

Books for social development

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Openness to others

Dean, J. Dean, K. (2014). **Pete the Cat and the New Guy**. New-York: Harper Collins.

There's a new guy in town, and Pete can't wait to meet him. After all, more friends mean more fun. But who can he be? When Pete finally meets Gus, he realizes they're very different from each other. The message of acceptance shines through and is perfect for young readers learning to navigate the social waters.

Diggs, Taye (2011). **Chocolate Me!** Feiwel & Friends - Macmillan

The boy is teased for looking different. His skin is darker, his hair is curlier, his nose is bigger than everyone else's. The boy is chocolate. He wishes he looked like the other kids. For everyone who has ever felt different, who has wished to be someone else, here is a celebration of how sweet and lovely and delicious you are.

Conflict resolution

Bender, Rebecca (2010). **Giraffe and Bird**, Toronto: Dancing Cat Books.

It's true that getting along can be difficult, but Giraffe and Bird don't even try. A funny and slightly tender story of two enemies who eventually realize they are much better off together.

Friendship

DeRolf, Shane (1997). **The Crayon Box that Talked**. Random House Children's Books.

Yellow hates Red, so does Green, and no one likes Orange! Can these crayons quit arguing and learn to cooperate? Shane DeRolf's deceptively simple poem celebrates the creation of harmony through diversity. In combination with Michael Letzig's vibrant illustrations, young readers will understand that when we all work together, the results are much more colourful and interesting. Video retrieved November 2 from <http://vimeo.com/23111919>

Munsch, Robert (1999). **We Share Everything!** Scholastic, Inc.

It's the very first day of kindergarten, and Amanda and Jeremiah have a problem. They want to read the same book. They want to play with the same blocks. The teacher wants them to share everything. But when Amanda and Jeremiah take their teacher's advice, the whole class is in for a hilarious surprise.

Yolen, Jane (2006). **How Do Dinosaurs Play With Their Friends?** Scholastic, Inc.

A fun guide to friendship and playing nicely with others, a romp with dinosaurs behaving badly. The ironic text will have children roaring.

Find similar resources; consult **Helping Special Needs and At-Risk Students in Kindergarten** in the Preschool section of LEARN.