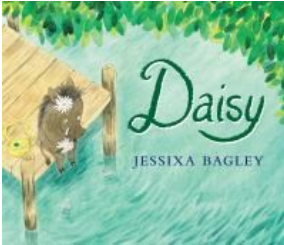


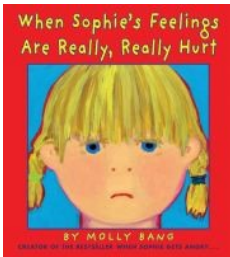
Self Esteem and Individuality



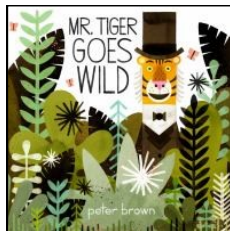
Avis, H. Different: a Great Thing to Be!. Macy is a girl who's a lot like you and me, but she's also quite different, which is a great thing to be. With kindness, grace, and bravery, Macy finds her place in the world, bringing beauty and laughter wherever she goes and leading others to find delight in the unique design of every person. jP Avis



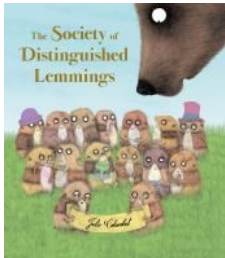
Bagley, J. Daisy. Daisy spends a lot of time with her head down, but she doesn't need her classmates to have fun. When she looks at the forest floor, she starts to find all sorts of treasures, beautiful things that were once special and have since been forgotten. The other kids might make fun of her pastime, but it turns out she's not the only one who appreciates the hidden beauty of forgotten things when she meets a like-minded new friend. jP Bagley



Bang, M. When Sophie's Feelings Are Really, Really Hurt. At school, Sophie's class is asked to create pictures of their favorite tree. When Sophie paints her favorite beech tree, she colors it bright blue to show how happy it makes her feel. She loves the way it looks, but her classmates laugh at her efforts, telling her that her painting is all wrong. Happily, the teacher steps in and calmly talks the class through the different ways that their paintings all express their individual feelings about their trees. j PAR PIC Bang

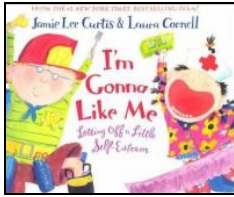


Brown, P. Mr. Tiger Goes Wild. Mr. Tiger lives in a perfectly fine world of prim and proper ladies and gentlemen. One day, the stiff suits, dainty teas, and Victorian manners begin to bore him: "He wanted to loosen up. He wanted to have fun. He wanted to be... wild." Mr. Tiger's expression turns to delight as he scampers on all fours, sheds his clothes, and heads to the wilderness. But, much like that other Wild Thing, Max, Mr. Tiger comes to miss his friends, his city and his home, and so he returns to find "that things were beginning to change." jP Brown

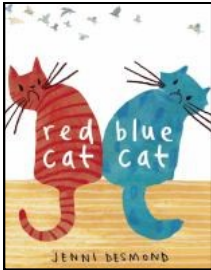


Colombet, J. The Society of Distinguished Lemmings. When the lemmings encounter a bear, they are determined to help him be more "distinguished"--just like they are--but little do they realize this bear could be exactly what they need to save them from themselves. jP Columbet

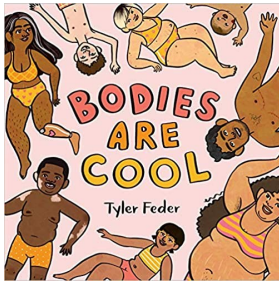
Self Esteem and Individuality



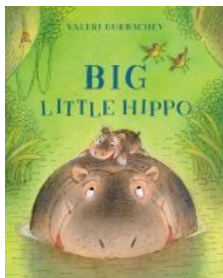
Curtis, J. I'm Gonna Like Me: Letting Off a Little Self-Esteem. Celebrate liking yourself! Through alternating points of view, a girl's and a boy's, Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell provide a funny and moving celebration of self-esteem and loving the skin you're in. jP Curtis



Desmond, J. Red Cat, Blue Cat. Red Cat and Blue Cat share a house, and even though they don't get along, they each secretly wish that they could have some of the other's signature traits--Blue Cat is smart and opens cans and the fridge; Red Cat can bounce across rooftops and zoom up the drapes. And though Blue Cat and Red Cat try very hard to be a different sort of cat, the real change happens when they become friends. jP Desmond

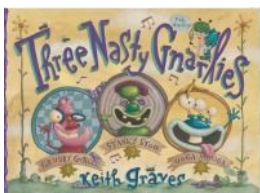


Feder, T. Bodies are Cool. From the acclaimed creator of *Dancing at the Pity Party* and *Roaring Softly*, this picture book is a pure celebration of all the different human bodies that exist in the world. Highlighting the various skin tones, body shapes, and hair types is just the beginning in this truly inclusive book. With its joyful illustrations and encouraging refrain, it will instill body acceptance and confidence in the youngest of readers. "My body, your body, every different kind of body! All of them are good bodies! BODIES ARE COOL!" j 612 Feder Tyler



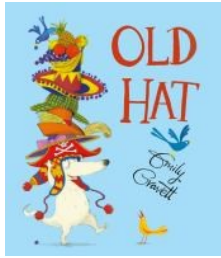
Gorbachev, V. Big Little Hippo. Little Hippo is the youngest in his family . . . and the smallest. Smaller than his parents and siblings. Smaller than his friends, too, from old Crocodile to giant Elephant. And even though everyone promises he'll grow, Little Hippo doesn't want to wait. He wants to be big RIGHT NOW! But when he helps a creature even tinier than himself, Little Hippo learns that it's the size of his heart that counts most of all.

jP Gorbachev



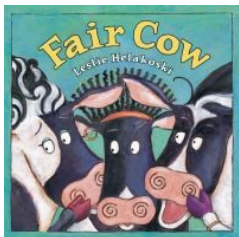
Graves, K. Three Nasty Gnarlies. When three funky, frolicking, dump-dwelling creatures see themselves through the eyes of a glamorous butterfly, their world is turned upside down and , they try to become beautiful like her. Eventually they realize that they like the way they are, and that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. jP Graves

Self Esteem and Individuality



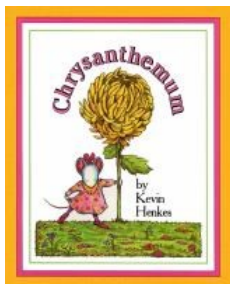
Gravett, E. Old Hat. Harbet likes his comfy knitted hat, but the others keep jeering at him—OLD HAT! OLD HAT! No matter what headwear he buys—be it a towering fruit platter hat, an old-boot-on-the-head hat, or a brightly lit traffic cone hat, Harbet cannot keep up with the latest fashions. As soon as he gets a brand new hat it is already...OLD HAT! It seems that Harbet will never fit in. But when one day he decides to go his own way, Harbet discovers just how much more fun it is to stop following others and think for yourself.

jP Gravett



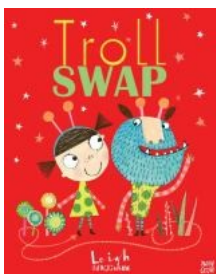
Helakoski, L. Fair Cow. Effie dreamed of being a state-fair cow. She loved living on the farm, grazing in the fields, and giving milk every day. But still . . . she dreamed of being beautiful, of billowing blue ribbons and big, bodacious barns. Petunia the pig gives Effie advice on how to become the most beautiful cow and win a ribbon at the state fair. But Petunia, the other cows, and Effie herself learn that there is more than one way to be an award-winning cow!

jP Helakoski



Henkes, K. Chrysanthemum. Chrysanthemum thinks her name is absolutely perfect—until her first day of school. "You're named after a flower!" teases Victoria, which makes Chrysanthemum wilt. Then the class learns that their popular music teacher has a whopper of a name herself (Delphinium) and plans to name her expected baby by the prettiest name she has heard: Chrysanthemum. This sensitive story will strike a chord with young children, particularly those who also have difficult or unfamiliar names.

jP Henkes



Hodgkinson, L. Troll Swap. Timothy Limpet feels out of place in his troll family. He likes things to be just so, and most trolls, frankly, don't. Tabitha Lumpit likes things to be loud, loopy, and messy, and she feels like a fish out of water in her very neat family. Sometimes they wonder if their families really see them for who they are. So Timothy and Tabitha swap places . . .

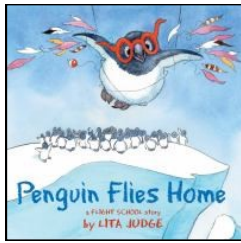
jP Hodgkinson



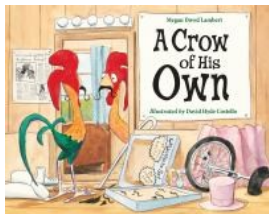
Jory, J. The Cool Bean. Everyone knows the cool beans. They're soooooo cool. And then there's the uncool has-bean ... Always on the sidelines, one bean unsuccessfully tries everything he can to fit in with the crowd—until one day the cool beans show him how it's done. With humor, wit, and charm, this incredible picture book reminds us that it's cool to be kind.

jP Jory

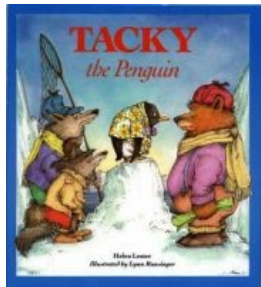
Self Esteem and Individuality



Judge, L. Penguin Flies Home. When readers met Penguin in the book *Flight School*, he was on a quest to soar with the eagles. And it turns out he loves flying as much as he thought he would. Still, he misses his penguin friends in the South Pole. So, he flips and flaps back home, ready to teach them the magic of flight! But when he arrives, his enthusiasm for flying doesn't get quite the reaction he expected. Will Penguin's friends still like him, even if they don't share his soaring dreams? jP Judge



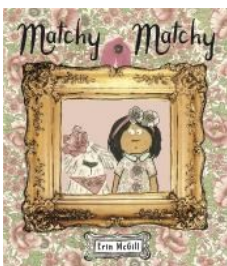
Lambert, M. A Crow of His Own. Clyde is the new rooster at Sunrise Farm. But he's having trouble fitting in and replacing Larry, the beloved rooster whose wake-up calls were legendary. The cow, the gaggle of hens, and the sheep reminisce about Larry while poor Clyde attempts to win over the farm doing everything just like Larry did. But in the end, Clyde realizes that the way to succeed is to find a crow of his own! jP Lambert



Lester, H. Tacky the Penguin. Tacky lives at the North Pole with his companions Goodly, Lovely, Angel, Neatly and Perfect, who wear bow-ties, walk neatly in a row, perform elegant dives and sing lovely songs like, "Sunrise on the Iceberg." Tacky wears a rumpled Hawaiian shirt, frequently stumbles, performs splashy cannonballs and sings songs like, "How Many Toes Does a Fish Have?" This book is must reading for any kid or grown-up who refuses to follow the pack! jP Lester

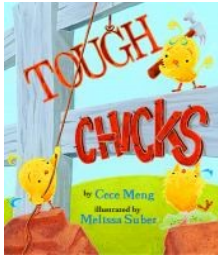


Mann, J. I Will Never Get A Star On Mrs. Benson's Blackboard. Rose is does her best at school, but sometimes her mind wanders, and she answers the wrong question. Her reading voice is quiet, not strong and loud. And her desk?..well, keeping her desk neat is a challenge. When it's time to make thank-you cards for a class visitor, Rose's art supplies turn her workspace (and her) into a colorful mess. But her artistic skills shine through in the gorgeous oversize card she creates. Could she possibly get a star after all? A cheerful and empowering picture book for the child whose talents lie in unconventional areas, and those still searching for their strengths. jP Mann

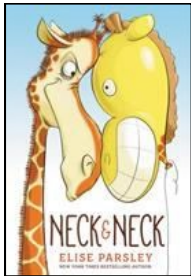


McGill, E. Matchy Matchy. Thanks to Mom, everything about Maria matches--her clothes, her socks, her underwear, her backpack, and her lunchbox. Maria even matches the dog, the duvet, and the doilies. But Maria doesn't want to be so matchy matchy. She wants to mix it up! Feathers and fringe! Pom-poms and plaid! Spikes and spots! Leopard and lace! Tie-dye and tutus! One day she does just that and asserts her very own unique style jP McGill

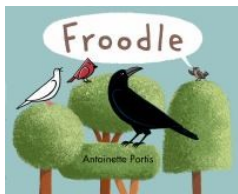
Self Esteem and Individuality



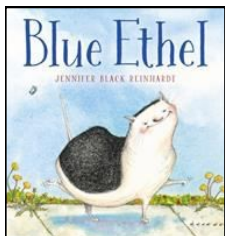
Meng, C. Tough Chicks. From the moment Penny, Polly, and Molly hatch from their eggs, the whole farm knows they are truly tough chicks. They wrestle worms, rope roosters, and are often found under the hood of the tractor. All the other animals and even the farmer himself tell Mama Hen to make her chicks good. "They are good!" Mama Hen replies. But her chicks are different. They're tough and smart and strong in a good way. jP Meng



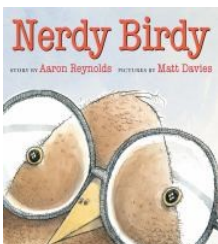
Parsley, E. Neck & Neck. Everybody loves Leopold the giraffe. He inspires awe and wonder. His adoring fans gaze and cheer. Best of all, they feed him lots of deeeelicious snacks! But, one day, a shiny, bobble-headed new rival comes in and ruins everything...a giraffe-shaped balloon! Just how far will Leopold go to prove that he's the hero of the zoo? jP Parsley



Portis, A. Froodle. In a normal neighborhood, on a typical day, the birds chirp, the dogs bark and the cats meow. When Little Brown Bird decides she doesn't want to sing the same old song, out comes a new tune that shakes up the neighborhood and changes things forever in this funny, innovative book that kids will love to read outloud. jP Portis

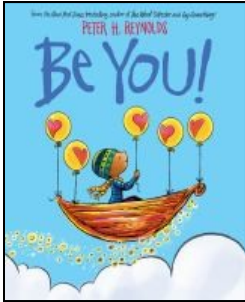


Reinhardt, J. Blue Ethel. Ethel the black-and-white cat is old and fat. Each day she sits on the porch and surveys her surroundings, monitoring the weather, chasing a few ants, and rolling on her favorite piece of sidewalk. "It wasn't easy being Ethel, but she was good at it." Then one afternoon, rolling on her sidewalk leaves her covered in blue chalk. The other cats comment on her new look, and that makes Ethel feel self-conscious. She hides inside until she spies Fluffy, who, though usually white, is now pink. The final, wordless illustration of the whole troupe of cats covered in rainbow chalk dust and a knowing smile passing between Ethel and Fluffy shows her confidence rebuilt. jP Reinhardt

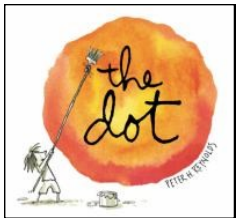


Reynolds, A. Nerdy Birdy. Nerdy Birdy likes reading, video games, and reading about video games, which immediately disqualifies him for membership in the cool crowd. One thing is clear: being a nerdy birdy is a lonely life-style. But when he's at his lowest point, Nerdy Birdy meets a flock just like him. He has friends and discovers that there are far more nerdy birdies than cool birdies in the sky. jP Reynolds

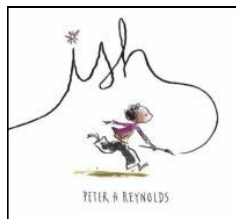
Self Esteem and Individuality



Reynolds, P. Be You! An inspirational picture book offers life advice for readers who want to be themselves... this book is a gorgeous guidebook for those seeking encouragement while encountering life's challenges. The hand-lettered text, set in white text bubbles against a mix of bright backdrop colors and patterns, deftly works with before-and-after illustrations to show the change that children can effect. Reynolds reminds readers to "be your own work of art." To be patient, persistent, and true. Because there is one, and *only* one, YOU. jP Reynolds



Reynolds, P. The Dot. Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. Her teacher smiled. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery in this delicate fable about the creative spirit in all of us. jP Reynolds

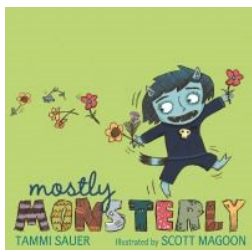


Reynolds, P. Ish. Ramon loved to draw. Anytime. Anything. Anywhere. It's what makes him happy. But in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily for Ramon, though, his little sister, Marisol, sees the world differently. She opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just "right." jP Reynolds



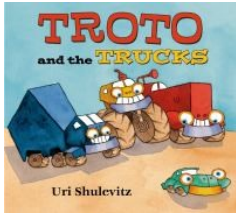
Rudge, L. A Perfect Place for Ted. Ted has lived among the dogs at the pet store for as long as he can remember. But there are so many dogs there, nobody ever chooses Ted. So he decides to go someplace else — someplace perfect. But Ted can't fly through the air like the circus dogs, and he doesn't have fancy pom-poms like the show dogs. Just as he loses hope, he sees a sign: Wanted: Perfect Pet. Little animal lovers will be tickled along with Ted at the unusual household that finally becomes his perfect place.

jP Rudge

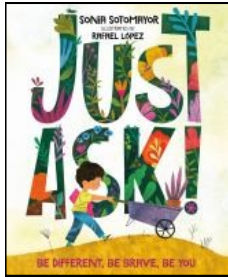


Sauer, T. Mostly Monsterly. Bernadette might seem like an ordinary monster, but sometimes she likes to do some very unmonsterlike things, like pick flowers. And pet kittens. And bake. When the time comes for Bernadette to go to Monster Academy, she's just a teensy bit nervous. Her classmates just don't understand her. They'd rather uproot trees than sing friendship songs. And they prefer fried snail goo to Bernadette's homemade cupcakes with sprinkles. Can Bernadette find a way to make friends at school and still be herself? jP Sauer

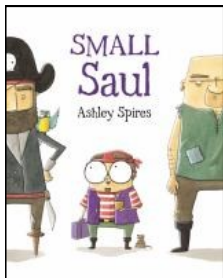
Self Esteem and Individuality



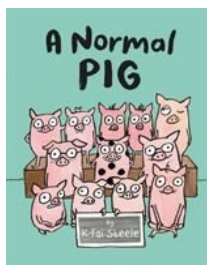
Shulevitz, U. Troto and The Trucks. Troto is a happy little car who likes to go places. One day after a long drive, he arrives in Cactusville, where he meets some big trucks. But when those big trucks laugh at how small Troto is, Troto doesn't feel very happy anymore, so he challenges them to a race to show them just what a little car can do. jP Shulevitz



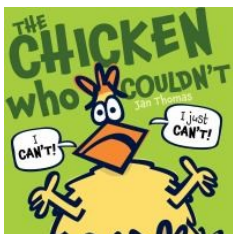
Sotomayor, S. Just Ask. Feeling different, especially as a kid, can be tough. But in the same way that different types of plants and flowers make a garden more beautiful and enjoyable, different types of people make our world more vibrant and wonderful. Using her own experience as a child who was diagnosed with diabetes, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges--and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. As the kids work together to build a community garden, asking questions of each other along the way, this book encourages readers to do the same: When we come across someone who is different from us but we're not sure why, all we have to do is Just Ask. jP Sotomayor



Spires, A. Small Saul. When Small Saul joins the crew of The Rusty Squid, it doesn't take long for the other pirates to notice something is very different about this tiny fellow. He was born to sing sea shanties, bake pineapple upside down cakes and redecorate, not to hold a sword and plunder. Being rough and tough just isn't in his nature. Can Small Saul show these ruffians that despite his gentle spirit, he's worth his weight in gold? Small Saul's high-seas adventure is a light-hearted celebration of individuality, perseverance and being true to one's self. jP Spires



Steele, K. A Normal Pig. Pip is a normal pig who does normal stuff: cooking, painting, and dreaming of what she'll be when she grows up. But one day a new pig comes to school and starts pointing out all the ways in which Pip is different. Suddenly she doesn't like any of the same things she used to...the things that made her Pip. A wonderful springboard for conversations with children, at home and in the classroom, about diversity and difference. jP Steele

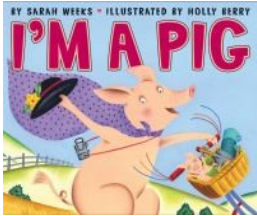


Thomas, J. The Chicken Who Couldn't. It has not been a good day for Chicken. He went to the fair with Farmer, but didn't win even one ribbon. And on the way home, the road is so bumpy that Farmer's truck knocks Chicken right out! He's been left behind! It's the end for Chicken. Surely, he can't walk all the way home. Or avoid the hungry fox along the way. Or maybe... he can?

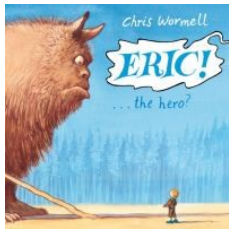
Self Esteem and Individuality



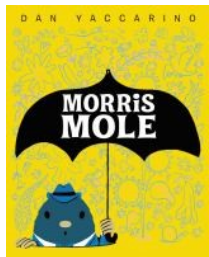
Vere, E. How to Be a Lion. In this timely and charming story we meet Leonard, a lion, and his best friend Marianne, a . . . duck. Leonard and Marianne have a happy life together—talking, playing, writing poems, and making wishes—until one day a pack of bullies questions whether it's right for a lion and a duck to be pals. Leonard soon learns there are many ways to be a lion, and many ways to be a friend. jP Vere



Weeks, S. I'm A Pig. "I'm a pig, I'm a pig, and I'm happy as a clam that I'm not an armadillo or a lion or a lamb." Happy Pig proclaims the joys of life in this ode to piggies everywhere. Whether she is oinking at the moon or wallowing in the mud, it's easy to see why a pig is the absolutely perfect thing to be! jP Weeks



Wormell, C. Eric! Eric is a little boy who sometimes gets things wrong. But Eric learns that while you can't be good at everything, sometimes it takes a little time to find out what you are good at. And when a huge monster stomps down the mountain to Eric's village, Eric just might have his chance to shine. jP Wormell



Yaccarino, D. Morris Mole. Morris Mole has always been a little bit different. When the moles are running low on food, it's up to clever Morris to save the day. With a little help from an unexpected friend and a lot of digging, Morris learns that even the smallest creatures can do big things. jP Yaccarino

Compiled by the Rochester Public Library Children's Room.

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