



book & toy resource guide



Gift recommendations for young children
from a Reggio inspired center

by Patricia Hunter McGrath

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Introduction

In an effort to foster awareness and action among children and families, we have curated a children's booklist that we hope you will find inspiring and useful. This booklist is to provide educators, carers and parents with resources to broach important topics with preschool aged children.

We recommend you read these books before reading them with children to give yourself time to think through questions that might arise. We've prioritized finding books that highlight human diversity in the realms of cultural inclusion (anti-bias), language, gender, family structure, and socio-economics. We've also included books

which celebrate gratitude and responsible use of our environmental resources.

The books listed link to local Culver City bookstore Village Well Books & Coffee when available, and titles are asterisked if we have them in the Branches Atelier library. Your local bookstores and local library are also excellent places to find or request these books.

Over time, we hope to expand the resource guide to include books and articles for adults, and additional studies which support current research on these topics. If you have a book, article, or study that you think we should include, please send it our way. Visit goo.gl/yY6rsY for the recommendation form.



Anti-bias, Inclusion & Diversity



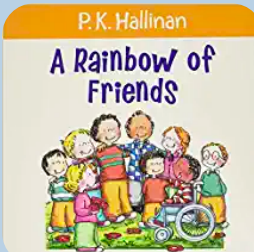
A Friend for Henry

Jenn Bailey



Boy

Phil Cummings



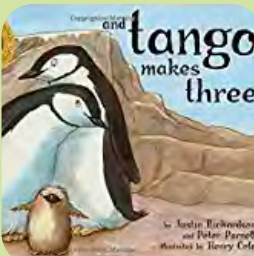
A Rainbow of Friends*

P.K. Hallinan



The Boy Who Grew Flowers

Jen Wojtowicz



And Tango Makes Three*

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell



**Call Me Tree/
Llamame arbol**

Maya Christina Gonzalez



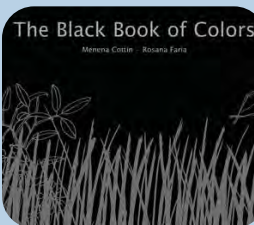
Areli is a Dreamer

Areli Morales



Cat on the Bus*

Aram Kim



The Black Book of Colors

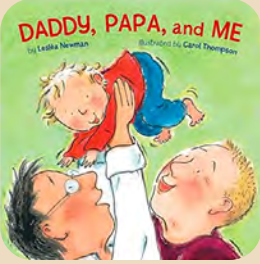
Menena Cottin & Rosana Faria



Change Sings

Amanda Gorman & Loren Long

Anti-bias, Inclusion & Diversity



Daddy, Papa, and Me*

Lesléa Newman



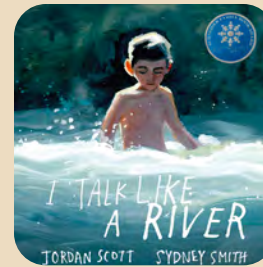
If You Come to Earth*

Sophie Blackall



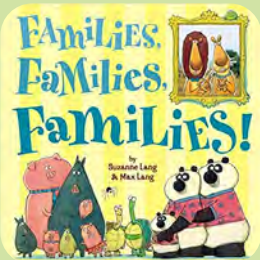
The Different Dragon*

Jennifer Bryan



I Talk Like a River

Jordan Scott



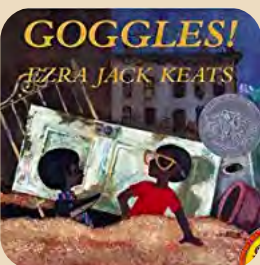
Families, Families, Families!

Suzanne and Max Lang



Justice Makes a Difference*

Dr. Artika R. Tyner



Goggles!*

Ezra Jack Keats



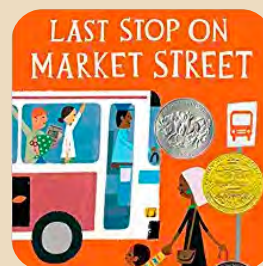
Just Being Ted

Lisa Sheehan



Home*

Carson Ellis



Last Stop on Market Street*

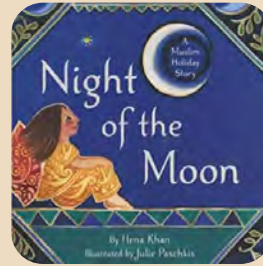
Matt de la Peña

Anti-bias, Inclusion & Diversity



Let's Go Play: A Children's Book About Adaptive Equipment and Inclusion

Shelby McCarthy



Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story

Hena Khan



Little Home Bird*

Jo Empson



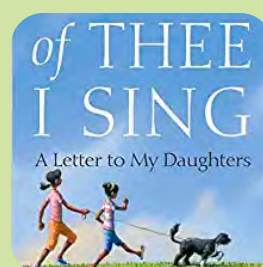
Not Every Princess*

Jeffrey and Lisa Bone



Mama Zooms*

Jane Cowen-Fletcher



Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters*

Barack Obama and Loren Long



Mommy, Mama, and Me*

Lesléa Newman



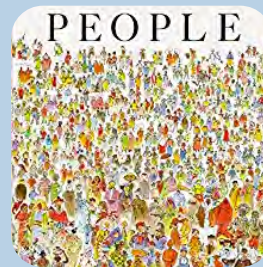
Our Skin*

Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli, & Isabel Roxas



My Name Is Yoon

Helen Recorvits



People

Peter Spier

Anti-bias, Inclusion & Diversity



Sarabella's Thinking Cap

Judy Schachner



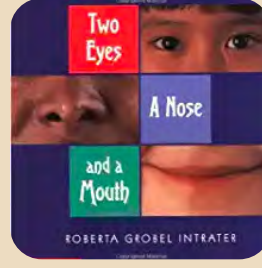
The Sneetches and Other Stories

Dr. Seuss



Say Hello!

Rachel Isadora



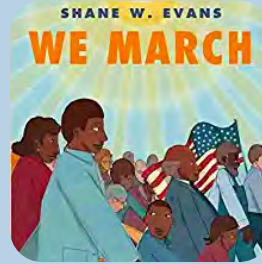
Two Eyes, a Nose and a Mouth

Roberta Grobel Intrater



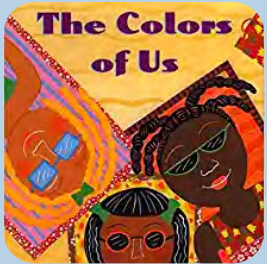
Stella Brings the Family*

Miriam B. Schiffer



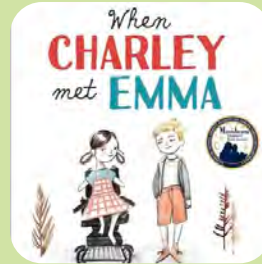
We March

Shane W. Evans



The Colors of Us*

Karen Katz



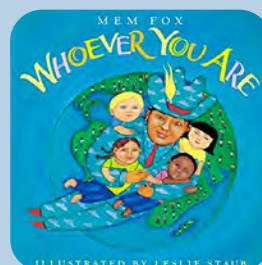
When Charley Met Emma

Amy Webb



The Penguin Who Was Cold

Philip Giordano



Whoever You Are*

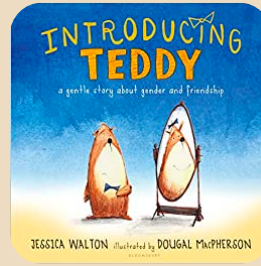
Mem Fox

Bodies, Gender & Identity



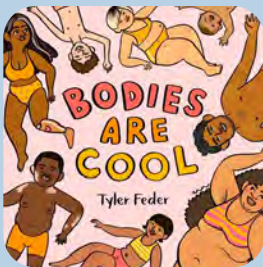
Amazing Grace*

Mara Hoffman



Introducing Teddy

Jessica Walton



Bodies Are Cool*

Tyler Feder



Julián at the Wedding

Jessica Love



Bunnybear

Andrea J. Loney



Julián is a Mermaid

Jessica Love



Fred Gets Dressed*

Peter Brown



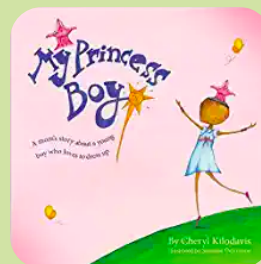
Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress*

Christine Baldacchino



From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea

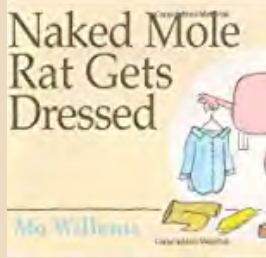
Kai Cheng Thom



My Princess Boy*

Cheryl Kilodavis

Bodies, Gender & Identity



Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed*

Mo Willems



When Langston Dances

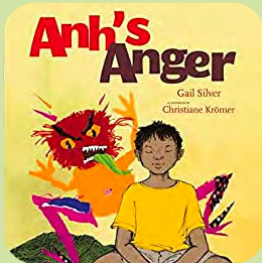
Kaija Langley



Pink is for Boys*

Robb Pearlman

Emotional Development & Empowerment



Anh's Anger*

Gail Silver



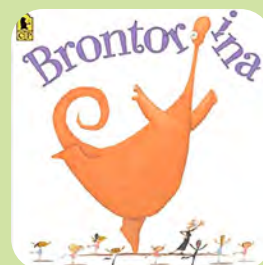
The Bad Seed*

Jory John, Pete Oswald



Big Feelings

Alexandra Penfold & Suzanne Kaufman



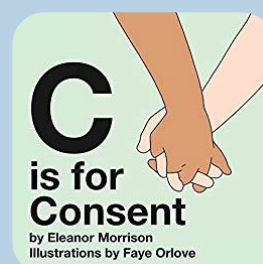
Brontorina

James Howe



The Boy with the Big, Big, Big Feelings

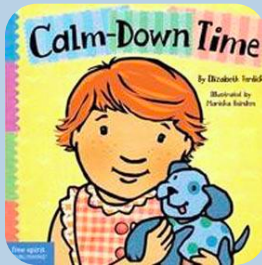
Britney Winn Lee



C is for Consent

Eleanor Morrison

Emotional Development & Empowerment



Calm-Down Time

Elizabeth Verdick



**Go Away,
Big Green Monster!***

Ed Emberley



The Cool Bean

Jory John, Pete Oswald



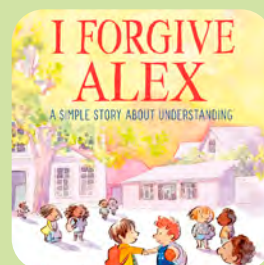
I Am Enough*

Grace Byers



Drum Dream Girl*

Margarita Engle



I Forgive Alex*

Kerascoet



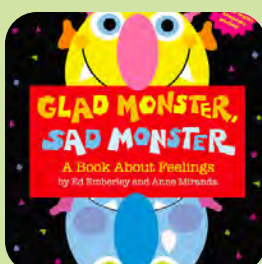
**Everyone's
Got a Bottom***

Tess Rowley



I Had a Favorite Dress*

Boni Ashburn



**Glad Monster,
Sad Monster***

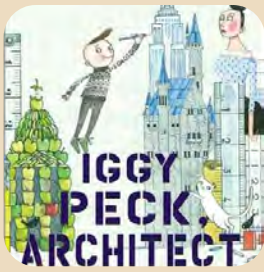
Ed Emberley



**I Dissent: Ruth
Bader Ginsburg
Makes Her Mark**

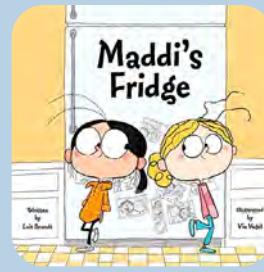
Debbie Levy

Emotional Development & Empowerment



Iggy Peck, Architect*

Andrea Beaty



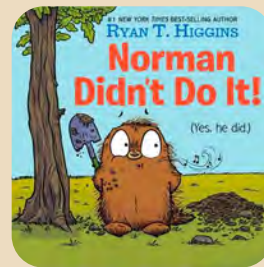
Maddi's Fridge*

Lois Brandt



**I'll Meet You
In Your Dreams***

Jessica Young



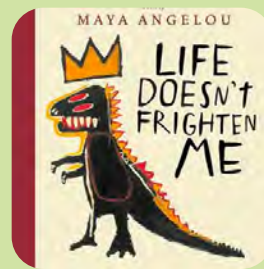
**Norman Didn't Do It!
(Yes, He Did)**

Ryan T. Higgins



**In My Heart:
a Book of Feelings***

Jo Witek



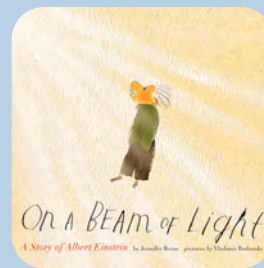
**Life Doesn't
Frighten Me***

Maya Angelou



Itty-Bitty Kitty-Corn*

Shannon Hale, LeUyen
Pham



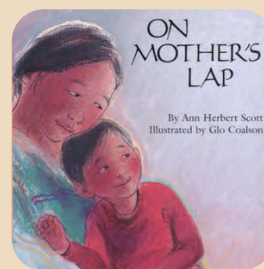
**On a Beam of Light: A
Story of Albert Einstein***

Jennifer Berne



Koala Lou

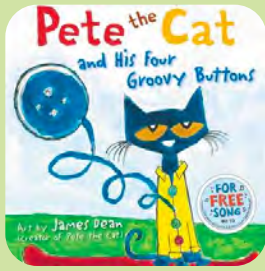
Mem Fox



On Mother's Lap*

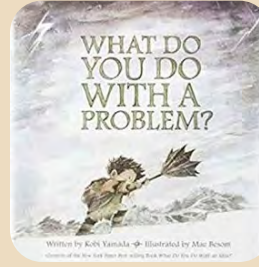
Ann Herbert Scott

Emotional Development & Empowerment



Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons*

Eric Litwin, James Dean



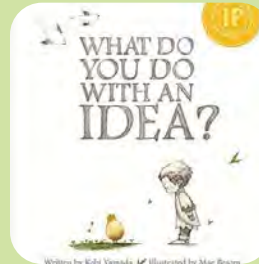
What Do You Do with a Problem?*

Kobi Yamada



Rosie Revere, Engineer*

Andrea Beaty



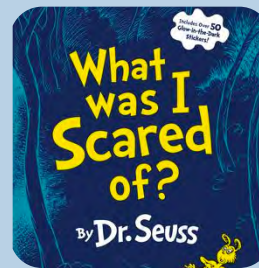
What Do You Do with an Idea?*

Kobi Yamada



Swatch: The Girl Who Loved Color

Julia Denos



What Was I Scared of?

Dr. Seuss



They All Saw A Cat*

Brendan Wenzel



Words Are Not for Hurting*

Elizabeth Verdick

The Environment, Conservation & Connection to Nature



A Leaf Can Be...

Laura Purdie Salas



At the Same Moment, Around the World

Clotilde Perrin

The Environment, Conservation & Connection to Nature



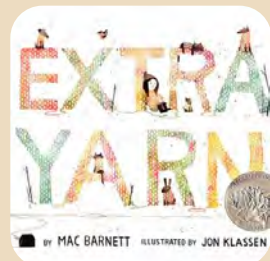
Be a Tree!*

Maria Gianferrari



Imagine a Day

Sarah L. Thompson



Extra Yarn

Mac Barnett



Isabella's Garden

Glenda Millard



**Grow! Raise! Catch!
How We Get Our Food***

Shelley Rotner



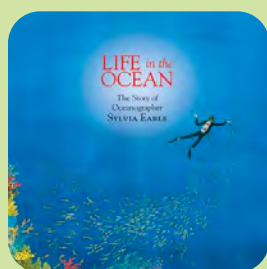
Life

Cynthia Rylant, Brendan Wenzel



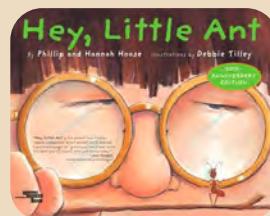
**Here We Are: Notes for
Living on Planet Earth**

Oliver Jeffers



**Life in the Ocean: A
Story of Oceanographer
Sylvia Earle***

Claire A. Nivola



Hey, Little Ant

Phillip & Hannah Hoose



Listen to the Rain*

Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault

The Environment, Conservation & Connection to Nature



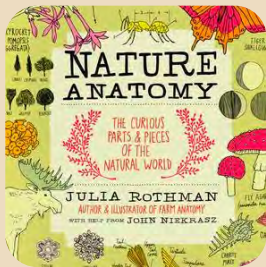
Miss Rumphius*

Barbara Cooney



The Curious Garden*

Peter Brown



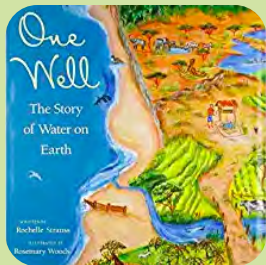
Nature Anatomy

Julia Rothman



The Little Gardener

Emily Hughes



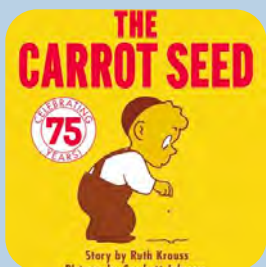
One Well: The Story of Water on Earth

Rochelle Strauss



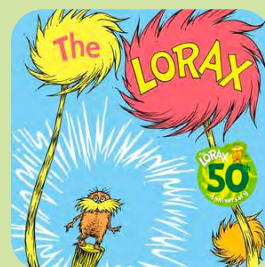
The Lights That Dance in the Night

Yuval Zommer



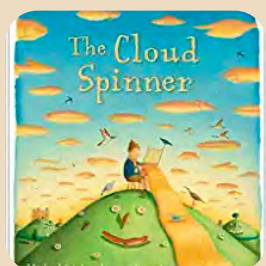
The Carrot Seed*

Ruth Krauss



The Lorax*

Dr. Seuss



The Cloud Spinner*

Michael Catchpool



The Red Lemon

Bob Staake

The Environment, Conservation & Connection to Nature



The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever*

H. Joseph Hopkins



We Planted a Tree*

Diane Muldrow, Bob Staake



Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*

Kate Messner



You Are Stardust

Elin Kelsey



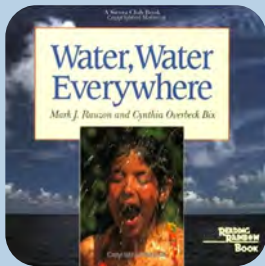
Water*

Frank Asch



Wild

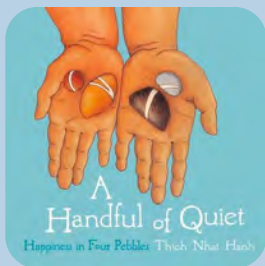
Emily Hughes



Water, Water Everywhere*

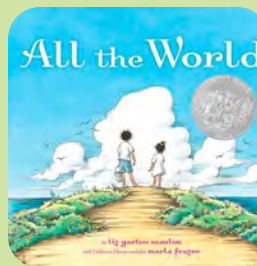
Cynthia Overbeck Bix & Mark Rauzon

Gratitude & mindfulness



A Handful of Quiet: Happiness in Four Pebbles*

Thich Nhat Hanh



All the World

Liz Garton Scanlon

Gratitude & mindfulness



Baby Wren and the Great Gift

Sally Lloyd-Jones



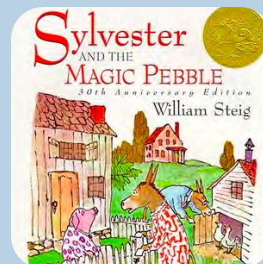
Peaceful Piggy Meditation*

Kerry Lee MacLean



Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message*

Chief Jake Swamp



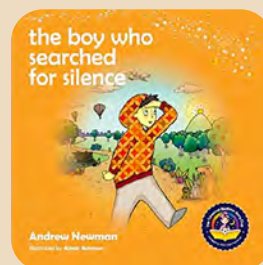
Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*

William Steig



Giving Thanks: More than 100 ways to say thank you*

Ellen Surrey



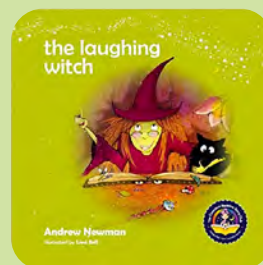
The Boy Who Searched for Silence*

Andrew Newman



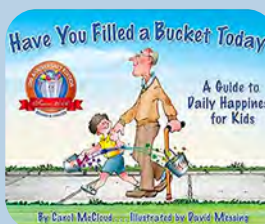
Grateful, A Song of Giving Thanks*

John Bucchino



The Laughing Witch*

Andrew Newman



Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

Carol McCloud



The Most Thankful Thing

Lisa McCourt

Gratitude & mindfulness



The Quiet Book*

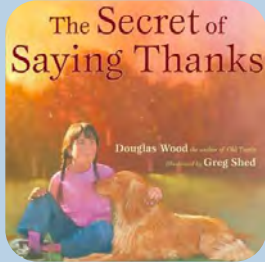
Deborah Underwood

The Thinking Book
by Sandol Stoddard Warburg
Designed and illustrated
by Ivan Chermayeff



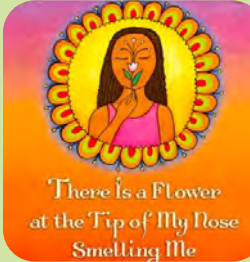
The Thinking Book

Sandol Stoddard
Warburg



The Secret of Saying Thanks*

Douglas Wood



There Is a Flower at the Tip of My Nose Smelling Me

Alice Walker



The Sound of Silence*

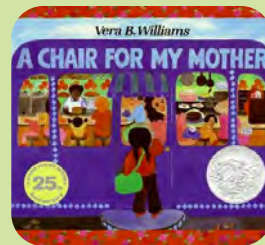
Katrina Goldsaito



What Does It Mean to Be Present?

Rana DiOrio

Helping Others & Friendship



A Chair for My Mother

Vera B. Williams



A Gift from Abuela

Cecilia Ruiz



A Gift for Nana

Lane Smith



Being Me

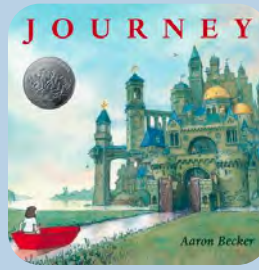
Rosemary McCarney

Helping Others & Friendship



Frederick*

Leo Lionni



Journey*

Aaron Becker



Friends*

Aiko Ikegami



Lost and Found*

Oliver Jeffers



Good People Everywhere

Lynnea Gillen



One Plastic Bag

Miranda Paul



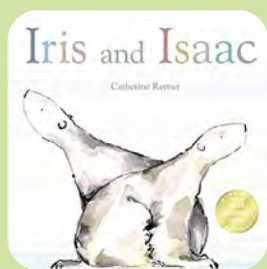
Maybe Something Beautiful*

F. Isabel Campoy



Perfectly Pegasus*

Jessie Sima



Iris and Isaac*

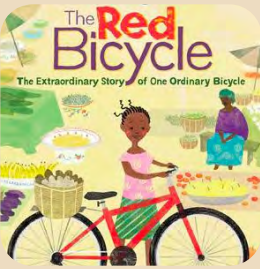
Catherine Rayner



Red Knit Cap Girl to the Rescue*

Naoko Stoop

Helping Others & Friendship



The Red Bicycle

Jude Isabella



The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade

Justin Roberts



Strictly No Elephants*

Lisa Mantchev



Wild Ideas*

Elin Kelsey



The Most Magnificent Thing*

Ashley Spires



Zen Ties*

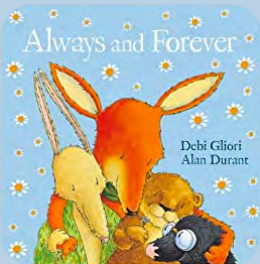
Jon J. Muth



The Quiltmaker's Gift*

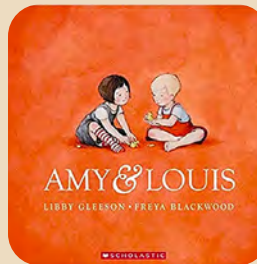
Jeff Brumbeau

Life Circumstances



Always and Forever*

Alan Durant



Amy & Louis

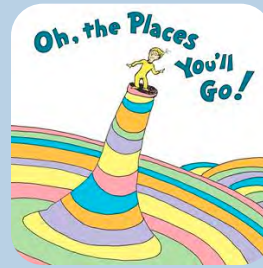
Libby Gleeson

Life Circumstances



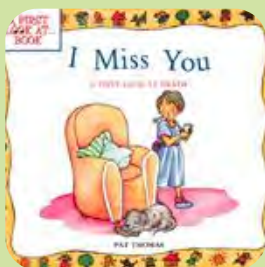
Badger's Parting Gifts*

Susan Varley



Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Dr. Seuss



**I Miss You:
A First Look at Death***

Pat Thomas



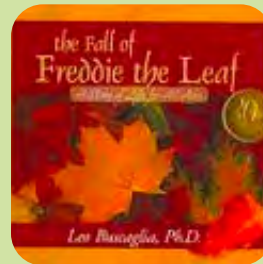
The Dead Bird*

Margaret Wise Brown



I'll Always Love You*

Hans Wilhelm



The Fall of Freddie the Leaf

Leo Buscaglia



**Living with Mom and
Living with Dad***

Melanie Walsh



**The Heart and
the Bottle**

Oliver Jeffers



**My Father's Arms
Are a Boat**

Stein Erik Lunde &
Oyvind Torseter



The Invisible String*

Patrice Karst

Life Circumstances



The Kissing Hand*

Audrey Penn



The Tenth Good Thing About Barney

Judith Viorst

Social Thinking



We Thinkers! Volume 1 Social Explorers

Kari Zweber Palmer, Nancy Tarshis, Ryan Hendrix, Michelle Garcia Winner

Titles:

- Body in the Group
- The Group Plan
- Thinking Thoughts and Feeling Feelings
- Thinking With Your Eyes
- Whole Body Listening



We Thinkers! Volume 2 Social Problem Solvers

Kari Zweber Palmer, Nancy Tarshis, Ryan Hendrix, Michelle Garcia Winner

Titles:

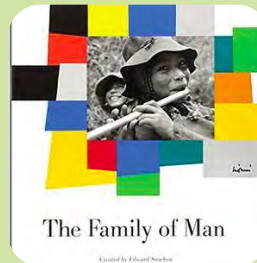
- Flexible & Stuck Thinking
- Hidden Rules
- Sharing an Imagination
- Size of the Problem
- Smart Guess

Visual/Photography



Portraits*

Steve McCurry



The Family Of Man

Carl Sandburg & Edward Steichen



Where Children Sleep*

James Mollison

Toys & Gifts

Parents, Family and Friends,

With the upcoming holiday season fast approaching, here is our updated Toy and Gift Guide. These gifts will support children's creativity, imagination, problem-solving skills, attention, and self-control skills.

Before heading out to the mall or jumping online to purchase the latest and greatest gifts, I would like to suggest that perhaps you might rethink how many new toys your child needs. I encourage you to slow down and maybe scale back the number and kind of toys and gifts you purchase and consider the actual cost of toys. While all toys do have a sticker price, with climate change being one of the biggest challenges of our time, we also have to take into consideration the environmental cost of producing so many gifts and toys. We must ask ourselves the question, "What happens to the gift after a child is finished with it?"

If your child has too much, nothing is special.

When a child has too many toys, they tend to flit from one to the other without investing time and deeply exploring or playing with what they have. This leads to boredom. Too often, the latest and greatest toys often end up discarded and, unfortunately, in the trash dump within a few months. Many of these toys are made of plastic and don't naturally break down. If you think the toy might be discarded in a few months, don't buy it.

Instead, here are some environmentally friendly, child-tested, tested, high-quality, educational and fun, gifts ideas that your child will enjoy and can be used for years to come. I have found these toys to withstand the test of time. Best of all, many of them will have less impact on the environment. Finally, don't forget to buy less, play more and spend time creating some wonderful new family memories! Enjoy!

Kind Regards, Patricia

Art & Music



Paint Brush Set - 12pc

Benicci



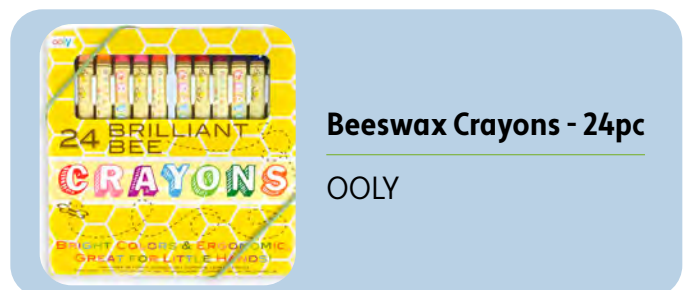
Watercolor Pad

Strathmore



Oil Pastels

Pentel



Beeswax Crayons - 24pc

OOLY



Percussion Shaker Set

Nino



**Rhythm Club
6" Tambourine**

Remo



Sketch pad

Strathmore



Watercolor paint set

Emooqi



**Tropical Color Liquid
Watercolors**

Colorations



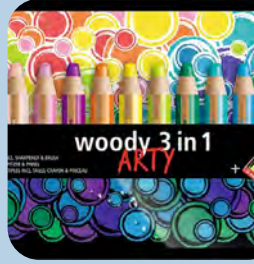
Crayon blocks & sticks

Stockmar



Mighty Mini Band

Hape



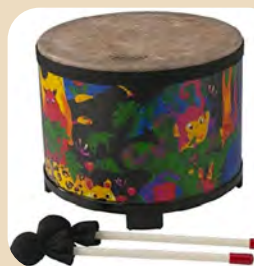
Woodys - 18ct

Stabilo



Kids Make Music Kit

Remo



Floor Tom Drum 10"

Remo



Washable Finger Paint

Colorations



Introductory watercolors

Daniel Smith



Glockenspiel

Auris



Art Pencils - 72ct

LYRA

Toys



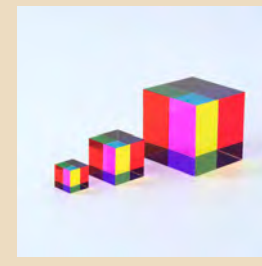
Fruit basket set

IKEA



Vegetable basket set

IKEA



The Original Cube

CMY Cubes



First Pounder

Hape



Montessori Wooden Carrot Harvest

KMTJT



Silicone Baking Molds

Pantry Elements



Shopping basket set

IKEA



Mouse Teether

Tikiri



Woodland Friends Stacking Cubes

Fat Brain Toys



Eco Dough

Eco-Kids



Play Silks

Sarah's Silks



Activity scarves - 12ct

Lakeshore



Little Red Wagon

Radio Flyer



Bunny Push Pal

Hape



Doll bed with bedlinen set

IKEA



Stacking Train

Melissa & Doug

15 pieces Includes wooden engine, two train cars, and colorful wooden blocks



Dancing Butterflies Push & Pull

Hape



Fresh Fruit Play Set

Hape



Stacking cups

Kidsthrrill



50-pc track set

IKEA



Mini Mix-and-Match Racecars - 2ct

Automoblox



Picnic Playset

Hape



Unicorn teether

Tikiri



Soft Weighted Balls

Bean Products



Paint Plant Kit

Avergo



Frolicking Frog Pull Toy

Melissa & Doug



Wooden Train Set

Play22



Wooden Race Car Track

Top Bright



Alphabet Blocks

Hape



Doctor on Call Play Kit

Hape



Nursery rhyme blocks

Uncle Goose



Montessori Wooden Bus & Screwdriver

Gypsy Rose Collective



Wooden Dancing Alligator

PlanToys



Walk-A-Long Puppy

Hape



Mini Emergency Cars

Automoblox



Wooden Fruit & Vegetable Set

PlanToys



Rainbow Nesting Bowls

Grimms



Stainless Steel Pots and Pans

Melissa & Doug



Pull-Along Snail

PlanToys



Fantasia Blocks Train

Hape



Pound & Tap Bench

Hape



Montessori Wooden Play Kit - 5pc

Woodtoe



Tea Set & Picnic Basket

Delton Products



Gardening Tool Set

Born Toys



Heavy Duty Construction Play Set

iPlay, iLearn



Sensory ball set

Lakeshore



Soft & washable sensory balls

Lakeshore



Dynamo Dominoes

Hape



Wooden Car Ramp Racer

Wood City



Cuties dolls

Rubens Barn



Steel Front Loader

Tonka



Puzzle Keys

KODO



Diecast Metal Construction Trucks

Top Race



Wooden Barn

Melissa & Doug



Learning Blocks

Pottery Barn Kids



Magnetic blocks - 14pc

Tegu



Rubens Baby

Rubens Barn



**Large Stepped Pyramid
Wooden Blocks**

Grimms



**Four Elements Wooden
Puzzle**

Grimms



Toddler Ramp Set

KODO



**Wooden Rainbow
Stacking Tunnel**

Grimms



Clear Colors Set 100-pc

Magna-Tiles



Discovery Ramps

KODO



Metropolis Set 110-pc

Magna-Tiles



**White Gourmet
Kitchen**

Hape



Moover Dump Truck

HABA



Bistro Wooden Kitchen

Kid's Concept



Kiddie Car

Community Playthings



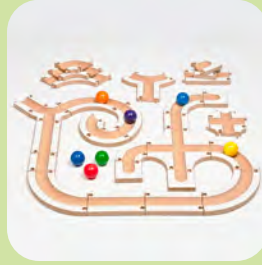
Mud Kitchen

Hearthsong



Classic Playset

Cubetto



Puzzle Ball Track

KODO



Small Trucks - 5ct

Community Playthings



Austrian Wooden Sandbox

Tierra Garden



Discovery Ramps Deluxe w/ Caddy

KODO



Sand & Water Table

Community Playthings

Games



Animal Dominoes

DJECO



Hoot Owl Hoot!

Peaceable Kingdom



Life on Earth Memory Game

eeBoo



I Never Forget a Face Memory Game

eeBoo



Balancing Boat

PlanToys



Chutes and Ladders

Hasbro



Feed the Woozle

Peaceable Kingdom



The Sneaky, Snacky Squirrel

Educational Insights



Shelby's Snack Shack

Educational Insights



Jumbo memory game

Hearthsong



Family Conversation Cards

TABLETOPICS



Nature Photo Cards

OuiSi



Ladybug Memory Game

Fat Brain Toys



House Construction Game

Archiblocks