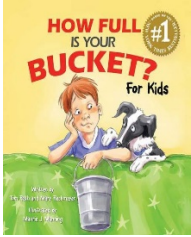
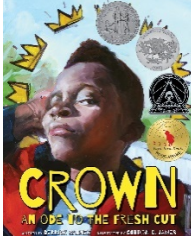
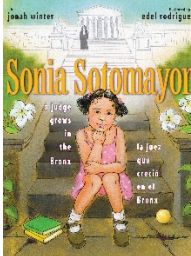


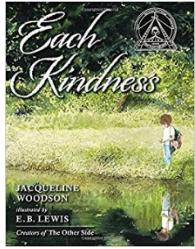
SEL Book of the Month Initiative

(APS Elementary Schools)



MONTH	SEL COMPETENCY	THEME	BOOK TITLE
August 	Relationship Skills Allows students to develop and maintain healthy relationships with others, including the ability to resist negative social pressures, resolve interpersonal conflict, and seek help when needed. Students need to be able to work well with their classmates in order to participate in collaborative groups.	Welcome to the School Community (We recognize the value of our home communities, while making a daily contribution to our school community through acts of kindness.)	How Full is Your Bucket? (for Kids) By Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer Each of us has an invisible bucket. When our bucket is full, we feel great. When it's empty, we feel awful. Yet most children (and many adults) don't realize the importance of having a full bucket throughout the day. Follow along with Felix as he learns how easy it can be fill the buckets of others, and in the process, fill his own.
September 	Self-awareness is the ability to recognize one's own feelings, interests, and strengths, in addition to maintaining an accurate level of self-efficacy. Students who are self-aware are capable of describing and understanding their own emotions. In addition, they are capable of recognizing their own strengths and weaknesses. Students' beliefs about their own strengths and weaknesses influence the academic choices they make, how long they will persist on tasks and whether or not they will ask for help on academic tasks.	Individuality and Positive Self-Concept (We are aware of the importance of each unique identity and the strengths we all bring as individuals)	Crown: Ode to a Fresh Haircut By Derrick D. Barnes This rhythmic, read-aloud title is an unbridled celebration of the self-esteem, confidence, and swagger boys feel when they leave the barber's chair—a tradition that places on their heads a figurative crown, beaming with jewels, that confirms their brilliance and worth and helps them not only love and accept themselves but also take a giant step toward caring how they present themselves to the world. The fresh cuts. That's where it all begins.
October 	Social awareness allows individuals to take others' perspectives into account and to empathize with others. Socially aware students are more likely to recognize and appreciate the similarities and differences of others. Social awareness is particularly important for students as they participate in new instructional shifts. Students need to take the perspectives of their classmates during classroom discussions and attempt to empathize and relate with characters during analysis of texts.	Diversity and Acceptance (We show appreciation for diverse perspectives and experiences)	A Judge Grows in the Bronx / La Juez Que Creció en el Bronx The inspiring and timely story of Sonia Sotomayor, who rose up from a childhood of poverty and prejudice to become the first Latino to be nominated to the US Supreme Court. This book features both English and Spanish versions of the text.

November



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Empathy

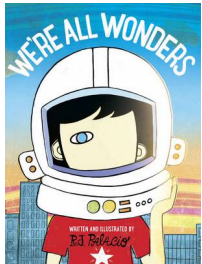
(We appreciate the value of kindness in building and maintaining a positive learning community)

Each Kindness

By Jacqueline Woodson

With its powerful anti-bullying message and striking art, this book will resonate with readers long after they've put it down. 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.

December



Responsible decision making enables students to keep in mind multiple factors—such as ethics, standards, respect, and safety concerns—when making their decisions. This competency includes students' capacity to identify problems and develop appropriate solutions to those problems, whether they are social or academic problems.

Inclusion

(We identify ways to include all individuals and recognize the multiple perspectives that come with learning and physical differences)

We're All Wonders Not So Different

By R.J. Palacio

With a spare, powerful text and striking, richly imagined illustrations, Palacio shows young readers what it's like to live in Auggie's world—a world in which he feels like any other kid, but he's not always seen that way. This book taps into every child's longing to belong, and to be seen for who they truly are. It's the perfect way for families and educators to talk about empathy and kindness with young children.

January



Self-management skills allow individuals to handle daily stresses and control their emotions under difficult situations. Students' capacities to regulate their emotions impact student memory and the cognitive resources they use on academic tasks. Self-management skills include the ability to monitor and reflect on personal and academic goal-setting. Academic self-regulation has important implications for student motivation in the classroom, as well as the learning strategies students use to master material.

Courage

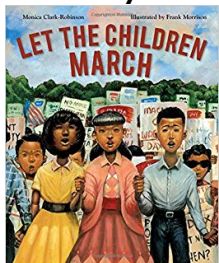
(We analyze the courage it takes to overcome adversity, take risks, and advocate for one's self)

The Journey

By Francesca Sanna

With haunting echoes of the current refugee crisis, this beautifully illustrated book explores the unimaginable decisions made as a family leave their home and everything they know to escape the turmoil and tragedy brought by war. This book will stay with you long after the last page is turned.

February



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Problem-Solving

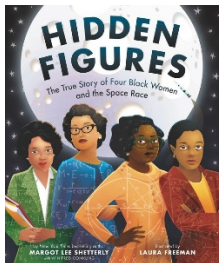
(We explore skills related to problem-solving and how those skills are developed to support learning, positive relationships and self-efficacy)

Let the Children March

By Shane W. Evans

This book distills a critical moment in the fight for racial equality—the 1963 March on Washington—into tight, evocative prose, well calibrated for a very young audience. A boy, a girl, and their parents wake at dawn, prepare, travel, and join a march “to justice, to freedom, to our dreams.” Many words have been written about that day, but few so delicate and powerful as those presented here. The thrill of the day is brought to life.

March



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Perseverance

(We set and achieve realistic goals, both immediate and long term, by maintaining our focus and using a growth mindset)

Hidden Figures Picture Book

By Margot Lee Shetterly

This beautifully illustrated picture book edition explores the story of four female African American mathematicians at NASA, known as “colored computers,” and how they overcame gender and racial barriers to succeed in a highly challenging STEM-based career.

April



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Growth-Mindset

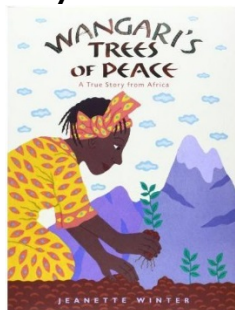
(We recognize that we can achieve anything with effort and support. Learning capability is limitless)

The Most Magnificent Thing

By Ashley Spires

A little girl and her canine assistant set out to make the most magnificent thing. But after much hard work, the end result is not what the girl had in mind. Frustrated, she quits. Her assistant suggests a long walk, and as they walk, it slowly becomes clear what the girl needs to do to succeed. A charming story that will give kids the most magnificent thing: perspective!

May



Relationship Skills

Allows students to develop and maintain healthy relationships with others, including the ability to resist negative social pressures, resolve interpersonal conflict, and seek help when needed. Students need to be able to work well with their classmates in order to participate in collaborative groups.

Service Learning

(We commit to working with others to make our community and the world better)

Wangari's Trees of Peace

By Jeanette Winter

As a young girl growing up in Kenya, Wangari was surrounded by trees. But years later when she returns home, she is shocked to see whole forests being cut down, and she knows that soon all the trees will be destroyed. So Wangari decides to do something—and starts by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard. And as they grow, so do her plans. This true story of Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a shining example of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change.