

*your*  
**Suffolk libraries**  
*... expanding horizons*

# Schools Library Service

## PICTURE BOOKS FOR SPECIAL SITUATIONS

## FRIENDSHIP

Jonathan Emmett & Vanessa Cabbon (illus) **A secret worth sharing**  
Walker Books, (PB) 2012, 978 1 4063 3850 8



Mole finds a new friend in mouse and abandons his other friends. Gently they explain to him that friends can, and should, be shared.

Michael Foreman **Friends**

Andersen Press, (PB) 2013, 978 1 84939 415 4



An unlikely pairing of cat and fish. Cat acknowledges that he is free to roam where he wishes whilst fish is stuck in his tank. Cat comes up with an ingenious way of taking his friend with him as he travels so that they can share experiences. Tear jerker.

Jo Hodgkinson **My friend Nigel**

Andersen Press, (PB) 2013, 978 1 84939 538 0



Billy rescues a snail from being used by his parents as they practice their (limited) magic skills. Billy names his snail Nigel and a beautiful friendship begins. Some friendships are inexplicable to outsiders but are forever!

Alison Reynolds & Heath McKenzie (illus) **A year with Marmalade**  
The Five Mile Press, (PB) 2012, 978 1 74346 144 0

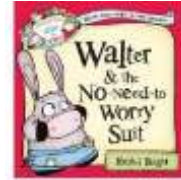


Ella's best friend goes away for a year and asks her to look after Marmalade the cat. Both are initially distraught at the loss but gradually they come to terms with the new situation, paving the way for a new 3 way friendship on her return.

## WORRYING

Rachel Bright **Walter & the No-Need-To-Worry suit**

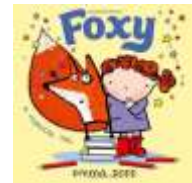
HarperCollins Children's Books, (PB) 2012, 978 0 00 744548 6



Walter has worrying down to a fine art. He sees catastrophe around every corner. Luckily his friends do not share his view of the world and are able to help him overcome his fears. Worries confided in friends become so very insignificant.

Emma Dodd **Foxy**

HarperCollins Children's Books, (PB) 2012, 978 0 00 745597 3



Emily is very worried about starting school. Foxy tries to allay her fears by indulging in a little magic. It all goes very wrong and Emily realises she will be fine coping on her own, especially when Foxy tells her that she, of all people, doesn't need any magic tricks to help her make friends.

## HONESTY

Oakley Graham **Milly the meerkat**

Top That! Publishing, (PB) 2011, 978 1 84956 304 8



Milly pretends there is a snake threatening the baby meerkats, but her jokes fall flat as the older meerkats eventually ignore her bogus pleas for help. When there is real danger she realises the error of her ways.

## SHYNESS

Jessica Meserve **Can anybody hear me?**

Andersen Press, (PB) 2009, 978 1 84270 836 1



Jack has a large family who fail to notice him as he is so quiet. He confides in his toy bear, Chester, and together they find a way to make him confident.

## BEING DIFFERENT

Lizzie Finlay **Dandelion**

Red Fox, (PB) 2009, 978 1 862 30596 0



Dandelion brings joy and fun to school. He just makes a *difference* to everyone's lives. Sometimes the difference is unexpected and sometimes it can go a little awry. But life is unbelievably dull without him around. Being different is something to celebrate.

Oliver Jeffers **The Hueys in the new jumper**

HarperCollins Children's Books, (PB) 2012, 978 0 00 742066 7

Rupert is initially chastised for being the Huey that stands out in a crowd until others decide to join him....

## LACK OF SELF WORTH

Chris Wormell **Eric**

Red Fox, (PB) 2013, 978 1 849 41284 1

Eric is constantly told he is stupid – and of course, he believes it. Feeling useless he runs away but has the bravery to confront a monster and realises he must actually be a hero!

## HEARING IMPAIRMENT

Julia Donaldson & Karen George (illus) **Freddie and the fairy**

Macmillan, (PB) 2010, 978 0 330 51118 6



Freddie helps a fairy and she grants him wishes as a thank you. Her hearing is not clear and so the wishes are slightly bemusing. When he learns 3 rules all is resolved. The 3 rules are: no mumbling, look at the fairy when speaking and don't cover your mouth.

## FEAR

Heinz Janisch & Silke Leffler (illus) **"I have a little problem", said the bear**  
North-South Books, (PB) 2012, 978 0 7358 4094 2



Nobody listens to bear as he tells them he has a problem. Everyone has a solution to the problem they haven't actually been told and bear almost gives up trying to make people listen to him. A solution and a friend come along in his frustrated moment. Oh, bear is scared of the dark.

Penny Little & Sean Julian (illus) **Brave little owl**  
Red Fox, (PB) 2012, 978 1 849 41511 8

Little owl is so frightened by the idea of flying that she just can't do it. Her siblings make fun of her but the other animals in the woods share their early fears with her and encourage her to at least *try* flying before she gives up on it completely.

Levi Penfold **Black Dog**  
Templar Publishing, (PB) 2012, 978 1 84877 748 4



All of the Hope family are utterly terrified at the sight of a black dog standing outside their home and the more they talk about it, the worse and bigger it seems to get. Small Hope is not remotely frightened and by the time she brings the dog into the house it is not big, or scary, at all.

## BEREAVEMENT

Jo Empson **Rabbityness**

Child's Play, (PB) 2012, 978 1 84643 482 2



Rabbit brings joy and colour to the woods and when he dies his friends are devastated. However, he leaves behind a truly wonderful legacy that ensures he will always be remembered and that his friends will find happiness in doing so.

Alan Durant & Debi Gliori (illus) **Always and forever**

Random House, (PB) 2013, 978 0 552 56765 7



Otter, mole and hare just cannot come to terms with the death of their dear friend and mentor, fox. They all sink into a long depression until squirrel visits and gently encourages them to remember the good times they shared – always and forever.

Judith Kerr **My Henry**

HarperCollins Children's Books, (PB) 2012, 978 0 00 7388128



An elderly lady remembers her late husband whilst she has an afternoon nap and they go on fantasy outings together, taking in lion hunts, treetop tea parties and more!

Charlotte Moundlic & Olivier Tallec (illus) **The scar**

Walker Books, (PB) 2013, 978 1 4063 4415 8



This book really is like an open wound until the scar appears. Direct and powerful. Mum dies and her son is angry, sad and lonely. Coping with the emptiness is slow and painful but ultimately something that might be achieved.

Kazumi Yumoto & Komako Sakai (illus) **The bear and the wildcat**  
Gecko Press, (HB) 2011, 978 1 877467 70 7



Little bird is bear's best friend and when little bird dies bear lays him carefully in a special box that he will not be parted from. Nobody wants to talk or hear about bear's loss until wildcat appears and at last grief doesn't have to be hidden away any more.

## FEELINGS

Anthony Browne **How do you feel?**  
Walker Books, (PB) 2012, 978 1 4063 3851 5



So, how *do* you feel? Discuss!

## LONELINESS

Ulf Nilsson & Eva Eriksson **When we were alone in the world**  
Gecko Press, (PB) 2010, 978 1 87746 734 9



A young boy learns to tell the time (or does he?) and at 3 o'clock he goes home on his own as his Dad is nowhere to be seen. The house is locked and so he decides that his parents have obviously met with an accident and left him and his little brother to cope alone. A curious tale that should be shared with care!

Colin Thompson **The big little book of happy sadness**  
Random House, (HB) 2008, 978 74166 256 6



George lives a very lonely existence with his grandmother until he finds Jeremy the three legged dog – unwanted and facing a precarious future. Suddenly life changes for all in the best way possible.

## GRANDPARENTS

Andrea Cheng & Michelle Chang (illus) **Goldfish and chrysanthemums**

Lee & Low Books, (PB) 2012, 978 1 60060 889 6



Nancy loves her Grandma Ni Ni who lives with the family in America but still has fond memories of home and childhood in China. News from Suzhou brings sadness at the changes there so Nancy decides to create something of the old China in the back garden for her Grandma to enjoy.

Lane Smith **Grandpa Green**

Macmillan Children's Books, (HB) 2012, 978 0 230 76645 7



Great-grandpa Green is very old and his memory is not what it was. His extraordinary topiary-filled garden tells the story of his life and is a place of wonder for all his family.

Elisabeth Steinkellner & Michael Roher (illus) **My new Granny**

(translated by Connie Stradling Morby)

Sky Pony Press, (HB) 2012, 978 1 62087 223 9

Fini's old Granny was just the best but with the onset of dementia things have changed. It is hard accepting the new Granny but gradually the family adjust and Fini realises that her love and connection to her grandmother has not altered.