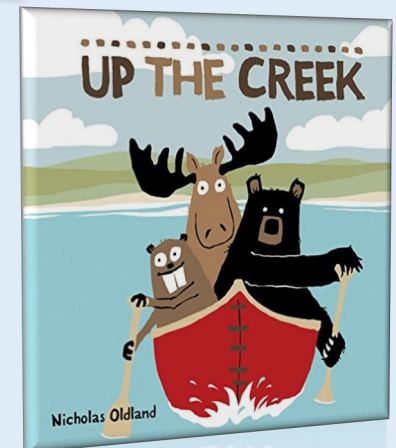
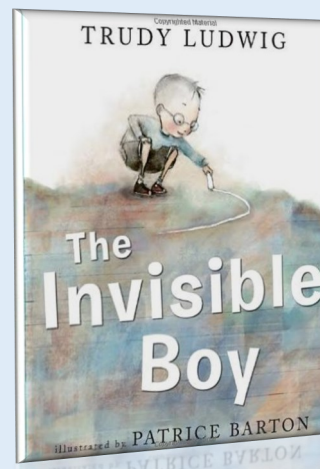
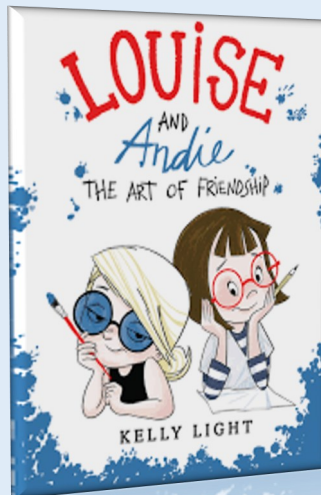
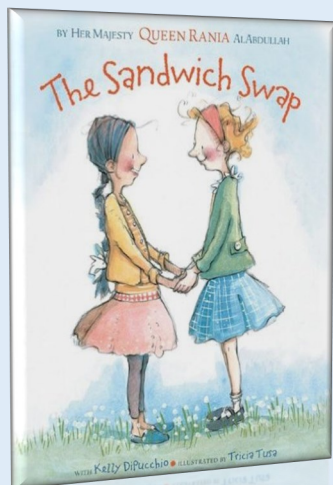
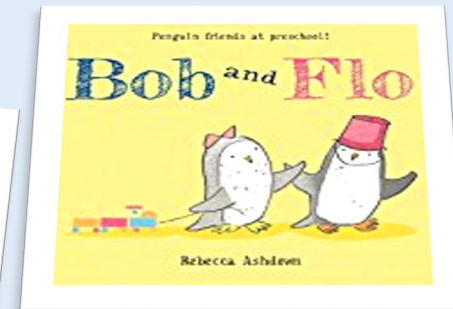
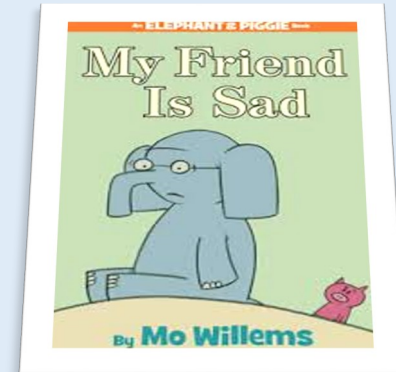


Inferring themes: Books about friendship to discuss, share ideas, and grow as individuals

B.C.'s Core Competencies

Joan Pearce & Carol Walters

SD 71 Comox Valley



Book

Summary

Core Competency

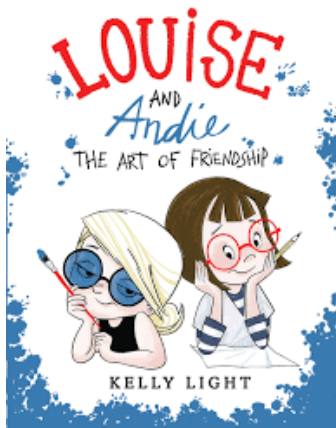


By having rich conversations that encourage students to **infer themes**, many of the core competencies addressed in these titles can be internalized and understood more deeply by students. Although certain core competencies are listed here for each book, conversation will ultimately direct these connections. Analyze the competency needs of your students and choose a few books that fit student needs.



In this simple but substantial picture book by Lana Button, shy, quiet Willow silently wishes she could find a way to say no to her bossy classmate Kristabelle's demands, but the words never seem to come when she needs them. That is, until Kristabelle starts using the powerful threat of un-inviting children from her fantastic birthday party to keep them in line, and Willow decides she's finally had enough. Surprising everyone, even herself, Willow steps up and bravely does something shocking, and it changes the entire dynamic of the classroom.

- Personal Awareness and Responsibility
- Social Awareness and Responsibility
- Positive Personal Identity
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Thinking




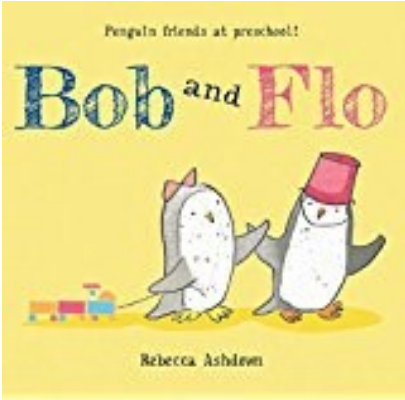
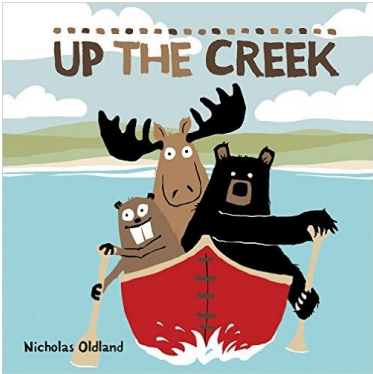
In this stunning companion to the acclaimed *Louise Loves Art*, Louise has a new neighbor, the creative and offbeat Andie—but can they overcome their differences and be friends?

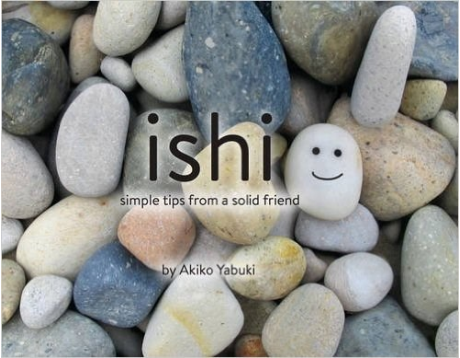
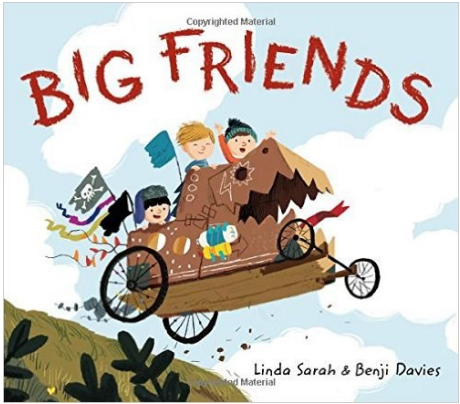
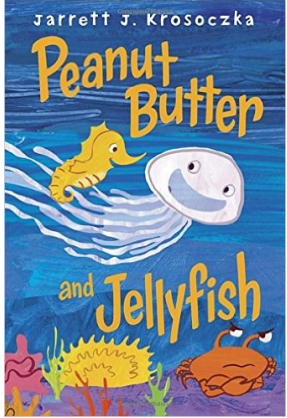
Louise loves art more than anything. Imagine her delight when a new neighbor, Andie, moves in . . . and she loves art too! It's the best day ever.


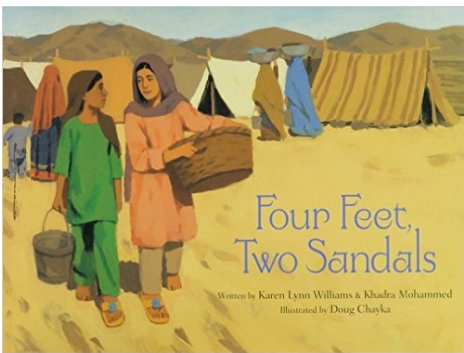
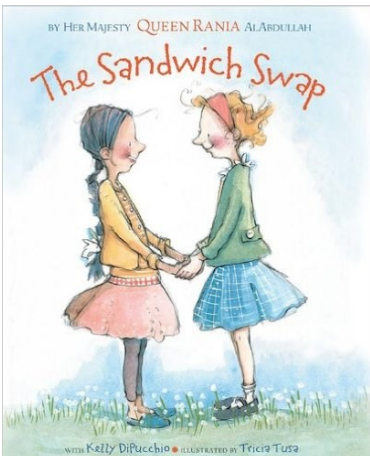
But liking the same thing doesn't always mean you agree on it. Can they overcome their creative differences?


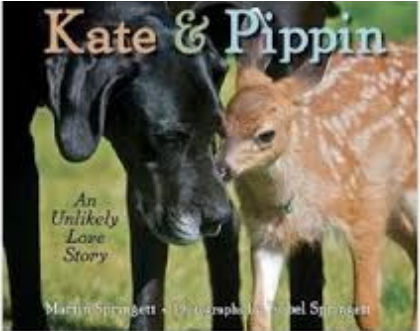
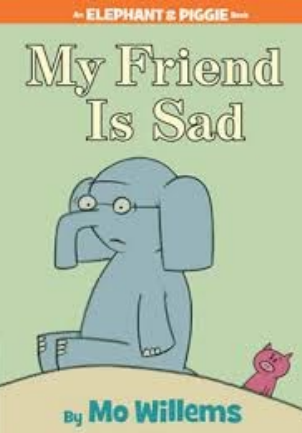
Sometimes friendship, like art, can require collaboration.

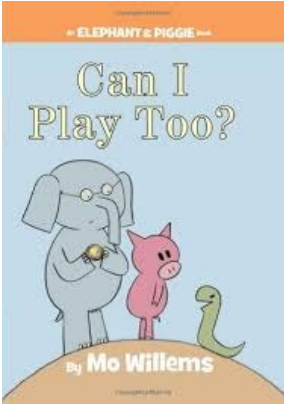
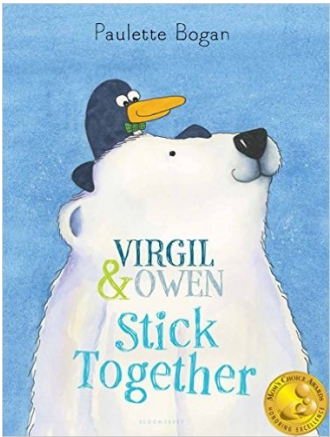
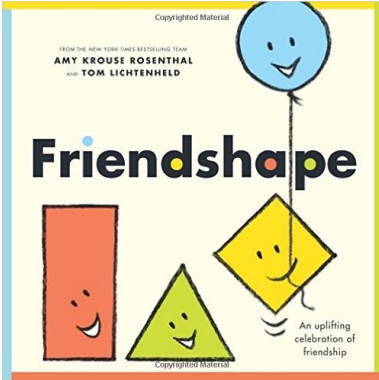
- Creative Thinking
- Social Responsibility
- Positive Personal Identity
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Personal Awareness and Responsibility

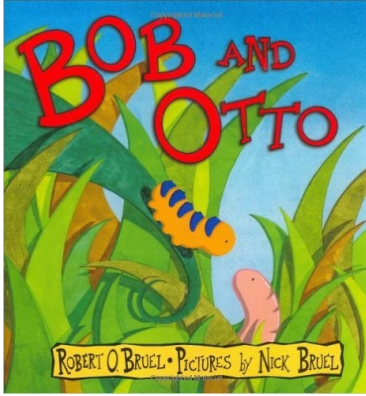
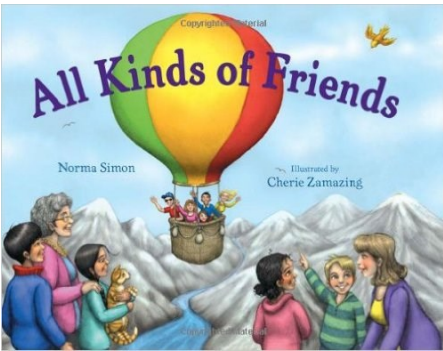
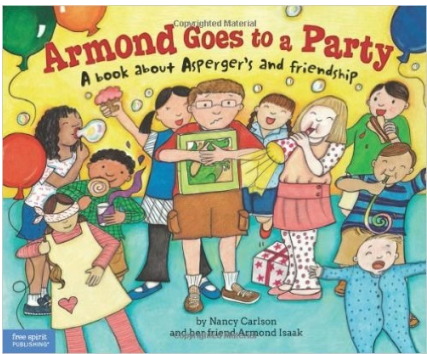
Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>What happens when blue cat wants to be like red and red wants to be like blue? Can they be happy within their own fur?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Personal Identity • Personal Awareness • Creative Thinking
	<p>Flo's bucket is missing. When she finds it, she finds Bob. Bob is a creative thinker who uses Flo's bucket in a variety of clever ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Thinking
	<p>Bear, moose and beaver are the best of friends, but when the three go canoeing together, it doesn't take long for them to start quarreling with one another. Who should get to steer the canoe? How should they get across a beaver dam that blocks their way? And what's the proper course for maneuvering through the white-water rapids they suddenly find themselves in? The consequences of their actions become truly perilous. It takes a long, uncomfortable night spent stranded on a rock to remind the bear, the moose and the beaver what they often forget: everything turns out better when they work together as a team.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Communication

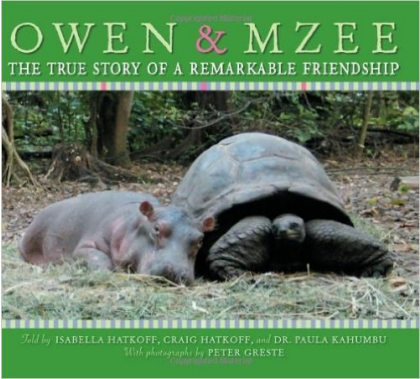


Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>An award-winning, shareable, cozy hug of a picture book featuring Ishi, an optimistic little rock who reminds readers to choose and share happiness!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Critical Thinking
	<p>Birt and Etho are best friends. Together they play outside in big cardboard boxes. Sometimes they're kings, soldiers, astronauts. Sometimes they're pirates sailing wild seas and skies. But always, always they're Big friends. Then one day a new boy arrives, and he wants to join them. Can two become three?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking
	<p>Peanut Butter and Jellyfish are best of friends and swim up, down, around, and through their ocean home. Crabby is their neighbor. He is not their best friend. But when Crabby gets in trouble, will Peanut Butter and Jellyfish come to the rescue? You bet they will!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication

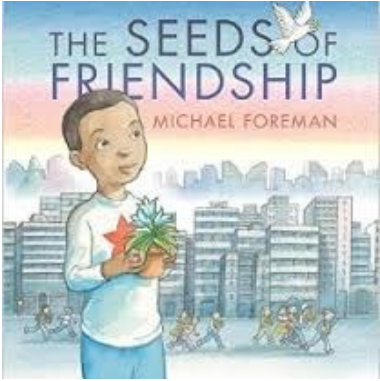
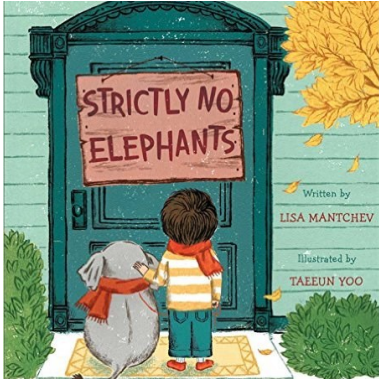
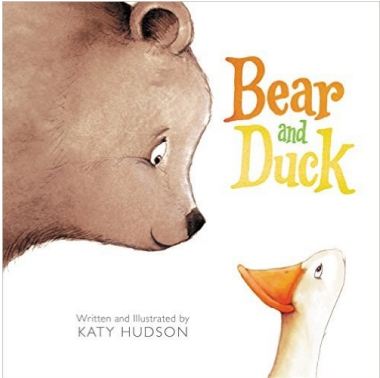
Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p><i>Glee</i> actress Jane Lynch takes a look at bullying head-on in her first picture book.</p> <p>Marlene is the self-appointed queen of the playground, the sidewalk, and the school. She is small but mighty . . . intimidating! Known for her cruel ways, the little Queen of Mean has kids cowering in fear—until big Freddy stands up to her and says what everyone has been too fearful to say.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity
	<p>When relief workers bring used clothing to a refugee camp in Pakistan, ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly - until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe. But soon Lina and Feroza meet and decide that it is better to share the sandals than for each to wear only one. The girls discover the true meaning of friendship and sacrifice. "Four Feet, Two Sandals" honors the experiences of refugee children around the world, whose daily existence is marked by uncertainty and fear.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking
	<p>Lily and Salma are best friends. They like doing all the same things, and they always eat lunch together. Lily eats peanut butter and Salma eats hummus-but what's that between friends? It turns out, a lot. Before they know it, a food fight breaks out. Can Lily and Salma put aside their differences? Or will a sandwich come between them?</p> <p>P.S. I LOVE the lead sentence in this book ~ "It all began with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich ..." And guess what the ending is? ..." And that's how it all began with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich ... and ended with a hummus and pita sandwich."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Personal and Cultural Identity • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Communication • Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking

Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Friends might bite, so who wants them. There are lots of other things to keep oneself busy in life. But when a potential friend is spotted, Scaredy Squirrel is armed with a name tag, mittens, a mirror and a lemon. He's prepared to make The Perfect First Impression. But just when every detail is under control, Scaredy's Action Plan takes a surprising turn. Will he survive this ordeal? Will he find his kindred spirit? Will he discover the true meaning of friendship?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Awareness • Positive Personal Identity • Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking
	<p>Pippin, an abandoned fawn, is introduced to Kate, the Great Dane. The two form a remarkable and unlikely friendship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication
	<p>Gerald is careful. Piggie is not. Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can. Gerald and Piggie are best friends.</p> <p>In <i>My Friend is Sad</i>, elephant Gerald is down in the dumps. Piggie is determined to cheer him up by dressing as a cowboy, a clown, and even a robot! But what does it take to make a sad elephant happy? The answer will make even pessimistic elephants smile</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Personal Identity • Communication

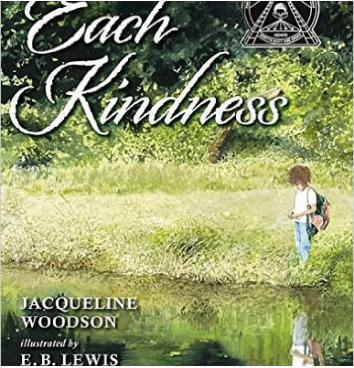
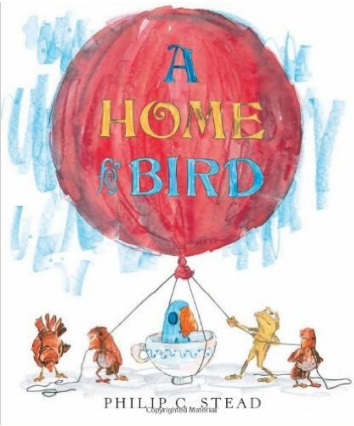
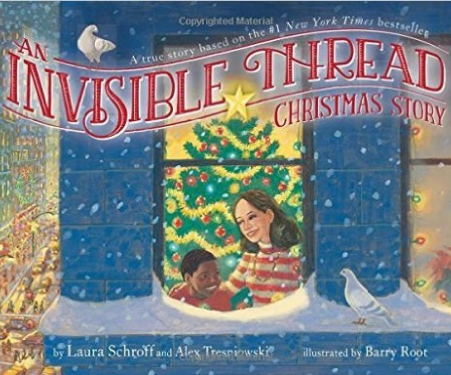
Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Gerald is careful. Piggie is not. Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can. Gerald and Piggie are best friends.</p> <p>In <i>Can I Play Too?</i> Gerald and Piggie meet a new snake friend who wants to join in a game of catch. But don't you need arms to catch?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
	<p>Owen and Virgil both love going to school... just in different ways. Eager Virgil likes to learn as much as he can, as quickly as possible. Owen likes to savor each moment as he counts and writes and tells stories. So when Virgil rushes Owen a bit too much one day, their friendship is suddenly on thin ice. Can Virgil exercise some patience and appreciate his friend's point of view?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness • Positive Personal Identity • Communication
	<p>Friends shape who we are. They make us laugh. They fill us with fun. They stand by us during life's up and downs. And even when we disagree with our friends, if they're tried-and-true, they don't stay bent out of shape for long. That's the beauty of a good buddy. This joyous book rejoices in the simple beauties of friendship, and reminds readers of all ages that it's good to have a group of pals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness • Positive Personal Identity • Creative Thinking



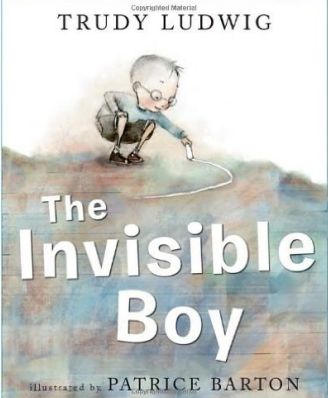
Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Bob and Otto do best-friend kinds of things together--eating leaves, digging, playing--until the day Bob decides to climb a tree, simply because . . . he has to. When the two meet again, Otto is still the same dirt-loving earthworm, but Bob has done the unthinkable: grown wings. Friendship overcomes all else in this sweet and funny story, because no matter what happens, ". . . friends are important."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness • Positive Personal Identity • Communication
	<p>"Wherever you live, whoever you are, friends are important, all kinds of friends." In the spirit of her classic book, All Kinds of Families, Norma Simon leads us through a celebration of friendship--school friends, family friends, grownup friends, even pet friends!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness • Positive Personal Identity
	<p>Armond doesn't want to go to Felicia's birthday party. Parties are noisy, disorganized and smelly - all things are hard for a kid with Asperger's. Worst of all is socializing with other kids. But with the support of Felicia and her mom, good friends who know how to help him, he not only gets through the party, but also has fun. When his mom picks him up, Armond admits the party was not easy, but he feels good that he faced the challenge - and that he's a good friend. A great book for anyone to learn about coping with autism or Asperger's.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication

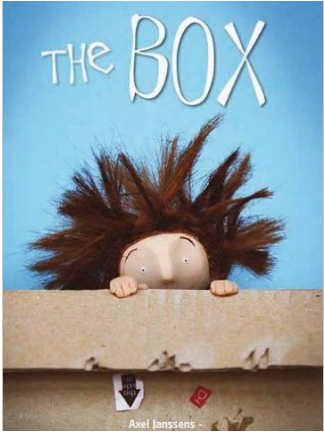
Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>The inspiring true story of two great friends, a baby hippo named Owen and a 130-yr-old giant tortoise named Mzee (Mm-ZAY). When Owen was stranded after the Dec 2004 tsunami, villagers in Kenya worked tirelessly to rescue him. Then, to everyone's amazement, the orphan hippo and the elderly tortoise adopted each other. Now they are inseparable, swimming, eating, and playing together. Adorable photos e-mailed from friend to friend quickly made them worldwide celebrities. Here is a joyous reminder that in times of trouble, friendship is stronger than the differences that too often pull us apart.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
	<p>This is an early emergent series in which a simple, I can... sentence framework is repeated. Illustrations will prompt conversation around these core competency topics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication
	<p>Hardly anyone notice young Sally McCabe. She was the smallest girl in the smallest grade. But young Sally was very busy noticing everything. She quietly gathered just enough information to take a bold stand. And when she takes a chance and stands up to the bullies, she finds that one small girl can make a big difference.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking

Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Adam feels alone in the strange new city. He misses his old friends and the colors of his faraway home. It's fun to build snow animals with children in his new neighborhood, but Adam's concrete surroundings still make him wish for something more. So when a teacher gives him a few seeds, it plants an idea in him—an idea that could transform his gray world forever.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
	<p>When the local Pet Club won't admit a boy's tiny pet elephant, he finds a solution—one that involves all kinds of unusual animals in this sweet and adorable picture book.</p> <p>Today is Pet Club day. There will be cats and dogs and fish, but <i>strictly no elephants</i> are allowed. The Pet Club doesn't understand that pets come in all shapes and sizes, just like friends. Now it is time for a boy and his tiny pet elephant to show them what it means to be a true friend.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
	<p>Bear is sick and tired of being a bear. Who wants to sleep all winter? His fur feels so hot in the summer. And the bees . . . there are just too many angry bees! Bear is done being a bear. But when he sees a line of happy yellow ducklings, he has a thought. What if he could be a duck?</p> <p>With a few duck lessons from Duck, Bear learns that being a duck is fun; but as it turns out, Bear realizes he makes a really good bear . . . and he makes a really good friend along the way.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking

Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Katie and Jennifer are best friends. But when Jennifer chooses to play with Roy instead, Katie is faced with new emotions and must decide how to proceed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication
	<p>During Hurricane Katrina, evacuating New Orleans residents were forced to leave their pets behind. Bobbi the dog was initially chained to keep her safe, but after her owners failed to return, she had to break free. For months, Bobbi wandered the city's ravaged streets—dragging her chain behind her—followed by her feline companion, Bob Cat. This is the true story of these companions, their hardships and their search for a new home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication
	<p>Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighborhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce it—<i>Yoon-Hey</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking

Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Chloe and her friends won't play with the new girl, Maya. Every time Maya tries to join Chloe and her friends, they reject her. Eventually Maya stops coming to school. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya.</p> <p>After reading this book, ask, "What does this book inspire you to do?"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
	<p>While out foraging for interesting things, Vernon the toad finds a new friend - a small blue bird who is curiously silent. Vernon shows Bird the river and the forest and some of his other favorite things, but Bird says nothing. Vernon introduces Bird to his friends, Skunk and Porcupine, but Bird still says nothing.</p> <p>"Bird is shy," says Vernon, "but also a very good listener."</p> <p>Vernon worries that Bird is silent because he misses his home, so the two set off on a journey to help find a home for Bird.</p> <p>This is a tender tale of a thoughtful friend who is determined to help his quiet companion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Awareness and Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking
	<p><i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Laura Schroff tells the remarkable story of her lifelong friendship with a boy named Maurice who she met on the street while he was asking for change.</p> <p>Laura retells the first Christmas that she and Maurice spent together. She shares how Maurice gave her a small white bear and, as she later learns, the only thing he had that he could truly call his own—to show her how grateful he was for their friendship. This heartwarming tale captures the true meaning of the holidays.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication

Book	Summary	Core Competency
 <p>Written by Lana Button Illustrated by Tania Howells</p>	<p>When Willow speaks, her words slip out as soft and shy as a secret. At school, her barely audible whisper causes her no end of troubles. But Willow is as resourceful as she is quiet, and she fashions a magic microphone from items she finds in the recycling bin.</p> <p>But Willow's clever invention is only a temporary solution. How will this quiet little girl make herself heard?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking
 <p>Written by Lana Button Illustrated by Tania Howells</p>	<p>Sometimes Willow smiled without even trying. But sometimes when she wished she could and knew she should, her smile slipped straight off her face. So when her teacher tells the class that Picture Day is coming, shy Willow starts to worry. What if she isn't able to smile for the camera? How can she have her picture taken without smiling? But then on Picture Day, Willow gets the opportunity to watch the other children being photographed. She sees that all of her friends' expressions are unique, and perfect in their own way. And by the time it's her turn, she's realized that she doesn't need to worry about smiling for her picture. She just needs to be herself.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Awareness and Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Critical Thinking
 <p>TRUDY LUDWIG</p> <p>The Invisible Boy</p> <p>Illustrated by PATRICE BARTON</p>	<p>Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class.</p> <p>When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when Brian and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication

Book	Summary	Core Competency
	<p>Leopold's new bike makes him the envy of every kid in town-almost every kid. While Leopold is busy showing off his bright red bike, with its loud bell and thunderbolt decal, imaginative and kind-hearted Kobe plays in a box and pays no attention to the new bike. Leopold gets angry when he runs into Kobe's box while riding his bike, but he soon learns that the box can take the kids places that Leopold's bike never could ~ jungles, race tracks, and the sky! By the end of playtime, Leopold learns the value of imagination, friendship, and a lesson about life's simple things.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Responsibility • Positive Personal Identity • Communication • Creative Thinking

“Reading and Writing float on a sea of talk.”

James Britton

Joan Pearce and Carol Walters SD 71 Comox Valley

Profile	Description	Facets
3	<p>I can interact with others and the environment respectfully and thoughtfully.</p> <p>I contribute to group activities that make my classroom, school, community, or natural world a better place. I can identify small things I can do that could make a difference. I can consider others' views and express a different opinion in a peaceful way. I can identify problems and compare potential problem-solving strategies. I can demonstrate respectful and inclusive behaviour, including online. I can explain why something is unfair. I can identify when others need support and provide it. I can build and sustain relationships. I show care for elders.</p>	<p>Solving problems in peaceful ways, Contributing to community and caring for the environment</p>