



Our themes for the month of February include feelings, hearts, dental health, and Valentine's Day.

We will be revisiting book one in our social thinking curriculum, *Thinking Thoughts and Feeling Feelings*. This concept teaches the connection between how we think about the things we see with our brains, and how we feel certain ways about things with our hearts (ex: If I see bubbles I may want to blow bubbles and when I get to blow the bubbles I feel happy! If I see a friend looking at my bubbles they may want to have a turn, they may feel happy if I share....).

During the week of February 8-12, children will be celebrating Valentine's Day. Additional information will be coming home from your child's teacher. Your child is welcome to bring in an individualized special snack for themselves during that week. (Please check with your child's teacher regarding any restrictions that may be in place to do food allergies in their room.)

If your child will be entering kindergarten in the fall of 2021, your town's kindergarten information night will be held virtually on Thursday March 4 at 6pm. Please be on the lookout for additional information as the date draws near.

Beginning March 1, the district has agreed to move from two hybrid half days to two full days in person for all schools except preschool. The preschool schedule *will not be affected and will remain the same*.

Thank you to all families who contributed items to our Winter Food Drive to benefit T.E.O.!! As a school we collected a total of **166** items!! Thank you so much for your generosity!

Dates to Remember:

2/5- Reports cards go home (remote students will receive their report cards via mail)

2/15- 2/19- School vacation week

Check out our suggested book list below that covers a variety of social/emotional concepts! These tie in well with our theme of "feelings" for this month!

Social-Emotional Book List

Picture books about emotion and social-emotional issues can help kids think deeply about feelings and social issues. Here are 50 books that you can share with kids of any age that will help them develop empathy, talk about their feelings, and identify with others.

Books About Fear

1. [There Might Be Lobsters](#) by Carolyn Crimi

Lots of things at the beach scare Sukie. Lots. Because she is just a small dog, and the stairs are big and sandy, and the waves are big and whooshy, and the balls are big and beachy.

2. [Jabari Jumps](#) by Gaia Cornwall

Jabari is definitely ready to jump off the diving board. He's finished his swimming lessons and passed his swim test, and he's a great jumper, so he's not scared at all.

3. [The Dark](#) by Lemony Snicket

Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo. Mostly, though, the dark stays in the basement and doesn't come into Laszlo's room. But one night, it does.

4. [Don't Think About Purple Elephants](#) by Susanne Merritt

Sometimes Sophie worries — not during the day when she is busy with family and friends, but at night when everything is calm and quiet.

5. [Too Shy for Show-and-Tell](#) by Beth Bracken

Sam is a quiet little boy who hates show-and-tell. Just thinking about it makes his stomach hurt. Sam must find a way to conquer his fear of show-and-tell.

Books about Risk-Taking

6. [The Book of Mistakes](#) by Corinna Luyken

Zoom meets Beautiful Oops! in this book about the creative process, and the way in which "mistakes" can blossom into inspiration

7. [Everyone Can Learn to Ride a Bicycle](#) by Chris Raschka

Learning to ride a bike is one of the most important milestones of childhood, and this book captures the emotional ups and downs of the experience.

8. [The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes](#) by Mark Pett

Meet Beatrice Bottomwell: a nine-year-old girl who has never (not once!) made a mistake.

9. [The Dot](#) by Peter H. Reynolds

The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw – she's no artist.

Books about Friendship

10. [*Rulers of the Playground*](#) by Joseph Kuefler

One morning, Jonah decided to become ruler of the playground. Everyone agreed to obey his rules to play in King Jonah's kingdom ... Everyone except for Lennox ... because she wanted to rule the playground, too.

11. [*Enemy Pie*](#) by Derek Munson

It was the perfect summer. That is until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one.

12. [*A Sick Day for Amos McGee*](#) by Philip C. Stead

Friends come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In Amos McGee's case, all sorts of species, too!

13. [*The Invisible Boy*](#) by Trudy Ludwig

Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party ... until a new kid comes to class.

14. [*Stick and Stone*](#) by Beth Ferry

When Stick rescues Stone from a prickly situation with a Pinecone, the pair becomes fast friends. But when Stick gets stuck, can Stone return the favor?

Books about Overcoming Challenges

15. [*Argyle Fox*](#) by Marie Letourneau

Argyle Fox, with his signature style, wants to play outside on a springtime day, but the wind is wreaking havoc with his fun and games. As soon as he builds a card tower, climbs into a giant spider web, or takes up his pirate sword, here comes the wind: Woosh!

16. [*Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah*](#) by Laurie Ann Thompson

Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah's inspiring true story is nothing short of remarkable. Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people—but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams.

17. [*Nadia: The Girl Who Couldn't Sit Still*](#) by Karlin Gray

Nadia Comaneci was a feisty and fearless little girl who went from climbing trees in the forests of Romania to swinging into history at the 1976 Olympic Games, where she received an unprecedented seven perfect scores in gymnastics.

18. [*Life*](#) by Cynthia Rylant

There are so many wonderful things about life, both in good times and in times of struggle.

Books about Kindness

19. [*Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed*](#) by Emily Pearson

Can one child's good deed change the world?

20. [*Because Amelia Smiled*](#) by David Ezra Stein

Because Amelia smiles as she skips down the street, her neighbor Mrs. Higgins smiles too and decides to send a care package of cookies to her grandson Lionel in Mexico.

21. [*Pass It On*](#) by Sophy Henn

When you see something terrific, smile a smile and pass it on! If you chance upon a chuckle, hee hee hee and pass it on. Should you spot a thing of wonder, jump for joy and pass it on!

22. [*We're All Wonders*](#) by R. J. Palacio

Now younger readers can meet Auggie Pullman, an ordinary boy with an extraordinary face, and his beloved dog, Daisy.

23. [*The Invisible String*](#) by Patrice Karst

A story that teaches of the tie that really binds. The Invisible String reaches from heart to heart. Does everybody have an Invisible String? How far does it reach, anyway? Does it ever go away?

Books about Grief

24. [*Missing Mommy: A Book About Bereavement*](#) by Rebecca Cobb

Missing Mommy focuses on the positive—the recognition that the child is not alone but still part of a family that loves and supports him.

25. [*The Heart and the Bottle*](#) by Oliver Jeffers

There is a wonder and magic to childhood. We don't realize it at the time, of course . . . yet the adults in our lives do. They encourage us to see things in the stars, to find joy in colors and laughter as we play. But what happens when that special someone who encourages such wonder and magic is no longer around?

26. [*The Memory String*](#) by Eve Bunting

Each button on Laura's memory string represents a piece of her family history. The buttons Laura cherishes the most belonged to her mother—a button from her prom dress, a white one off her wedding dress, and a single small button from the nightgown she was wearing on the day she died.

27. [*Big Tree is Sick: A Story to Help Children Cope with the Serious Illness of a Loved One*](#) by Nathalie Slosse

Snibbles and Big Tree are best friends! They have always hung out together, and Snibbles loves Big Tree very much. When Big Tree unexpectedly falls ill with woodworm, Snibbles is very upset and angry.

28. [*Cry, Heart, But Never Break*](#) by Glenn Ringtved

Aware their grandmother is gravely ill, four siblings make a pact to keep death from taking her away. But Death does arrive all the same, as it must.

Books about Feelings

29. [*When Sophie Gets Angry—Really, Really Angry*](#) by Molly Bang

Everybody gets angry sometimes.

30. [Crabby Pants](#) by Julie Gassman

When things don't go Roger's way, he gets crabby. However, Roger thinks he has found a solution to being such a crabby pants.

31. [The Way I Feel](#) by Janan Cain

Feelings are neither good nor bad, they simply are. Kids need words to name their feelings, just as they need words to name all things in their world.

Books about Self-Control

32. [Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse](#) by Kevin Henkes

Lilly loves everything about school, especially her cool teacher, Mr. Slinger. But when Lilly brings her purple plastic purse and its treasures to school and can't wait until sharing time, Mr. Slinger confiscates her prized possessions.

33. [David Gets In Trouble](#) by David Shannon

"When David gets in trouble, he always says . . . 'NO! It's not my fault! I didn't mean to! It was an accident!'"

34. [My Mouth Is a Volcano!](#) by Julia Cook

All of Louis' thoughts are very important to him. In fact, his thoughts are so important to him that when he has something to say, his words begin to wiggle, and then they do the jiggle, then his tongue pushes all of his important words up against his teeth and he erupts, or interrupts others.

35. [Lacey Walker, Nonstop Talker](#) by Christianne C. Jones

Lacey Walker loves to talk. She talks all day, and sometimes all night. But when she loses her voice, Lacey learns the importance of listening.

36 [YOU WILL BE MY FRIEND!](#) by Peter Brown

Today is the day the exuberant Lucy is going to make a new friend! But she finds it's harder than she had thought—she accidentally ruins the giraffe's breakfast and is much too big for the frogs' pond.

37. [Clark the Shark](#) by Bruce Hale

Clark is a shark with *zing*, *bang*, and *BOOM*. Clark zooms into school, crashes through the classroom, and is rowdy at recess.

VALENTINE MATH ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS



Here is a great resource for some suggestions for at home activities for preschoolers. They can be modified for numbers 0-5, 0-10, and etc.
<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/valentines-early-learning-math-activities-preschool/>