40+ Picture Books or short reads for daily reflection

Created by: Barb Reid

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These books have a label on the back cover indicating the grouping and the subjects are pasted inside the front cover of each book to assist teachers with their choices.

If kids ran the world
E DILLON

Grouping: Making a difference. Subjects: Empowerment, making a difference, kindness

In text and pictures, this book tells us how much better the world would be, if kids were allowed to run the world.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/275168

Each kindness
E WOO

Grouping: Making a difference. Subjects: Kindness, being excluded

When Ms. Albert teaches a lesson on kindness, Chloe realizes that she and her friends have been wrong in making fun of new student Maya's shabby clothes and refusing to play with her.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/217428

Ordinary Mary's extraordinary deed
E PEA

Grouping: Making a difference. Subjects: Random acts of kindness, paying it forward

A young girl's good deed is multiplied as it is passed on by those who have been touched by the kindness of others.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/238493
There's room for everyone

E TEY

Grouping: Making a difference. Subjects: Kindness, tolerance

If there's room in the world for all the birds in the sky and whales in the ocean, why do humans always fight for space? This young child's reflections carry a profound message of peace and tolerance -- a testament of our time and a touching allegory for war and the refugee crisis.

A bus called heaven

E GRA


An abandoned bus appears in front of Stella's house one day, with a sign on front marked "Heaven", and it brings positive changes in the outlook of Stella and all who pass by in the community. Suggested level: junior.

Paulie Pastrami achieves world peace

E PRO

Grouping: Making a difference. Subjects: Kindness, making a difference

Seven-year-old Paulie, an ordinary boy, brings peace to his home and school through small acts of kindness, but needs help to achieve his goal of world peace.

I just ate my friend

E MCK

Grouping: Behaviour. Subjects: Valuing friendship, self control

"I just ate my friend. He was a good friend. But now he is gone. Would you be my friend?" A hilarious story about the search for friendship and belonging... and maybe a little bit about the importance of impulse control... from an amazing new creator.
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**Pig the star**


Pig just loves attention. In fact, he's a great, big show-off. But when another star appears at the photo shoot, Pig doesn't like it. No, Pig doesn't like it at ALL ...

**The wolf who learned self-control**

Grouping: Behaviour. Subjects: Moodiness, jealousy, anger

Happy, sad, excited, jealous . . . Wolf changes his moods so fast it's making everyone dizzy! Wolf must learn some self-control. But how?

**Pig the grub**


Pig likes being stinky and gross so he cleverly stuffs a rubber bone up the spout of the bath tap and it explodes! But Pig, nevertheless forced to come clean, has another horrible habit to unleash on poor Trevor, the goody two-shoes dachshund, who silently watches Pig's bad behaviour.

**Steve, raised by wolves**

Grouping: Behaviour. Subjects: Behaviour, fitting in

When Steve, who was raised by wolves, goes to school for the first time, he must find a balance between getting along with others and being himself.
It's hard to be five: learning how to work my control panel

Grouping: Behaviour. Subjects: Self control, behaviour

A child finds that learning to have self control is hard, but it can also be fun.

The Snurtch

Grouping: Behaviour. Subjects: Behaviour, being disruptive

"Ruthie has a problem at school. It is the Snurtch. The Snurtch is a scribbly, grabby, rude monster who follows Ruthie around and gets her into all sorts of trouble. It seems Ruthie will never be rid of the Snurtch. But eventually, she realizes she's not the only one... George has one too"--Provided by publisher.

If you plant a seed

Grouping: Friendship. Subjects: Kindness, sharing, paying it forward

While planting seeds in their garden, two animals learn the value of kindness.

Drawing together


Nobody wants to play with Lucy on her first day in school. So her teacher gives her some chalks and Lucy begins to draw animals on the playground. She doesn't notice Zack and Ibrahim sitting at opposite ends of a nearby bench, watching her. As the three stories progress, Lucy, Zack and Ibrahim overcome the awkwardness of being alone at a new school, and become the best of friends, drawing together.
Hello goodbye little island
E BOU

Grouping: Friendship. Subjects: Moving, new kids, friendship

Maja had just moved to the little island and she missed home terribly. When she finds a friend, things get better. But when her friend moves away, her world crumbles once more. With time, Maja discovers that distances do not matter; friendships she finds will stay with her always, and goodbyes are not forever.

Stick and Stone
PC FER


Stick and Stone are both lonely until Pinecone's teasing causes one to stick up for the other, and a solid friendship is formed.

Louise and Andie : the art of friendship
E LIG

Grouping: Friendship. Subjects: Respecting other people's work, friendship

"Louise has a new neighbor, the creative and offbeat Andie--but can they overcome their differences and be friends?"--Provided by publisher.

Unicorn thinks he's pretty great
E SHE

Grouping: Friendship. Subjects: Showing off, envy, teamwork

Envy turns to admiration and finally to friendship for Goat and Unicorn.
Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley
E BLA


Pearl Barley, adventuresome and unafraid, could not be more different than the timid, unexciting Charlie Parsley, but together the two form a lasting friendship.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/119053

Stanley Paste
E BLA


Stanley Paste is small. Really small. And he hates it. But when a new girl arrives at school, Stanley learns that perhaps being small is not so bad after all . . .

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/116454

The truth according to Arthur
E HOP

Grouping: Saying sorry. Subjects: Honesty, taking responsibility, apologising

Arthur and The Truth are not the best of friends right now. Why? Because today Arthur did something he shouldn't have done - he rode on his big brother's bike (when his mum told him not to) and then he accidentally bumped it into Mum's car. Arthur knows he's done wrong but will he tell the truth OR will he bend it, stretch it, cover it up, hide it...? What would YOU do? What will Arthur do? Find out in this fresh and funny take on a common childhood predicament - to tell the truth or to tell a little fib.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/308420

Doug-Dennis and the flyaway fib
E FAR

Grouping: Saying sorry. Subjects: Honesty

Having fibbed about stealing his best friend's popcorn at the circus, Doug-Dennis the sheep finds himself carried far away to a place filled with lies and liars of all sorts and must discover a way to return.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/189994
The Hueys in It wasn't me
E JEF

Grouping: Saying sorry. Subjects: Disagreements,
The thing about the Hueys was that most of the time they got along. Until one day Gillespie came across a bit of an argument...

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/331876

Pig the fibber
E BLA

Pig is greedy and also very dishonest, blaming the ever-smiling Trevor for all of Pig’s destructive ways. A plot to steal lots of food rebounds and the conclusion is once again that Pig will have learned his lesson, but...Trevor is perhaps overly optimistic!

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/302383

Iris and Isaac

Grouping: Saying sorry. Subjects: Disagreements, friendship, forgiveness
Iris and Isaac are not friends. Off they stomp, in a big huff, as far away from each other as possible. And as they stomp, they see funny, strange and wonderful things. If only they were together to share them.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/171030

Ugly Fish
E LAR

Grouping: Loneliness. Subjects: Sharing, loneliness
At first Ugly Fish likes being alone in his tank so much that he eats any fish that tries to share it, but when he becomes lonely, he devises a better plan.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/315233
**Rose meets Mr. Wintergarten**

E GRA


A young girl's attempt to retrieve her ball from her grouchy, old neighbour's yard changes the way they feel about each other.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/65355

**The big little book of happy sadness**

E THO


George, a young boy who is being raised by his grandmother and feels very lonely, learns the value of love from a dog he adopts from an animal shelter.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/119073

**The short and incredibly happy life of Riley**

E THO


Presents a picture book that tells a story about a young rat, Riley, who grows up living a very contented life, and whose life is compared to that of humans.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/119626

**Michael**

E BRA


Michael is considered to be a poor student because he is different from the others and has his own ideas about what is interesting or worthwhile, but he ends by surprising everyone.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/119107
Up and down  
E JEF

Grouping: Individuality. Subjects: Friendship, independence, differences

Even though the penguin and the boy are close friends and do many things together, the penguin decides that he wants to fly and he wants to do it on his own.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/183741

The Hueys in the new jumper  
E JEF

Grouping: Individuality. Subjects: Individuality, copying

The thing about the Hueys is that they are all the same. They all look the same, think the same and do the same things. Until one day, Rupert knits himself a new jumper. How will the other Hueys react?

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/222747

I'm here  
E REY

Grouping: Inclusion. Subjects: Being alone, exclusion, being different

In a crowded park, a boy makes an airplane out of a piece of paper carried to him by a gentle breeze, sends it on its way, and watches a new friend bring it back to him.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/335231

Room on our rock : there are two sides to every story  
E TEM


Two seals are perched on a rock. When others need shelter, do they share it? Room on Our Rock celebrates the truth that there are two sides to every story. This clever picture book has one story that can be read two different ways. When read from front to back, the seals believe there is definitely no room on their rock for others. But when the book is read from back to front, the seals welcome others to shelter on their rock. A heartwarming story about sharing and compassion.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/326349
Meerkat choir

Grouping: Inclusion. Subjects: Discrimination, inclusion, abilities, bullying

'And a ONE - and a TWO - and a THREE-...' 'Excuse me. Can I join your choir?' 'No. You cannot join our choir. This is a MEERKAT choir.' The meerkats are excited. They're ready for their very first rehearsal with their meerkat choirmaster. But just as they're about to sing their very first note, they're interrupted by a steady stream of other animals who want to join in. The meerkat choirmaster insists his choir is only for meerkats. And he gets grumpier and grumpier at each interruption.

What if everybody said that?

Grouping: Power of words. Subjects: Kindness, power of words, thoughtfulness

"What if everybody chose to be kind? If you tell someone that they can't play with you, there's no harm done, right? But what if everybody said that? What if everybody forgot to be kind--and made fun of other kids' artwork at school, or told a fib, or refused to share with a person in need? The world wouldn't be a very nice place to live. But what if everybody thought before they spoke, so the world would be a kinder place?"

Macca the alpaca


Macca the Alpaca is small, kind and friendly. His days are easy and carefree until he accidentally bumps head-first into Harmer the llama. Harmer is big, unkind and never, ever friendly... Can little Macca find a way to teach Harmer a lesson he'll never forget?

Words and your heart

Grouping: Power of words. Subjects: Kindness, power of words, feelings

How we use words. This book beautifully demonstrates the importance of what we say, both positive and negative.
**Phileas's fortune : a story about self-expression**

*E LES*

Grouping: Power of words. Subjects:  Power of words, value of simple things

In a strange land where people must buy and swallow the words they wish to speak, Phileas hopes to communicate his love to Cybele using the small vocabulary he has been able to afford.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/190376

**Sweep**

*E GRE*

Grouping: Self-esteem. Subjects: Moods, depression

Ed's bad mood begins as something really small, hardly a thing at all. But before long it grows, gathers pace, and spreads through the whole town. Can Ed sweep his troubles away? An uplifting story about confronting big emotions.

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/335243

**Me and my fear**

*E SAN*

Grouping: Self-esteem. Subjects: Anxiety, natural cautiousness, loneliness, making friends

When a young girl has to move countries and start at a new school, her fear tells her to be alone and afraid. How can she hope to make friends if she doesn't understand anyone? Surely no one else feels the same way...

https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/9142/details/335590

**I'm gonna like me : letting off a little self-esteem**

*E CUR*

Grouping: Self-esteem. Subjects: Self belief, accepting mistakes

Traces the day of two children and focuses on everyday occurrences that can build self-esteem.
I am human: a book of empathy

Subjects: Empathy, emotions

"A child recognizes his own humanity, his capacity for doing harm and being harmed, his ability to feel joy and sadness, and his belief in hope and promise to keep learning"--Provided by publisher.