



Key to Codes

PB = Picture Book

CB = Chapter Book

K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 = suggested grade level

★ = included in Parts 1-2 of the *Open Circle Curriculum*

Teasing

Bruchac, Joseph. *How Chipmunk Got His Stripes*. Puffin, 2003. K-3 PB ★
This version of a Native American tale tells how a squirrel learns a hard lesson about teasing.

Grimes, Nikki. *Meet Danitra Brown*. HarperCollins, 1997. 3-4 PB ★
Zuri describes how her “splendiferous” friend deals with the challenges of school, including teasing.

Havill, Juanita. *Jamaica and Brianna*. Houghton Mifflin, 1993. K-3 PB ★
Brianna teases Jamaica about her boots and that temporarily disrupts their friendship.

Henkes, Kevin. *Chrysanthemum*. Greenwillow Books, 2001. K-1 PB ★
Chrysanthemum loves her name until her classmates make fun of it.

Saltzberg, Barney. *Crazy Hair Day*. Candlewick Press, 2003. 2-4 PB ★
When Larry teases his friend, Stanley about his hair, the whole class tries to convince Stanley that he’ll still “fit in” to the class picture.

Waber, Bernard. *Ira Sleeps Over*. Houghton Mifflin, 1972. K-1 PB ★
Ira’s older sister teases him about bringing his teddy bear to his first away from home sleep over.

Wells, Rosemary. *Timothy Goes to School*. Viking, 2000. K-1 PB ★
Claude teases Timothy about his clothes on the first day of school.

Walter, Mildred Pitts. *Suitcase*. HarperCollins, 1999. 4-5 CB ★
Classmates and certain family members tease Alexander, who is 11 years old and over six feet tall.

Bullying and Bystanders

Bottner, Barbara. *Bootsie Barker Bites*. Paper Star, 1997. 2–3 PB
The narrator has to figure out how to deal with Bootsie Barker’s bullying behavior.

Cohen, Barbara. *Molly’s Pilgrim*. Harcourt, Inc. 1983. 2–3, CB ★
Molly’s classmates tease her in a mean way about her different clothes, accent, and her cultural background.

Estes, Eleanor. *The Hundred Dresses*. Harcourt Inc., 1972. 3–5 CB ★
Wanda is the target of repeated mean teasing by Peggy and her friends. When Wanda moves away because of the teasing, Maddie regrets that she never spoke up in Wanda’s defense.

We continuously add books to our *Literature Connections* list.

To find additional book titles, visit www.open-circle.org/resources.



getting to the heart of learning

a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women

**Make a
Literature
Connection**

- Golenbock, Peter. **Teammates**. Gulliver Books, 1990. 4-5 PB ★
Pee Wee Reese, a member of the 1940's Brooklyn Dodgers, takes a public stand in support of his teammate, Jackie Robinson
- Heller, Janet Ruth. **How the Moon Regained her Shape**. Syllvan Dell, 2006. 3-4 PB ★
Moon feels small and worthless when Sun insults her. Although Comet doesn't witness the Sun's bullying behavior, he notices Moon's reaction to it.
- Ludwig, Trudy. **Just Kidding**. Tricycle Press, 2006. 3-4 PB ★
When Vince insults C.J. over and over, C.J. goes to trusted adults for help.
- Ludwig, Trudy. **Trouble Talk**. Tricycle Press, 2008. 2-4 PB ★
A story about the destructive effects of rumor and gossip.
- McCain, Becky Ray. **Nobody Knew What To Do**. Albert Whitman, 2001. 2-4 PB ★
Some students pick on Ray everyday, and Ray's classmates finally speak up about the bullying behavior.
- Mohr, Nicholosa. **Felita**. Puffin, 1999. 4-5 CB ★
Felita's parents decide to move to a "better" neighborhood. When Felita experiences the pain of being the target of discrimination and bullying behavior, her family makes a difficult decision.
- Moss, Peggy. **Our Friendship Rules**. Tilbury House Publishers, 2007. 3-4 PB ★
Alexandra betrays her best friend in order to be accepted by a cool new girl at school.
- Moss, Peggy. **Say Something**. Tilbury House Publishers, 2004. 3-5 PB ★
A student witnesses her classmates engaging in a variety of negative behaviors towards other students.
- Myers, Christopher. **Wings**. Scholastic Inc., 2000. 4-5 PB ★
An allegory in which a boy suffers the taunts and teasing of his peers because he is different. One person has the courage to speak upon behalf of the target.
- O'Neill, Alexis. **The Recess Queen**. Scholastic Press, 2002. 2-3 PB ★
Mean Jean bullies her way around the playground until a new girl arrives at school.
- Otoshi, Kathryn. **One**. KO Kids Books, 2008. K-3 PB ★
A simple tale told with colors and numbers that illustrates the importance of standing up for friends when they are being bullied.
- Perez, L. King. **First Day in Grapes**. Lee & Low, 2002. 3-5 PB ★
Chico enters a new school and has to deal with the repeated unkind comments of his classmates.
- Polacco, Patricia. **Thank You, Mr. Falker**. Philomel Books, 1998. 4-5 PB ★
The author describes how she was teased as a child because of her reading disability.
- Recorvits, Helen. **Yoon and the Jade Bracelet**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. 3-4 PB ★
An older student pressures Yoon into giving up her valuable jade bracelet.
- Yashima, Taro. **Crow Boy**. Puffin Books, 1976. 2-5 PB ★
Students tease Chibi repeatedly when he comes to school. Only a sensitive new teacher recognizes Chibi's plight and helps him regain some dignity and self-respect.