand New Kid* by Katie Couric
- *Brave as a Mountain Lion* by Ann Herbert Scott
- *But Names Will Never Hurt Me* by Bernard Waber
- *Celebrating Families* by Rosmarie Hausherr
- *Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco
- *Chocolatina* by Erik Kraft
- *Christina Katerina and the Time She Quit the Family* by Patricia Lee Gauch
- *City Green* by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan
- *Crow Boy* by Taro Yashima
- *Dancing in the Wings* by Debbie Allen
- *Dare to Dream! 25 Extraordinary Lives* by Sandra McLeod Humphrey
- *A Day's Work* by Eve Bunting
- *Dealing with Anger* by Marianne Johnston

- *Dealing with Choices* by Elizabeth Vogel
- *Don't Pop Your Cork on Mondays!* by Adolph Moser
- *Don't Rant and Rave on Wednesdays!* by Adolph Moser
- *Earth Day—Hooray!* by Stuart J. Murphy
- *Easing the Teasing* by Judy S. Freedman
- *Elbert's Bad Word* by Audrey Wood
- *The Empty Pot* by Demi
- *Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson
- *Feelings* by Aliki
- *The Giant Turnip* by Henriette Barkow
- *Grandmama's Pride* by Becky Birtha
- *The Handbook for Helping Kids with Anxiety and Stress* by Tip Frank and Kim Frank
- *How Kids Make Friends: Secrets for Making Lots of Friends, No Matter How Shy You Are* by Lonnie Michelle
- *How to Be a Friend* by Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown
- *How to Lose All Your Friends* by Nancy L. Carlson
- *How to Take the Grrrr Out of Anger* by Elizabeth Verdick and Marjorie Lisovskis
- *I Can't Wait* by Elizabeth Crary
- *I Hate Everyone* by Mij Keller
- *Is It Right to Fight?* by Pat Thomas
- *It's Not My Fault* by Nancy L. Carlson
- *Just Kidding* by Trudy Ludwig
- *Learning About Assertiveness from the Life of Oprah Winfrey* by Kristin Ward
- *Leonardo, Beautiful Dreamer* by Robert Byrd
- *Manners* by Aliki
- *The Meanest Thing to Say* by Bill Cosby
- *Miss Nelson Is Missing* by Harry Allard
- *Miss Yonkers Goes Bonkers* by Mike Thaler
- *More If You Had to Choose, What Would You Do?* by Sandra McLeod Humphrey
- *Mrs. Peloki's Substitute* by Joanne Oppenheim
- *My Momma Likes to Say* by Denise Brennan-Nelson
- *My Secret Bully* by Trudy Ludwig
- *My Teacher Likes to Say* by Denise Brennan-Nelson
- *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi
- *Nobody Knew What to Do* by Becky Ray McCain
- *Oliver Onion: The Onion Who Learns to Accept and Be Himself* by Diane Murrell
- *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch
- *Peace Begins with You* by Katherine Scholes
- *Pedrito's Day* by Luis Garay
- *Pitch In! Kids Talk About Cooperation* by Pamela Hill Nettleton
- *Potatoes, Potatoes* by Anita Lobel
- *Princess Penelope's Parrot* by Helen Lester



- *The Promise Quilt* by Candice F. Ransom
- *The Rag Coat* by Lauren Mills
- *Say Something* by Peggy Moss
- *Shrinking Violet* by Cari Best
- *Someday* by Eileen Spinelli
- *Sorry!* by Trudy Ludwig
- *Speak Up and Get Along!* by Scott Cooper
- *Stop Picking On Me* by Pat Thomas
- *The Streets Are Free* by Kurusa
- *The Surprise Party* by Pat Hutchins
- *Teamwork* by Ann Morris
- *Telling Isn't Tattling* by Kathryn M. Hammerseng
- *Thank You, Mr. Falker* by Patricia Polacco
- *Too Many Tamales* by Gary Soto
- *Trading Places with Tank Talbott* by Dori Hillestad Butler
- *We Are a Team* by Sharon Gordon
- *The Wednesday Surprise* by Eve Bunting
- *We Were There, Too! Young People in U.S. History* by Phillip M. Hoose
- *What I Like About Me* by Allia Zobel-Nolan
- *When I Grow Up* by Marcy Brown and Dennis Haley
- *Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman* by Kathleen Krull
- *Ziggy's Blue Ribbon Day* by Claudia Mills
- *Zora Hurston and the Chinaberry Tree* by William Miller

### Activities for Building Character and Social-Emotional Learning, Grades 6–8

- *145 Things to Be When You Grow Up* by Jodi Weiss and Russell Kahn
- *Amelia Earhart* by Jane Sutcliffe
- *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* by Barbara Nichol
- *Be the Best You Can Be* by Robin Thompson
- *Character Building Day by Day* by Anne D. Mather and Louise B. Weldon
- *Christopher Reeve: Actor and Activist* by Margaret L. Finn
- *The Courage to Be Yourself* by Al Desetta (editor)
- *The Cow of No Color* by Nina Jaffe and Steve Zeitlin
- *Dinah for President* by Claudia Mills
- *Fighting Invisible Tigers* by Earl Hipp
- *Gandhi* by Demi
- *The Golden Rule* by Sandra Darling and Harold Darling
- *How Rude!* by Alex J. Packer
- *How to Handle Bullies, Teasers, and Other Meanies* by Kate Cohen-Posey
- *How to Take the Grrrr Out of Anger* by Elizabeth Verdick and Marjorie Lisovskis
- *If You Could Be Anything, What Would You Be?* by Jeanne Webster



- *If You Had to Choose, What Would You Do?* by Sandra McLeod Humphrey
- *If You Were There When They Signed the Constitution* by Elizabeth Levy
- *The Kids' Guide to Working Out Conflicts* by Naomi Drew
- *Kids with Courage* by Barbara A. Lewis
- *Life Lists for Teens* by Pamela Espeland
- *Making the Most of Today* by Pamela Espeland and Rosemary Wallner
- *More If You Had to Choose, What Would You Do?* by Sandra McLeod Humphrey
- *Paths to Peace* by Jane Breskin Zalben
- *People Who Care About You* by Pamela Espeland and Elizabeth Verdick
- *The Printer* by Myron Uhlberg
- *Respecting Our Differences* by Lynn Duvall
- *Rules* by Cynthia Lord
- *Stick Up for Yourself!* by Gershen Kaufman, Lev Raphael, and Pamela Espeland
- *Stress Can Really Get on Your Nerves* by Trevor Romain and Elizabeth Verdick
- *Too Old for This, Too Young for That!* by Harriet S. Mosatche and Karen Unger
- *Too Stressed to Think?* by Annie Fox and Ruth Kirschner
- *What Are My Rights?* by Thomas A. Jacobs
- *What Do You Really Want?* by Beverly K. Bachel
- *What Do You Stand For? For Teens* by Barbara A. Lewis
- *Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman* by Kathleen Krull
- *The Year of the Dog* by Grace Lin
- *You Can Do It!* by Erin Falligant and Michelle Watkins