

Author	Date	Title	Publisher	Review Comments	Reviewer
Beaumont, K.	2004	<i>I Like Myself!</i>	Orlando, FL: Harcourt Books	<p>(1) This tells the story of a young African American girl who rhymes about the things she likes about herself. She tells silly thing and serious things that she likes about herself, but no matter what the fact might be, she claims it is OK because she is 'me'. The story is very cute and has a straight forward message that children should love themselves no matter what they look like and that they should in turn be accepting of others who are different.</p> <p>(2) A simple rhyming text. Features an African-American girl and encourages children to appreciate their own unique qualities.</p>	(1)Stephanie Williams (2)Elizabeth Dunning
Bynum, J.	2003	<i>Pig Enough</i>	Orlando: Harcourt Inc.	<p>This is a story about a guinea pig named Willy who just wants to find something he is good at. He tries a couple of activities but they do not work out well. He decides to join the Pig Scouts who are looking for new members. Willy however is made fun of by the other pigs because he is a guinea pig and not a pig. He continues the Pig Scouts because he believes he is pig enough. Willy later proves himself when he saves himself and another pig from being trapped underground on a hike. After this, the other pigs praise him and all believe that he is pig enough to be in Pig Scouts. I thought this book included inclusion because there is a good message in this book for children having difficulties that if you try hard and don't give up you will succeed in some way. Also, the pigs learned that you shouldn't judge someone by how they look. The pigs didn't think Willy would be a good Pig Scout because he was a lot smaller and not an actual pig. They learned that appearance didn't matter and that Willy was just as qualified to be in Pig Scouts.</p>	Brienne Stepney
Chen, C.	2006	<i>The Featherless Chicken</i>	California: Heryin Books	<p>A chicken was born with no feathers and they never grew in. One day a couple other chicken came by that had beautiful feathers, and would not let the featherless chicken join them on their boat ride because he lacked feathers. The featherless chicken got covered in leaves and then attempted to play with the other chickens. They loved his new feathers and let the chicken join in their adventure. While on the boat the featherless chicken accidentally sneezed causing the boat to tip over. When they all got to shore each chicken had no feathers. They had a good laugh over it, and realized that feathers weren't that important. I thought this book included inclusion because the other chickens learned that it did not matter how each other looked. After they got to know the featherless chicken they realized they had fun with him and that he wasn't any different. This book stresses the messages that although someone might look different it does not mean they are, and that you shouldn't exclude someone from doing things based on their appearance. I think this is an important message for children to learn.</p>	Brienne Stepney

Choi, Y.	2001	<i>The Name Jar</i>	New York: Alfred A. Knopf	A young Korean girl who just came to America found her scared and lonely with maladjustment in the new environment. Her classmates welcome her by helping her pick an English name so that she can feel like a member of the new culture. This book is great for reading to young children especially to immigrant English language learners because it really speaks to them. On one hand, the story can ease the anxiety of immigrant children because it lets them know they are not alone. On the other hand, the book also suggests or reminds other children what they can do to welcome a newcomer with different culture background while remaining open-minded about differences.	Francisca Wu
Cornell, L. & Curtis, J. L.	2004	<i>It's Hard to be Five</i>	New York: Harper Collins (Joanna Cotler Books)	In the first half of this book a boy discusses different reasons for why it is hard to be five. Some of the reasons for why it is hard where it is hard to listen, share, sit still, and get used to school. The second half of the book discussed reasons for why it is good to be five even though it is hard. Examples on this half were being able to run, walk, create things at school, and make new friends. This book included inclusion because five year olds can relate to how the child in the book is feeling. I thought this would be a good book to help children in school. If they saw that other children felt the same way as they do, it would help them to understand it was ok to be frustrated or mad. It would also help to teach them ways to enjoy being five. Overall I thought this was a good book for children to relate to of this age.	Brianne Stepney
Cronin, D. & Lewin, B.	2006	<i>Dooby, Dooby Moo.</i>	New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers	This book took place on a farm, in which there was one farmer and the animals. Each day the farmer kept a good eye on the animals to make sure they weren't up to mischief. While the farmer is out the duck would go and read his paper. One day the duck saw an ad for a talent show at the fair in which the first prize was a trampoline. The duck ripped out the ad and had all the animals in the barn rehearsing because he wanted the trampoline. The farmer knew they were up to something because of the missing spot in his paper, but he wasn't sure what it was. The animals competed in the talent show and the duck won the trampoline. I thought this showed inclusion because the theme of this book was if you try really hard you can accomplish something. In this book the duck really wanted the trampoline. Therefore he got everyone together, and practiced a lot. He put in all of this effort because he wanted to win the trampoline for the farm. In the end he ended up winning the contest. This book will show children that if they work at something they can succeed.	Brianne Stepney
Devos, J.	2006	<i>Barthello's Wing: A Tale of a Very Brave Bug</i>	New York: East End Publishing, LTD.	<i>Barthello's Wing</i> tells the story of a bug who was born with only one wing. He longed to be like the other bugs who could fly, but cannot because he lacks a wing. Throughout the story, other bugs make fun of Barthello because he is different and does not look like them. At the end of the story however, Barthello saves the day, due to his one wing and he become liked by his who community. This book teaches young children to be accepting of those who are different.	Stephanie Williams

English, K.	2004	<i>Hot Day on Abbott Avenue</i>	New York: Houghton Mifflin Company	This is the story of two best friends, Kishi and Rene who have an argument and refuse to be friends, each waiting for the other to apologize first. The argument takes place on the hottest day of the year. Both girls refuse to do anything together, even help Mr. Paul in his garden. The girls eventually come together for an intense game of double dutch where they work together and eventually become friends again. The characters in this book are girls that students in an urban environment can relate to. There is a lovely rhythmic tone to the story and beautiful collage illustrations.	Emily McLaughlin
Ewald, W.	2002	<i>The Best Part of Me</i>	Boston: Little Brown and Company	This text includes black and white photographs of children from a variety of racial backgrounds focusing on the favorite body part of each child photographed. Each child has written a brief poem or description of their favorite part of themselves. Some of the children refer to parts that help them complete their favorite activities, such as their feet for running and playing, while others highlight parts they have inherited. One child likes her dark wavy hair with red highlights that she knows comes from her Mexican heritage. This book helps children and adults to focus on the best parts of themselves and begin to recognize all the ways in which we are each special.	Caryn Leib
Fox, M.	2006	<i>Whoever You Are</i>	New York: Voyager Books	This book is one of my favorites, I read it to all of my preschool classes and the children love it. The story describes how all children are the same, even if they look different. All children, laugh, cry, bleed and feel the same emotions. Different children may live all over the world but they all go through the same experiences. This book does a wonderful job of explaining this message to children.	Stephanie Williams
Gomi, T.	2006	<i>My Friends; Mis Amigos</i>	San Francisco: Chronicle Books	A girl learns to do different things from her different animal friends. Lets children know that you can learn a lot of things from your friends and you don't have to share a lot in common to be friends. This is a Spanish bilingual version of Gomi's original <i>My Friends</i> . Children from different backgrounds can compare and contrast the language and learn to say a few words in each other's native language. That will greatly promote respect toward one another's culture while sending the message that everyone's home language is valued in the classroom. This book also has a Chinese version called <i>Wo de peng you</i> .	Francisca Wu
Hester, D.L.	2005	<i>Grandma Lena's Big Ol' Turnip</i>	Morton Grove, ILL: Albert Whitman & Company.	The book is an adaptation of the Russian folktale "The Turnip" by Aleksay Tolstoy. This story is about a grandma that decides she wants to start a turnip garden. After Grandma starts the garden she notices that one turnip has grown extremely larger - large enough to feed the neighborhood. And so, Grandma decides she will pick it and make a "soul food" meal. Because the turnip is so large it takes her entire family working together to pull it out. This book is about an African American family and how working together is the best way to get things done.	Ta-Tanisha Curry-Millet

Hooks, G.	2005.	<i>Nice Wheels</i>	New York: Children's Press	A culturally diverse group of school children befriend a boy who uses a wheelchair. The children are impressed to see what he "can" do with his chair.	Elizabeth Dunning
Hooks, B.	2002	<i>Homemade Love</i>	New York: Hyperion Books (Jump at the Sun)	This book is about a little girl who is loved unconditionally by her parents. No matter what happens or goes wrong her parents still love and care for her. The book is based on an African American family.	Ta-Tanisha Curry-Millet
Joose, B.	2005	<i>Papa, Do You Love Me?</i>	San Francisco: Chronicle Books	(1) Set in Africa, this story explores the love between a father and child and introduces children to the Masai culture. (2) In this story a young Masai boy questions his father on how much he loves him and what ways his father loves him. The story takes place on the Serengeti Plain. To describe his love for his son, the father uses many cultural and geographical references. There is a glossary in the front of the book to help the readers understand these references. This a wonderful story for preschool aged children because it opens them to a new culture and children can connect to the boy's love for his parent and vice versa.	(1) Elizabeth Dunning. (2) Emily McLaughlin
Katz, K.	2002	<i>The Colors of Us</i>	New York: Henry, Holt & Company	This is a lovely story about a little girl, Lena, who notices all of the colors around her. Lena does a great job in describing the subtle differences between hers and her mother's skin tone.	Leanne Switzer
Kerley, B.	2005	<i>You and Me Together: Moms, Dads, and Kids Around the World.</i>	Washington D.C: National Geographic	This book contains beautifully rhythmic text accompanied by photographs of children and their families around the world. The photographs show children working, playing and relaxing with their parents. The photographs help to show what people in these countries look like, what their clothing looks like and a small part of the land they live on. This book celebrates the many differences and many similarities of children and their families all over the world. At the end of the text there is a map of the world and brief descriptions about the photographs included in the book. The descriptions tell the reader what country each photograph was taken in and what the people in the photograph are doing together. Some descriptions also include brief facts about the country. This book represents so many people and countries children are bound to see something they recognize from their own cultures and families. They may recognize a traditional article of clothing or possibly just the name of the country their family is from. Whatever children notice about this book they will be able to identify with the people represented and celebrated in this text.	Caryn Leib.
Kroll, Virginia L.	1997.	<i>Hands!</i>	Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press	This book shows how hands are used between children and adults to show love and compassion. The book is universal and shows all types of people and how hands clasped together, no matter what race, shows friendship.	Ta-Tanisha Curry-Millet

Larson, E.M.	2006	<i>I Am Utterly Unique</i>	Kansas: Autism Asperger Publishing Co.	I have many children with autism in my classroom, along with regular education children. This book goes through the alphabet and says a phrase for each letter that has to do with a quality of a child with Asperger's or autism. The book helps to explain the quirky things that some children on the spectrum might do. This book is not really culturally diverse, but it explains a population that is seen as different. This book has helped explain things to many of my children, while raising questions. It is a great book to center a discussion around if you have children with autism in your classroom.	Stephanie Williams
Latifah, Q.	2006	<i>Queen of the Scene</i>	New York: Harper Collins	This book empowers children to go after their dream, to do their best, and to believe in themselves. This book is culturally appropriate because it helps children see that everyone has different and dislikes. It explores the difference between wishing about something and making it happen. A young African American girl is in the playground jumping rope, playing soccer, and basketball. Her style of playing in these activities is letting the boys realize that these games boys play but "watch out for this girl, she has girl power, to the max." This book is for all ages.	Angeline Newsome-Bey
Lester, H.	2007	<i>Hurty Feelings.</i>	New York: Houghton Mifflin	Fragility the hippo is very sensitive to what people say. She cries even when people are complimenting her. After some real insults she begins to toughen up.	Leanne Switzer
Manna, G.	2000	<i>You and Me</i>	New York: Barefoot Books	This is a terrific children's book that highlights that important idea that "opposites attract". There are 2 main characters, a young boy and a young girl, and they are extreme opposites in every way. With all of their differences, however, they are still best friends and accept each other 100% for who they are. For example, some of the book reads, "You're always moving, and I'm still", "I'm heavy, and you're light", and "You're dark, and I'm light". The illustrations are beautifully done, and depict people and places from around the world as the backdrop for the story. The book sends the important message that you love and accept people for who they are, even if they are very different from you.	Colleen Collings
Meiners, C.J.	2006	<i>Accept and Value Each Person: Learning to Get Along</i>	Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing Inc.	This book teaches children to accept everyone they encounter, no matter what they look like, how they act or where they come from. This book is wonderful because it shows many culturally diverse children and how each group is accepted. It also includes games and activities that can further the children's knowledge of acceptance.	Stephanie Williams
Muth, J.J.	2002	<i>The Three Questions</i>	New York: Scholastic Press	This story is about a young boy by the name of Nikolai who wants to be a "good person", but he is not sure how. Nikolai decides that if his three questions are answered he will know how to be a good person. The boy asked his animal friends, but felt he needed more of an answer so he asks a wise turtle. At the end of the story Nikolai helps the turtle and saves a panda and her cub. In return Nikolai gets his three questions answered. This book teaches the importance of being a good person to everyone and how kindness is its best reward.	Ta-Tanisha Curry-Millet

Parr, T.	2000	<i>The Feelings Book</i>	Boston: Little Brown and Company	This book talks about the important topic of having children learn to express and communicate their feelings. The key phrase repeated in the book is, "Sometimes I feel ...". The text fill-ins on each page say: "very mad", "like wearing funny underwear", "like standing in my head". This talk about feelings is very important for children, as it models for them how they can express how they feel. The illustrations are very humorous, and help to make a serious topic very funny! Topic about feelings is crucial for children when they are learning to problem solve, so I feel it would be a great addition to books exploring diversity and inclusion.	Colleen Collings
Parr, T.	2002 (b)	<i>The Friends Book</i>	Boston: Little Brown and Company	Same idea as <i>The Daddy Book</i> , only in a friend's version. Friends may like the same thing or they may not, sometimes friends may like things we think are weird. But that should not affect our friendship because we value differences, and who they are and what they like are exactly what make our friends special. Exaggerated illustrations that do not offend anyone in particular because characters can have a square head or green face yet they won't be singled out.	Francisca Wu
Parr, T.	2003 (a)	<i>The Family Book</i>	New York: Little Brown Young Readers	(1) This beautifully illustrated book tells about all different types of families - families with two Moms; two dads; one parent; grandparents - you name it, it's touched on in here. (2) This story explains many diverse families. Some of the families have one mom, others have two moms and no dads, but each family is full of love. The illustrations are colorful and fun to look at and would be interesting for any child. The message that all families are different is a great one and goes along with the theme that everyone is different but everyone deserves to be treated equally. (3) This book celebrates all different types of families. It delves into the topic of families that are: single parent, adoptive, blended, step, same sex parents, quiet families and noisy families, etc... It is very inclusive of all potential family situations, and highlights the very important point that no matter what a family "looks like", what they all have in common is that they love each other.	(1) Leanne Switzer (2) Stephanie Williams (3) Colleen Collings
Parr, T.	2003 (c)	<i>The Okay Book</i>	New York: Little Brown & Co.	This book celebrates differences in people, and the little things that make everyone special. The book uses wonderful illustrations of people and animals with exaggerated "cartoon-line" features, to highlight and celebrate what makes us all unique. Similar to his book, "Its okay to be different", the text on each page begins with the phrase "Its okay to... ", and covers numerous topics including color, size, physical features, differing physical abilities, feelings, etc.	Colleen Collings

Parr, T.	2003 (b)	<i>This Is My Hair</i>	Boston: Little Brown and Co.	This book is also available in Spanish, and is titled “Pelos”. Like other Parr books, this book promotes embracing individuality and diversity. There is also a strong focus on building self-esteem. The text advises that your hair can look very different from other peoples hair, and that your hair can look different on different occasions and when you are engaging different types of activities. The book is fun and the illustrations very silly. The discussion of different hair types can again be a good springboard for discussions with children about physical and cultural similarities and differences.	Colleen Collings
Parr, T.	2004 (a)	<i>The Best Friends Book</i>	New York: Little Brown & Co.	This book is also available in Spanish, and is titled “Amigos”. The book talks about the behavior and character values of a true best friend. The characters, both animal and human, explore what friends are and do for each other. As an example, text includes, “Best friends will forgive you, even if you step on their paw”, and “Best friends will say you look good, even if you have a bad haircut.” The story makes reference to unconditional love, forgiveness, kindness, acceptance, support, and nice manners. The story is a great stepping stone for discussions about values, diversity, and acceptance of friends of all different types.	Colleen Collings
Parr, T.	2004 (c)	<i>It’s Okay to Be Different</i>	New York: Little Brown Young Readers	(1)This is my favorite Todd Parr book, and shows different and unique people and “animal characters” of differing ethnicities, genders, shapes, sizes, family make-ups, and abilities. One page depicts a boy in a wheelchair and reads, “Its okay to have wheels.” Another depicts two zebras with different colored stripes and reads, “Its okay to be a different color”. Another page shows a family with two moms and two dads and reads, “It’s okay to have different moms” and “It’s okay to have different dads”. Another shows a lion giving a large roar and reads, “Its okay to talk about your feelings”. It’s a wonderful book that easily opens up dialogue for children on a number of topics: diversity, adoption, physical challenges, divorce, blended families, feelings, good character values, and the overall celebrating of individuality. There are several characters in this book that each child can identify with, and then know that they are not alone in facing a particular situation. (2) Another Parr book with great illustrations. This silly book shows that people come in all different shapes and sizes. (3)This book is extremely cute and wonderful for younger children. It has great colorful illustrations that outline traits about people that might be different. The differences run a wide gamut and funny examples are thrown in that would make any child laugh. The book would appeal to any child while getting across a great message.	(1) Colleen Collings (2) Leanne Switzer (3) Stephanie Williams
Parr, T.	2006 (a)	<i>I Like Being Me</i>	New York: Little Brown Young Readers	This book focuses on building self-esteem, and learning to love yourself. The main character is a girl named Stella who notices that her ears are very different and a different color from her friend’s ears. She decides to keep them hidden from her friends, as she thinks they won’t like her anymore if they find out she is different from them. In the end, Stella learns to love her different ears, and discovers that they make her special and unique.	Colleen Collings

Parr, T.	2006 (b)	<i>I Love You Just Because.</i>	New York: Little Brown Young Readers	This book focuses on two main points: celebrating individuality, and on not being afraid to express your feelings. The characters in the book, both people and animals, express joy when stating “why” they love someone or someone. It’s a wonderful book to open up dialogue on what makes us each special, and how we should be confident on telling those we love that we love them, no matter how different they are from ourselves.	Colleen Collings
Riggio, A.	2002.	<i>Smack Dab in the Middle.</i>	New York: Putnam Juvenile	This is a story about a girl named Rosie who is the middle child in a large extended family. Each day she tries to tell her family different things but other more important things take precedent. Rosie feels unwanted and as if she is unimportant at home. It takes a teacher at school to show the family that Rosie does not feel included. I chose this book because I thought a lot of children could relate to it. Therefore I thought it showed inclusion because children could learn that even though there family doesn’t have every moment for them that they are important. As children are growing they have difficulties if their parents have another child or if they are the middle child. I thought this book would show them that they aren’t the only ones that feel this way, but that their family does really love them a lot.	Brianne Stepney
Robbins, J.	2006	<i>The New Girl... and Me</i>	New York: Atheneum (Richard Jackson Books)	This book is about a new child who comes to school and struggles to fit in. The new girl has an iguana and is teased by the other kids. One girl wants to know what an iguana is and researches it. While the two of them are sitting on the bench because the other kids don’t want to play soccer with them, they begin to talk about the iguana. They develop a friendship and the other children gradually accept the new girl. The children are a diverse group and race does not play a role in any of the teasing that happens. I really liked this book; I thought it could really help a classroom adjust to a new student.	Lacey Mallett
Simon, N.	2003	<i>All Families are Special</i>	Morton Grove, ILL: Albert Whitman & Co.	This beautiful picture book about the many types of people that make up families would be a great addition to the OWL curriculum unit 1: families. This text shows people from a variety of cultural backgrounds. The story is told by the young children in one classroom. Each child comes from a different type of family that may be similar to the families in all of our classrooms. There are single parents, adopted children, extended families, stepfamilies and even same sex families. This story in one in which all children can find a family that may be just like his/her own. By showing this vast variety of families, we can help teach our children to be proud of their family and where they came from even if they do not have the same type of family as other people they know.	Caryn Leib.
Vail, R.	2002	<i>Sometimes I’m Bombaloo</i>	New York: Scholastic Inc.	In this book depicting an Asian girl name Katie, we learn about what happens when Katie becomes “Bombaloo” (her alter ego). She is usually happy and very independent, but sometimes when her baby brother knocks down her beautiful block castle she becomes “Bombaloo.” We can see how upsets Katie get from the illustration of her face land the words describing her feelings. Katie takes time out, thinks about it, says “sorry” to her brother and becomes herself again.	Gertrudes Fidalgo

Verdick, E.	2004	<i>Words are Not for Hurting</i>	Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing	This book emphasizes that children need to take responsibility for the words that they use when talking to others. The book teaches children that we cannot use hurtful words and that we should only use nice words, even if someone may be different. The book also shows kind and meaningful ways to respond if unkind words are spoken. This book would be great for preschool children who are just beginning to realize they have to think before they speak.	Stephanie Williams
Woloson, E.	2003	<i>My Friend Isabelle</i>	Bethesda, MD: Woodbine House	Isabelle is a young girl with Down syndrome. In this story her best friend talks about all of the things they do together. He tells about things that Isabelle has taught him and why he loves playing with her so much.	Leanne Switzer
Yangsook, C.	2003	<i>The Name Jar</i>	New York: Dell Dragonfly Books	Unhei (Yoon-hye) and her family have just moved to America from Korea. On her first day of school, she decides to hold off on introducing herself. She tells the class and her teacher that she will choose an American name by the following week. Her classmates decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. She has a difficult time picking out a new name for herself. The name jar mysteriously disappears on the day that she is supposed to choose her new name. Finally, Unhei decides to keep her own Korean name and teaches everyone in her class how to pronounce it.	Linda Mui
Zobel-Nolen, A. & Sakamoto, M.	2005	<i>What I Like About Me</i>	unknown	This colorful interactive book features many different looking children who all explain what they like about their different features. The book goes through so many types of looks that any child reading it would be able to find someone similar to him/herself. The book also features a mirror at the end so children can explain what they like about themselves. It is a very cute book.	Stephanie Williams
Zuckerman, H.	2005	<i>A Monster Named Criney Who Makes Kids Whiney</i>	New York: Merry Lane Press	Just by being close, he'd make nice kids whiney." Is how this story starts, about a monster named Criney. This story explains why some children are whiney and cry a lot. It's not their fault; it's the monster Criney's fault. Wonderful animated multicolor people, pets and houses.	Gertrudes Fidalgo