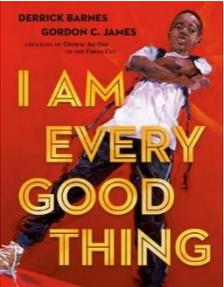
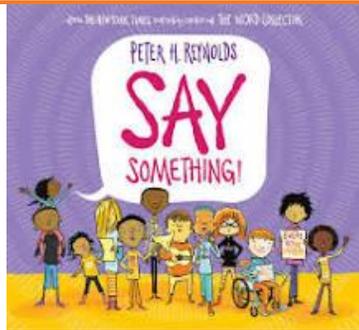


SEL Book of the Month Initiative 2021-2022

MONTH	SEL COMPETENCY	THEME	BOOK SUMMARY
<p>August</p>  <p>Illustration by ADAM REX and CHRISTIAN ROBINSON</p>	<p>Relationship Skills allows students to develop and maintain healthy relationships with others, including the ability to resist negative social pressures, resolve interpersonal conflict, and seek help when needed. Students need to be able to work well with their classmates in order to participate in collaborative groups.</p>	<p>Welcome to the School Community (We recognize the value of our home communities, while making a daily contribution to our school community through acts of kindness.)</p>	<p>School's First Day of School, by Adam Rex and Christian Robinson</p> <p>It's the first day of school and everyone's just a little bit nervous, especially the school itself. What will the children do once they come? Will they like the school? Will they be nice to him?</p> <p>The school has a rough start, but as the day goes on, he soon recovers when he sees that he's not the only one going through first-day jitters</p>
<p>September</p>  <p>Illustration by DERRICK BARNES and GORDON C. JAMES</p>	<p>Self-awareness is the ability to recognize one's own feelings, interests, and strengths, in addition to maintaining an accurate level of self-efficacy. Students who are self-aware are capable of describing and understanding their own emotions. In addition, they are capable of recognizing their own strengths and weaknesses. Students' beliefs about their own strengths and weaknesses influence the academic choices they make, how long they will persist on tasks and whether or not they will ask for help on academic tasks.</p>	<p>Individuality and Positive Self-Concept (We are aware of the importance of each unique identity and the strengths we all bring as individuals)</p>	<p>I am Every Good Thing, by Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James</p> <p><i>I am a nonstop ball of energy. Powerful and full of light. I am a go-getter. A difference maker. A leader.</i></p> <p>The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through--as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. And other times he's afraid, because he's so often misunderstood and called what he is not. So slow down and really look and listen, when somebody tells you--and shows you--who they are. There are superheroes in our midst!</p>
<p>October</p>	<p>Social awareness allows individuals to take others' perspectives into account and to empathize with others. Socially aware students are more likely to recognize and</p>	<p>Diversity and Acceptance (We show appreciation for</p>	<p>Say Something, by Peter Reynolds</p> <p><i>The world needs your voice. If you have a brilliant idea... say something! If you see an injustice... say</i></p>

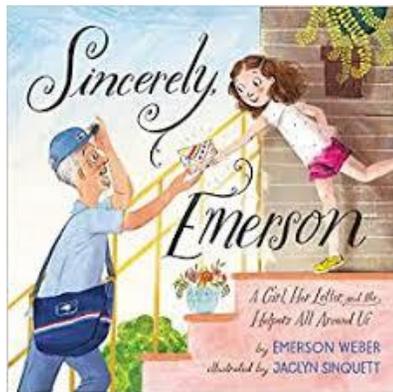


appreciate the similarities and differences of others. Social awareness is particularly important for students as they participate in new instructional shifts. Students need to take the perspectives of their classmates during classroom discussions and attempt to empathize and relate with characters during analysis of texts.

diverse perspectives and experiences)

something! In this empowering new picture book, beloved author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference. Each of us, each and every day, have the chance to say something: with our actions, our words, and our voices. Perfect for kid activists everywhere, this timely story reminds readers of the undeniable importance and power of their voice. There are so many ways to tell the world who you are... what you are thinking... and what you believe. And how you'll make it better.

November



Social awareness allows individuals to take others' perspectives into account and to empathize with others. Socially aware students are more likely to recognize and appreciate the similarities and differences of others. Social awareness is particularly important for students as they participate in new instructional shifts. Students need to take the perspectives of their classmates during classroom discussions and attempt to empathize and relate with characters during analysis of texts.

Empathy

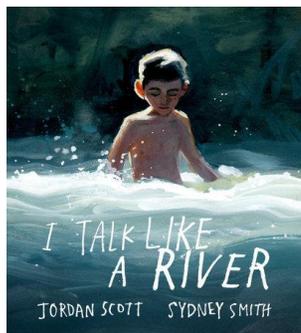
(We appreciate the value of kindness in building and maintaining a positive learning community)

Sincerely, Emerson

By Emerson Weber and Jaclyn Sinquett

One tiny act of kindness can have a huge impact. And in this heartwarming, hopeful story, a simple letter does just that. A true story that quickly went viral, this is now a timely, extraordinary picture book. *Sincerely, Emerson* follows eleven-year-old Emerson Weber as she writes a letter of thanks to her postal carrier, Doug, and creates a nationwide outpouring of love. This is a story of gratitude, hope, and recognition: for all the essential helpers we see everyday, and all those who go *unseen*.

December



Responsible decision making enables students to keep in mind multiple factors—such as ethics, standards, respect, and safety concerns—when making their decisions. This competency includes students' capacity to identify problems and develop appropriate solutions to those problems, whether they are social or academic problems.

Inclusion

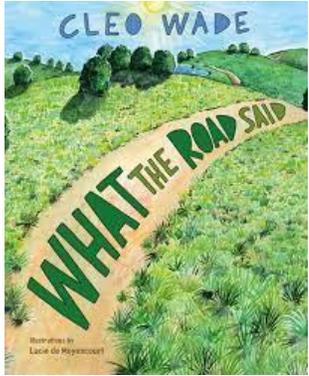
(We identify ways to include all individuals and recognize the multiple perspectives that come with learning and physical differences)

**I Talk Like a River,
By Jordan Scott and Sydney Smith**

When a boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he'd like, it takes a kindly father and a walk by the river to help him find his voice.

Poet Jordan Scott writes movingly in this powerful and ultimately uplifting book, based on his own experience. A book for any child who feels lost, lonely, or unable to fit in.

January



Self-management skills allow individuals to handle daily stresses and control their emotions under difficult situations. Students' capacities to regulate their emotions impact student memory and the cognitive resources they use on academic tasks. Self-management skills include the ability to monitor and reflect on personal and academic goal-setting. Academic self-regulation has important implications for student motivation in the classroom, as well as the learning strategies students use to master material.

Courage

(We analyze the courage it takes to overcome adversity, take risks, and advocate for one's self)

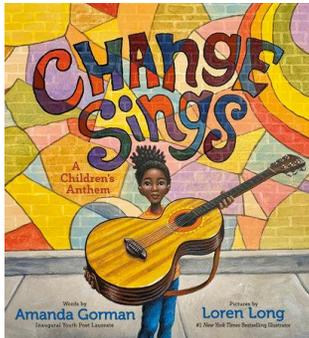
What the Road Said, By Cleo Wade and Lucie Movencourt

*Which way do I go?
That is your choice to make, said the Road.*

*But what if I go the wrong way?
The Road curved a little,
almost as if it was giving me a hug, and said,
Do not worry. Sometimes we go the wrong way on
our way to the right way.*

It's okay to be afraid or to sometimes wander down the wrong path. Bestselling poet and activist Cleo Wade's *What the Road Said* features illustrations by Lucie de Moyencourt and encourages us to lead with kindness and curiosity, remembering that the most important thing we can do in life is to keep going.

February



Responsible decision making enables students to keep in mind multiple factors—such as ethics, standards, respect, and safety concerns—when making their decisions. This competency includes students' capacity to identify problems and develop appropriate solutions to those problems, whether they are social or academic problems.

Problem-Solving

(We explore skills related to problem-solving and how those skills are developed to support learning, positive relationships and self-efficacy)

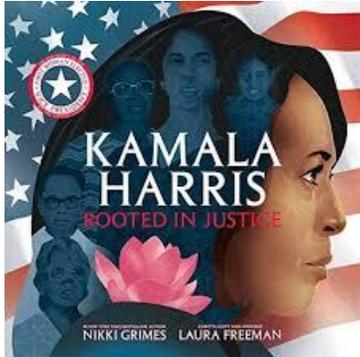
Change Sings, By Amanda Gorman and Loren Long

*I can hear change humming
In its loudest, proudest song.
I don't fear change coming,
And so I sing along."*

In this stirring, much-anticipated picture book by presidential inaugural poet and activist Amanda Gorman, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes—big or small—in the world, in their communities, and in most importantly, in themselves.

With lyrical text and rhythmic illustrations that build to a dazzling crescendo by #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Loren Long, *Change Sings* is a triumphant call to action for everyone to use their abilities to make a difference.

March



Self-management skills allow individuals to handle daily stresses and control their emotions under difficult situations. Students' capacities to regulate their emotions impact student memory and the cognitive resources they use on academic tasks. Self-management skills include the ability to monitor and reflect on personal and academic goal-setting. Academic self-regulation has important implications for student motivation in the classroom, as well as the learning strategies students use to master material.

Perseverance

(We set and achieve realistic goals, both immediate and long term, by maintaining our focus and using a growth mindset)

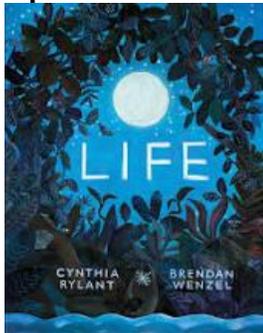
Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice, **By Nikki Grimes and Laura Freeman**

When Kamala Harris was young, she often accompanied her parents to civil rights marches—so many, in fact, that when her mother asked a frustrated Kamala what she wanted, the young girl responded with: “Freedom!”

As Kamala grew from a small girl in Oakland to a senator running for president, it was this long-fostered belief in freedom and justice for all people that shaped her into the inspiring figure she is today. From fighting for the use of a soccer field in middle school to fighting for the people of her home state in Congress, Senator Harris used her voice to speak up for what she believed in and for those who were otherwise unheard. And now this dedication has led her all the way to being elected Vice President of the United States.

Told in Nikki Grimes's stunning verse and featuring gorgeous illustrations by Laura Freeman, this picture book biography brings to life a story that shows all young people that the American dream can belong to all of us if we fight for one another.

April



Self-awareness is the ability to recognize one's own feelings, interests, and strengths, in addition to maintaining an accurate level of self-efficacy. Students who are self-aware are capable of describing and understanding their own emotions. In addition, they are capable of recognizing their own strengths and weaknesses. Students' beliefs about their own strengths and weaknesses influence the academic choices they make, how long they will persist on tasks and

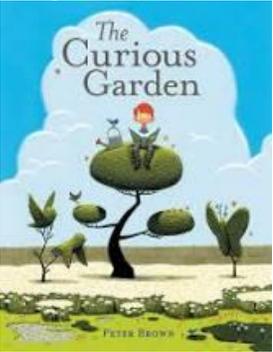
Growth-Mindset

(We recognize that we can achieve anything with effort and support. Learning capability is limitless)

Life, **Cynthia Rylant and Brendan Wenzel**

Life begins small, then grows...

There are so many wonderful things about life, both in good times and in times of struggle. Through the eyes of the world's animals—including elephants, monkeys, whales, and more—Cynthia Rylant offers a moving meditation on finding beauty around us every day and finding strength in adversity. Brendan Wenzel's stunning landscapes and engaging creatures make this an inspiring and intriguing gift for readers of all ages.

	<p>whether or not they will ask for help on academic tasks.</p>		
<p>May</p> 	<p>Relationship Skills allows students to develop and maintain healthy relationships with others, including the ability to resist negative social pressures, resolve interpersonal conflict, and seek help when needed. Students need to be able to work well with their classmates in order to participate in collaborative groups.</p>	<p>Service Learning (We commit to working with others to make our community and the world better)</p>	<p>The Curious Garden, By Peter Brown</p> <p>One boy's quest for a greener world... one garden at a time.</p> <p>While out exploring one day, a little boy named Liam discovers a struggling garden and decides to take care of it. As time passes, the garden spreads throughout the dark, gray city, transforming it into a lush, green world.</p> <p>This is an enchanting tale with environmental themes and breathtaking illustrations that become more vibrant as the garden blooms.</p>