

Booklist Prepared for the MSLA Anti-Bullying Summit  
*Recommendations from members of the Massachusetts Reading Association*

Fiction (Picture Books/Elementary)

Alexander, Claire                      *Lucy and the Bully*

This is perfect for younger elementary students. It is important for them to know that they should tell a trusted adult when another student is bullying them. The book also reflects a lot of feelings that a bully target might have- uncertainty, fear, and withdrawal.

Anzaldua, Gloria                      *Friends From the Other Side*

The book depicts daily struggles of a young Mexican girl Prietita. Written in Spanish and English it serves as a valuable teaching tool in a bilingual classroom. Nearly all immigrant children face substantial social adjustments and academic learning problems because they do not share the language and the culture.

Bateman, Teresa                      *The Bully Blockers Club*

When Lottie is bothered by a bully at school, she helps start a club where everyone is welcome.

Baylor, Byrd and Peter Parnall      *The Other Way To Listen*

This book helps readers learn about the power of being patient and open-minded and waiting to see and hear the beauty that the natural world has to offer. It is helpful in creating a calming environment.

Berenstain, Stan and Jan              *The Berenstain Bears and Too Much Teasing*

Brother Bear is a master at teasing until the tables are turned and he's the one being heckled as principal's pet. When Brother understands that teasing isn't just mean, it's also dangerous; he decides to stick up for the new kid at school.

Berenstain, Stan and Jan              *The Berenstain Bears and the Bully*

This book is a stepping stone to use to talk about bullying.

Blos, Joan W.                          *Old Henry*

The moral of the story is that you should not judge a person for how he or she looks, dresses, or lives, but how he or she is as a person.

Blume, Judy                              *The Pain and the Great One*

Shows unfairness from a child's perspective... a he said/she said book It will teach that there are two sides to every story.

Bottner, Barbara                      *Bootsie Barker Bites*

A story about a nasty little terror who bites. Her playmates eventually help her come up with a better way to have fun.

Browne, Anthony                      *Willy the Champ*

Not very good at sports or fighting, mild-mannered Willy proves he's a champ when the local bully shows up.

Caseley, Judith

*Ada Potato*

Ada stops playing the violin because some older children make fun of her.

Caseley, Judith

*Bully*

Mickey has trouble with Jack, a bully at school, until he decides to try being nice to Jack and make him a friend.

Clements, Andrew

*Jake Drake, Bully Buster*

Fourth grader, Jake, relates how he comes to terms with SuperBully, Link Baxter, especially after they are assigned to be partners on a class project.

Cohen, Barbara

*Molly's Pilgrim*

Molly has a different view of everything in her new country, including what the word Pilgrim means.

Cole, Joanna

*Bully Trouble*

Arlo and Robby devise a plan for dealing with a neighborhood bully.

Cosby, Bill

*The Meanest Thing To Say*

When a new boy in his 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class tries to get other students to play a game that involves saying the meanest things possible to one another, Little Bill shows him a better way to make friends.

Couric, Katie

*The Brand New Kid*

Children tease a new boy in school until they get to know him.

Cuyler, Margery

*Bullies Never Win*

Jessica is having problems with a mean girl at school who picks on her .Jessica feels conflicted about how to respond to this girl, and ultimately runs through a variety of common reactions: anger, sadness, fear. She tries hiding her feelings from her mom, and, when that doesn't work, she tries talking to her mom about what she should do.

Estes, Eleanor

*The Hundred Dresses*

A girl is teased about her shabby clothes.

Garcia, Maria

*The Adventures of Connie and Diego*

Twins have skin that is made up of many colors-they don't feel that they belong in their family or community. Their friends make fun of them, and the twins run away. They encounter many different looking animals of different colors on their journey. A tiger is able to make them realize that they are humans, regardless of their color; they are valuable to each other because of who they are-not because of what color they are.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson

*The Girl With 500 Middle Names*

Janie is poor and she doesn't fit in. When her mother's business falls apart, she thinks of a way to help her family. But it means she will stand out even more. This is a story of a girl whose belief in her family enables her to risk embarrassment and make new friends.

Havill, Juanita

*Jamaica and Brianna*

Jamaica's envy of Brianna's pink boots gets in the way of their friendship.

Henkes, Kevin *Chrysanthemum*  
Chrysanthemum loves her name until her classmates make fun of it.

Howe, James *Pinky and Rex and the Bully*  
Pinky's favorite color is pink and his best friend, Rex, is a girl. Kevin, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade bully, says that Pinky is a sissy. Does Pinky have to give up his favorite things and his best friend?

Joose Barbara *Mama, Do You Love Me?*  
This story focuses on one simple question that every child thinks at one point or another. The question is whether their parents will always love them no matter what the child does.

Klein, Abby *Talent Show Scaredy- Pants #5 in a Series*  
Freddy is nervous about the 1<sup>st</sup> grade talent show especially with Max bullying him, but Freddy's dad has an idea that might make Freddy a star and get Max to back off, too.

Lester, Helen *Hooway for Wodney Wat*  
Classmates make fun of Rodney Rat until he helps defeat the class bully.

Levy, Janice *Alley-oops*  
...explores the painful aftermath of bullying from the perspective of the bully. It's a story about hurt, anger, empathy, hope, resilience and ingenuity.

Lionni, Leo *Swimmy*  
The book shows children that they can be themselves and care about others at the same time.

Lovell, Patty *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon!*  
Molly Lou Melon is the shortest girl in the first grade, has buck teeth that stick out so far she can stack pennies on them and has a voice like a bull frog squeezed by a boa constrictor. But she also has a very wise Grandma who has always told her to walk proudly, smile big, sing out loud and clear and "Believe in yourself and the world will believe in you..."

Maguire, Gregory *Three Rotten Eggs*  
Students in rural Vermont become involved with a bullying new student, a competitive egg hunt and genetically altered chicks.

Marshall, James *George and Martha: One Fine Day*  
This is a touching book about friendship.

Marshall, James *George and Martha: Tons of Fun*  
This book chronicles the stories of two best friends, who just so happen to be hippos. They relate moral messages, but in a far from preachy way.

McCain, Becky Ray *Nobody Knew What To Do: A Story About Bullying*  
The book presents clear, effective ideas about how bystanders and teachers can work together to make a difference in stopping school bullying.

McKay, Hilary *Indigo's Star*  
Indigo Casson had suffered from mononucleosis and has been in the hospital. When he returns to school, he gets picked on by this boy and his gang. His sister is a bystander who eventually becomes a victim herself.

**Mobin-Uddin, Asma and Kiwak, Barbara**      *My Name Is Bilal*

When Bilal and his sister transfer to a school where they are the only Muslims, they must learn how to fit in while remaining true to their beliefs and heritage.

**Mochizuki, Ken**      *Baseball Saved Us*

A Japanese-American boy is teased about his size and ethnicity.

**Moss, Peggy**      *Say Something*

A child who never says anything when other children are being teased or bullied finds herself in a position one day when jokes are made at her expense and no one speaks up.

**Myers, Christopher**      *Wings*

This is an allegory in which Icarus Jackson suffers the taunts and teasing of his peers because he is different. He is an outcast because he has wings, but his resilient spirit inspires one girl to speak up for him.

**Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds**      *King of the Playground*

With his dad's help, Kevin overcomes his fear of the King of the Playground who has threatened to tie him to the slide, put him in a deep hole, etc.

**Nickle, John**      *The Ant Bully*

Lucas learns a lesson about bullying when he is pulled into an ant hole he has been tormenting.

**O'Neill, Alexis**      *The Recess Queen*

Mean Jean bullies her way around the playground until a new girl arrives at school.

**Otoshi, Kathryn**      *One*

Using the metaphor of colors, Otoshi gently creates a group of kids with different personalities. Blue is quiet and contemplative, yellow is sunny, green is bright, purple is regal, orange is outgoing, but red is HOT -- a bully, who picks on blue. The others colors are sympathetic and like blue and commiserate, but don't tell red to stop, and red becomes bigger and stronger until everyone is bullied and afraid and there seems to be nothing they can do.

**Paterson, Katherine**      *The Field of Dogs*

Josh must deal with the bullying of a neighbor boy and discovers that his dog, which he hears talking with other dogs, is also facing a bully of his own.

**Penn, Audrey**      *Chester Raccoon and the Big Bad Bully*

When Chester tells his mother about the school bully, she asks him to gather his friends to hear a story about getting along with people who are prickly.

**Pinkney, Brian**      *JoJo's Flying Side Kick*

Jojo is about to test for her yellow belt, and she's also afraid of the tree "bandit" in her yard. She's nervous about her test, and receives advice from her family. She puts all their advice together in her own way, earns her belt, but also overcomes her fear of the "bandit".

**Pinkwater, Daniel Manus**      *The Big Orange Splot*

One day a seagull with a can of bright orange paint "dropped the can right over Mr. Plumbean's house." The resulting big orange splot upsets the neighbors, who all live in identical brown houses with gray roofs and green shutters. When they ask him to paint his house, he paints the house red, yellow, green, and purple. He adds more splots, strikes, and "elephants and lions and pretty girls and steam shovels." The book is about self-expression, and self-actualization.

Potter, Noel Gyro *A Very Sticky Situation*

The story helps kids learn that there are positive ways to handle bullies!! It reminds us how prevalent bullying is in our schools and kids need ways to learn how to resolve it.

Reider, Katja *Snail Started It!*

When Snail insults Pig, he sets off a domino effect of teasing and name-calling among the community of animals.

Scudamore, Beverly *Misconduct*

Funny and full of hockey action, the book looks at bullying from the viewpoint of an unlikely target.

Seskin, Steven *Don't Laugh At Me*

The book has an accompanying CD. Both the book and the music draw students into the topic of why teasing and bullying are hurtful.

Shannon, David *A Bad Case of the Stripes*

The book presents a lesson of knowing who we are and not following the crowd. Camilla Cream is worried about what to wear the first day of school, as she has so many friends to impress. After trying on forty-two outfits she looks in the mirror and screams. She has broken out with a bad case of stripes.

Shreve, Susan *Joshua T. Bates Takes Charge*

11 year old Joshua, worried about fitting into school, feels awkward when the new student he is supposed to be helping becomes the target of the 5<sup>th</sup> grades biggest bully.

Surat, Michele Maria *Angel Child, Dragon Child*

This book is a wonderful story about a Vietnamese child trying to adjust to life in the USA. Ut has trouble with children at school because she is different.

Tarshis, Lauren *Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out Of A Tree*

She's not like other girls. She doesn't burst into tears every day in middle school or giggle about boys with her friends. Come to think of it, she doesn't seem to have all that many friends to begin with. That's okay, though. If Emma-Jean is anything, she's comfortable being herself. That's something Colleen Pomerantz would probably pay anything to be. When Emma-Jean finds Colleen sobbing in the girls' bathroom she vows to help Colleen out any way she can.

Thaler, Mike *The Bully from The Black Lagoon*

Everyone is talking about the new kid that Hubie is getting in his class. They think the new kid knocked people's heads off, crashes into people on purpose, kicks people, and gives them wedgies. On Thursday, when Hubie walks around the corner, he bumps into the new kid. Hubie apologizes and the new kid is actually very nice. They make a deal that they will never bump into each other again.

Torres, Leyla *Subway Sparrow*

The depiction of immigrant-types, in this book, is done effortlessly, and there is no suggestion whatsoever that a goal of the book is to teach "tolerance" to children.

Van Draanen, Wendelin *Secret Identity #1 in a Series*

Fifth grader, Nolan Byrd, tired of being called names by the class bully, has a secret identity--- Shredderman!

Wells, Rosemary *Timothy Goes To School*

Timothy and Violet cope with the challenges they encounter in school.

Wilhelm, Hans

*Tyrone the Horrible*

The story describes how Boland, a little dinosaur, experienced a series of bullies by a big kid dinosaur, Tyrone. The story is very helpful to show young children how bullying events can happen to them. At the same time, it offers moral support to children who may be going through similar encounters.

Yashimi, Taro

*Crow Boy*

Students tease Chibi when he comes to school. Only a sensitive new teacher recognizes Chibi's plight and helps him regain some dignity and self-respect.

Yep, Laurence

*Cockroach Cooties*

Set in Chinatown in San Francisco, this is a story about two brothers, ages eight and nine. Bobby feels responsible for getting Teddy involved with a bully at school, so he devises a plan to scare the fiend with a cockroach.

Yolen, Jane

*Encounter*

The book looks at Columbus' encounter with Native Americans from both points of view.

Zolotow, Charlotte

*The Hating Book*

This book takes children through their own feelings when slighted by a friend.

Fiction (Higher Elementary, Middle School)

Alexander, Jill

*The Sweetheart of Prosper County*

This is refreshing tale of a young girl who is trying to discover her true self; it discusses issues that would challenge any teen: the loss and absence of a parent, the struggles of "body image" issues, the first feelings for a boy, the realization that friends have separate lives, the struggles to find a "group" with which to identify, coming to terms with winning and losing, and how to handle bullies.

Almond, David

*The Savage*

Blue's counselor advises him to try writing down his feelings to help deal with the pain of his father's death, but that really doesn't work very well. Then Blue starts to write a story about a wild child who lives in the woods and who, on occasion, kills and eats people. His story tells about the savage child interacting with Blue and his sister, and how the Savage hates the boy, Hopper, that bullies Blue at school.

Bauer, Michael Gerard

*Don't Call Me Ishmael*

This book, set in Australia, would appeal to young teenage boys, as it deals with issues that relate to them. The story is told with a sense of humor.

Berman, B.

*Dorie Witt's Guide to Surviving Bullies*

The text follows Dorie's transitioning from grade school to middle school and then to high school. The book provides great advice for anyone who is dealing with bullying issues.

Bloor, Edward

*Tangerine*

Paul transfers himself from his local affluent school in the suburbs to a far more rough and tumble public facility. He makes friends with the kids in that school, faces racism on the part of his old school chums, and begins to understand a little more about white privilege. The novel deals with racism, classism, social consciousness, and environmental concerns.

Bryant Annie

*Just Kidding*

Classmates learn first hand that gossip can spread quickly and cause a great deal of damage.

Butler, Dori Hillestad

*The Truth About Truman School*

Butler's novel about bullying in middle school is so very close to the truth. From cyber-bullying to flat out name calling, Butler offers an unflattering, yet true-to-life, view of middle school social trends.

Cannon, J.

*Crickwing*

Students see what bullying would be like from the bully's point of view.

Card, Orson Scott

*Ender's Game*

This is a sci-fi adventure, with some intriguing ethical and social questions, and a good storyline that reminds us that an astounding genius is, after all, only a human being.

Carlson, Nancy

*Loudmouth George and the Sixth Grade Bully*

After having his lunch repeatedly stolen by a bully twice his size, George, with the help of his friend Harriet, finally teach the bully a lesson.

Cassidy, Cathy

*Driftwood*

Everyone thinks that Paul, Joey's foster brother, needs rescuing—but no one knows how badly Paul is being bullied, but with help he can find a way to help himself.

Choldenko, Gennifer

*If a Tree Falls at Lunchtime*

All summer long Rory has essentially been out of contact with Kirsten. All summer long Kirsten's mother and father, despite living in the same house, have essentially refused direct contact with each other. Kirsten has reacted to all this by putting on 30 pounds over a four month period. And now, as seventh grade begins, she finds that Rory is suddenly running with the in-crowd.

Collins, B. R.

*The Traitor Game*

Fifteen year olds Michael and Francis feel betrayed when a classmate learns of Evgard, a secret world they have created. When a bully becomes involved in Michael's plan for revenge, the boys and Evgard face grave danger.

Connor, Leslie

*Waiting For Normal*

Addie's mom and stepfather have just gotten divorced, and Addie is left to live with Mom in a trailer in the middle of Schenectady. Addie's always had a way of dealing with her mom's inconsistencies all her life and she concentrates on the things she can control- her flute playing, her hamster Piccolo.. As Addie's own world becomes more unstable, strength of character becomes her best friend.

Cormier, Robert

*The Chocolate War*

Jerry Renault, a freshman at Trinity Catholic High School for boys, refuses to sell chocolates for a school fundraiser. Jerry's refusal causes uproar at Trinity, and it also causes a sad ending. This book definitely gives a sense of how hazing and initiation can be cruel in schools today.

Evangelista, Beth

*Gifted*

Arrogant and mentally gifted George Clark has dreaded the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class camping trip and its inevitable bullying, but a hurricane and a friend's loyalty make him realize what's important in life.

Fox, D. and Beane, A.L.

*Good Bye Bully Machine*

This book helps students see how bullying starts and how it grows and gives advice on how to make bullying stop.

Gardner, Graham *Inventing Eliot*

Eliot, a victim of bullying, invents a cooler self when he changes schools in the middle of his freshman year, but soon attracts the wrong kind of attention from the Guardians who “maintain order” at his new school.

Getz, David *Thin Air*

Jacob is a sixth grader who's trying his hardest to be just a normal kid, but his asthma keeps him from his goal for most of the time. When Jacob goes to a new school, he makes a great new friend, Cynthia, but goes through discrimination against kids who are a little different.

Holt, Kimberly Willis *When Zachery Beaver Came To Town*

This book is about friendship, loss, life, love and everything that connects them.

Howe, James *The Misfits*

Both touching, cutting edge, real and gutsy, the Misfits in the title are a band of four friends, each one with a trait that society unfairly and immediately judges them on: being too tall, too fat, too gay, too greasy, and all of them too smart for their peers. The kids band together for survival, security, and to experience something they all yearn for, acceptance.

Kehret, Peg *Escaping the Giant Wave*

Thirteen year old Kyle tries to save his sister, a boy who has bullied him for years and himself from the aftermath of an earthquake.

Koja, Kathe *Budda Boy*

Buddha Boy is a realistic fiction story of a religious young boy named Jinsen, who is new at Rucher High School. The kids make fun of him for his dragon t-shirts and peaceful ways.

Koss, Amy Goldman *The Girls*

Maya's life is going good, until one morning when she is told by her Dad that they are going to Magic Mountain and she is allowed to bring one friend. She calls all of her "friends" and finds out that Darcy is having a sleepover that she wasn't invited to. Friendless and confused, Maya goes through her day not knowing where she went wrong.

Koss, Amy Goldman *Poison Ivy*

The story is told by eight different points of view. In a government class at school, a group of girls goes on "trial" for their bullying of a classmate they call "Poison Ivy". This story will give you the eight different points of view from each girl on the same event.

Lord, Cynthia *Rules*

A new girl has moved in next door to Catherine and her family. She would love to make Kristi a friend, but there's always the threat that this new girl would be overly freaked out by David, her autistic brother. And then there's Jason, the wheelchair bound boy she knows from the occupational therapy visits. Pretty soon Catherine's going to have to decide what kind of a friend she's really looking for.

Ludwig, Trudy *Confessions of a Former Bully*

The text is written from the bully's point of view. The reader truly understands the effects of bullying.

Ludwig, Trudy *Just Kidding*

The story itself is realistic and poignant and makes the distinction between "tattling" and "reporting." When D.J. is teased unmercifully by Vince, D.J.'s life becomes miserable and he begins to feel like a "loser."

Ludwig, Trudy *My Secret Bully*

Monica, a "tween" (8-12) is facing the ugly truth about subtle bullying. Her former friend Katie makes snide comments about her to other girls; excludes her from games and tells Monica who she can and cannot talk to.

Ludwig, Trudy *Sorry*

Jack, a tween in the early grades feels that his identity is enhanced by being friends with Charlie, a bully, Charlie exacts cruelties on others and tosses off a casual "sorry." Many let him skate by with his insincere apologies. Jack resents this, but does not feel he can challenge Charlie on this. A girl named Leena is the recipient of one of Charlie's more cruel pranks. When he destroys her science project, she tells him in no uncertain terms that she does not buy his insincere apology. Jack, touched by genuine remorse helps Leena rebuild her project.

Ludwig, Trudy *Trouble Talk*

The book tackles the real social problems that kids have to deal with - the rumors, the difficult friendships, difficult relationships, forgiveness, lies, trust...

Martin, Ann *A Corner of the Universe*

Hattie's universe is permanently altered the summer she turns twelve, when for the first time she meets her 21-year-old mentally ill Uncle Adam, Hattie, an introspective only child with few friends, feels alternately enchanted by Adam's childlike exuberance and concerned that she might be somehow "like him." She becomes protective of him as she witnesses the cruel reaction of those who deem him a "freak."

Peters, Julie Ann *"Define Normal"*

Antonia, a straight-A student, a teacher-pleaser, and a "priss," is assigned Jasmine, a punker, a "in-your-face" non-conformist, for peer counseling in their middle school.

Philbrick, Rodman *Freak the Mighty*

The novel follows the unlikely "Odd Couple"-like friendship between Max, who lives with his grandparents, and an enormous eighth grader who is on the slow side, yet has plenty of common sense.

Polacco, Patricia *Mr. Lincoln's Way*

When Mr. Lincoln discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

Sacher, Louis *The Boy Who Lost His Face*

David receives a curse from an elderly woman he has helped his classmates attack, and he learns to regret his weakness in pandering to others for the sake of popularity. New friends help him to become a stronger more assertive person.

Spinelli, Jerry *Stargirl*

Eleventh grader Leo Borlock narrates this story about life at Mica Area High School in Arizona, forever changed after the arrival of a new student, sophomore and former homeschooler, Stargirl Caraway, whose nonconformist ways alternately yield reactions of disdain and awe from her classmates.

Spinelli, Jerry

*Wringer*

The story takes place in the rural town of Waymer, a community known for a yearly event: Pigeon Day, during which sharp-shooters fire at pigeons as they are released from cages. Those unfortunate birds which fall to the ground wounded, but not killed, have their necks wrung by boys known as "wringers."

Traditionally, a Waymer boy becomes a wringer at age ten. The novel follows the story of Palmer who does not want to become a wringer, but faces intense peer pressure to join in the tradition. *Wringer* is an intense study of social pressure, gender roles among children, bullying, and the rationalization of violence.

Tarshis, Lauren

*Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out Of A Tree*

She's not like other girls. She doesn't burst into tears every day in middle school or giggle about boys with her friends. Come to think of it, she doesn't seem to have all that many friends to begin with. That's okay, though. If Emma-Jean is anything, she's comfortable being herself. That's something Colleen Pomerantz would probably pay anything to be. When Emma-Jean finds Colleen sobbing in the girls' bathroom (she vows to help Colleen out any way she can.

Wilheim, Doug

*The Revealers*

Russell, Catalina and Elliott are all victims of different bullying. Catalina gets bullied emotionally by the mean "popular" girls writing lies and rumors about her. Elliott gets bullied physically by the mean "jocks" and Russell gets bullied physically and emotionally by the tough guy in school. When they all get bullied they can't stand it so they decide to take a stand and stop it.

Winerip, Michael

*Adam Canfield, Watch Your Back!*

After middle-grader, Adam, is mugged by high school bullies he becomes the focus of media attention just as his co-editors at the school newspaper are launching a contest to out the bullies at their school.

### Fiction (Middle School /High School)

Adoff, Jaime

*Names Will Never Hurt Me*

Some profanity, violence and bullying

All characters grow in maturity. It is engrossing and sends a strong anti-bullying message.

Adoff, Jaime

*Fade to Black*

An HIV positive student is attacked, a known bully and tormentor of the victim is seen in the vicinity, and the only witness is a girl with Down's Syndrome.

Anderson, Laurie Halse

*Twisted*

After finally getting noticed by someone other than the school bullies, 17 year old Tyler enjoys his tough new reputation---then life goes bad again.

Anderson, Laurie Halse

*Speak*

Melinda, a high school student, is a victim, but this is the story of her personal growth and how she found her voice.

Atkins, Catherine

*Alt Ed*

All her life, Susan has struggled with her weight and with getting acceptance. She has a big crush on this nice guy at school, but this other guy, Kale, always picks on her. When Brendan, a fellow outcast, trashes Kale's truck, Susan gets blamed for it. She, Brendan, and Kale are all ordered to attend an after-school detention program; they eventually develop some grudging friendships or at least a little bit of understanding.

**Bennett, Cherie**                      *Life in the Fat Lane*

This excellent and inventive book deals with the inner turmoil of a Prom Queen's descent into fat hell.

**Berk, Josh**                      *The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin*

Will Halpin transfers from his all-deaf school into a mainstream high school. He faces discrimination and bullying but still manages to solve a mystery.

**Brown, Jennifer**                      *Hate List*

Valerie's boyfriend, the person she trusted more than anyone else, shattered her life when he brought a gun to school and wounded several students and killed many others, including himself. Most people believe Valerie was involved, but she had no idea what Nick was planning. After spending weeks in the hospital recovering from a near-fatal gunshot wound to the leg, Valerie is moved to the psychiatric ward for observation. Afterwards, during her many therapy sessions, she begins to think back on her relationship with Nick and all the events that led up to the terrible act that changed an entire community.

**Crutcher, Chris**                      *Whale Talk*

About a group of misfits, led by T.J. Jones, that forms a swim team at Cutter High School. T.J. wanted to change the whole idea of what an athlete is. His goal for the season was to have every person on the swim team earn a letter.

**Friesen, Gayle**                      *Men of Stone*

This book tackles the theme of masculinity and what causes a boy to be a "man."

**Frizzell, Colin**                      *Chill*

The way Chill deals with his disability and his art have helped him survive the horrors of high school. When a new teacher tries to crush his spirit, Chill fights back.

**Garden, Nancy**                      *End Game*

A boy who shoots several of his classmates and is stopped from killing himself recounts the events that led up to his rampage. The book does not justify what the shooter did...the pattern presented shows how the boy's supports crumbled one -by-one. This is a strong anti-bullying book.

**Giles, Gail**                      *What Happened to Cass McBride?*

A glimpse into many different points of view: Cass McBride has had a pretty strange upbringing. Then there's Kyle, a young man who has had the type of childhood you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy. Then there's the police detective, Ben, who has his own story to tell, and ones to listen to. And although we don't really get to hear David Kirby tell his story (he is, after all, quite dead), we learn about a boy who never really even had a chance.

**Giles, Gail**                      *Shattering Glass*

Author Gail Giles takes a well worn plot line - turning the class loser into Mr. Popularity - and turns it into a much deeper exploration of power, conformity, and boundaries.

**Goobie, Beth**                      *The Lottery*

A real heart-touching story, Beth Goobie takes on the challenge of writing about teen social issues, conflicts, drama, and things the teachers don't know about.

**Hall, Megan Kelly**                      *Sisters of Misery*

The Sisters of Misery are a nasty little group of high school girls residing in the affluent seaside community of Hawthorne, Massachusetts (just a stones throw from Salem). This witchy and exclusive clique is

presided over by Kate Endicott who is out to ridicule, demoralize, control or destroy anyone who doesn't fit.

Harteringer, Brent *Geography Club*

This book is geared toward young adults (high school age), but it's a book all ages can enjoy and benefit from, especially parents who want to better understand their gay son or daughter, and the difficulties they face while in high school.

Hyde, Catherine Ryan *Diary of a Witness*

Ernie an overweight teen and the target of school jocks, spends his days at high school trying to stay out of their way. His friend, Will, seems to go out of his way to antagonize the bullies. Will's brother dies and his death was partially caused by Will's actions. Will sinks into depression and rage; Ernie is caught in the middle.

Love, D. Anne *Defying the Diva*

*Defying the Diva* is a fast-paced, heartbreaking, and truthful novel about what happens to the targets of bullying.

Lubar, David *Sleeping Freshman Never Lie*

It is an interesting and funny perspective of freshmen trying to fit in at the high school level. (Male protagonist).

Mac, Carrie *The Beckoners*

The book presents a realistic portrayal of what happens in high schools.

Murdoch, Patricia *Exposure*

Julie has been bullied and picked on for years. When she gets photographs of her chief tormentor, Julie uses them to get revenge—but then everything goes wrong.

Nielson, Susin *Word Nerd*

Anyone who grew up poor or was viciously teased as a youth can relate to the main character, Ambrose. (For older students, pedophilia is a topic, authentic rough language is used.)

Phillips, Suzanne *Burn*

Cameron Grady is a loner, and with good reason. His freshman year has just been one misery after another ever since he went to the school's sports orientation night and the coach thought he was a girl. Now he's known as Cameron Diaz and forced to "map out his day with survival being the only objective."

Pignat, Caroline *Egghead*

The book helps students understand how bullying can affect not only the two involved but their peers around them as well.

Pixley, Marcella F. *Freak*

Twelve year old Miriam, poetic, smart and quirky is considered a freak by the popular girls. Eventually she explodes in response to their bullying revealing an inner strength she did not know she had.

Portman, Frank *King Dork*

This is the story of one young man "too young for his grade, too small for his age" and his painful trip through high school. Along the path of Mr. Portman's story we grimace as we are reminded of how evil adolescents can be. This is a mixture of telling it like it is and creating a fast-paced funny tale of how one boy deals with being who he happens to be.

Preller, James *Bystander*

Whether you're a teen, a teacher, or a parent, reading this book will remind you how important it is to have a no-tolerance view of bullying. It is so easy to tell a teen to "ignore" the bully. But as Eric Hayes experienced, it's not that easy, especially when you're trying to fit in.

Prose, Francine *Bullyville*

After the death of his father in the 9/11 tragedy, 13 year old Bart wins a scholarship to a prep school where he encounters a bully whose cruelty compounds the aftermath of Bart's loss.

Prue, Sally *Devil's Toenail*

A bullied boy is lured into the dark power of revenge in the haunting young adult fantasy.

Schraff, Anne, Langan, Paul *The Bully (The Bluford High Series Book 5)*

Darrell has to deal with a new home, a new school, and a new bully named Tyray.

Watkins, Steve *Down Sand Mountain*

In a small Florida town in 1966, 12 year old Dewey faces one worst-day-ever after another, but comes to know that the issues he faces about bullies, girls, race and identity are part of the adult world, too.

Wilheim, Doug *The Revealers*

Russell, Catalina and Elliott are all victims of different bullying. Catalina gets bullied emotionally by the mean "popular" girls writing lies and rumors about her. Elliott gets bullied physically by the mean "jocks" and Russell gets bullied physically and emotionally by the tough guy in school. When they all get bullied they can't stand it so they decide to take a stand and stop it.

Williams-Garcia, Rita *Jumped*

The book takes a look at teen angst and bullying. This story tells how the lives of three very different teens connect with each other and how the choices they make can have dire consequences. (Female characters)

### Non- Fiction (Memoirs, Letters, Biographies)

Abeel, Samantha, *My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir*

Samantha Abeel not only wrote My Thirteenth Winter, but lives it. This book opens up your eyes and makes you aware of the struggles that thousands of people with learning disabilities go through. (MS, HS)

Blanco, Jodee *Please Stop Laughing at Me: One Woman's Inspirational Story*

"Old ghosts come back to haunt me... Trying to soar on broken wings" (MS, HS, Adult)

Coles, Robert *The Story of Ruby Bridges*

A young girl faces verbal abuse and racism as she becomes the first black student to integrate a white school. (ES, MS)

Ellis Deborah *We Want You To Know*

Young People between the ages of 9 and 19 talk about their experiences with bullying. (ES./MS/HS)

Fernly, Fran *I Wrote On All Four Walls: Teens Speak Out on Violence* (HS)

Nine teens recall their experiences with bullying, as either, witness, victim or bully. Violence builds walls and these teens were able to break down the walls and speak out.

Gardner, Olivia      *Letters to a Bullied Girl: Messages of Healing and Hope*  
The book includes one bullied girl, two sisters who cared, and thousands more who opened up their hearts.  
(Adol./Adult)

Ludwig, Trudy      *Confessions of a Former Bully*  
The text is written from the bully's point of view. The reader truly understands the effects of bullying.  
(ES/Early Adol.)

Miller, M.      *Surviving Gangs and Bullying*  
Students are exposed to bullying and gang stories of adolescents from all around the world. (Adol.)

Peretti, Frank      *The Wounded Spirit*  
Peretti tells his own story (which he hasn't told openly until only recently) of growing up with a medical condition that left him disfigured and also small and underdeveloped for his age.  
(Video and learner's guide) (HS/Adult)

Polacco, Patricia      *Thank you, Mr. Falker*  
The author describes how she is teased as a child because of her reading disability. (ES)

Shapiro and Vot      *Bullying and Me: Schoolyard Stories*  
Students can learn from these real stories about the effects of bullying. The text presents the reader with good lessons to live by. (Adol.)

Simmons, Rachel      *Odd Girl Speaks Out: Girls Write about Bullies, Cliques, Popularity and Jealousy*  
Simmons invited girls to describe their experiences. Letters, essays and poems came from girls across North America. Simons offers advice and help for the future. (Adol./Adult)

### Non-Fiction (Reference)

Beane, Allan      *The Bully Free Classroom*  
The book includes more than 100 prevention and intervention strategies to deal with bullying, including reproducible handouts.

Bott C. J.      *The Bully in the Book and in the Classroom*  
The book addresses the often covert problem of bullying in the halls, offices, and classrooms of elementary, junior high, and senior high schools. Bott informs parents, classroom teachers and school staff members just what to look for and how to react when witnessing harassment among students, including the behavior of bullies, their targeted victims, and the bystanders. Each individual chapter highlights a particular age group and describes the most frequent types of bullying associated with each group. Bott also provides informative reviews of books recommended for each reading level from elementary and middle school titles, to more sophisticated reading for high school students. Each book review contains an in-depth summary, activities, and quotes. The final section is dedicated to providing resources for teachers, librarians, counselors, administrators, and parents.

Burstein, J.      *Why Are You Picking on Me?*  
This text is a basic book that briefly overviews all aspects of bullying.

Coloroso, Barbara *The Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander*

The text describes the different kinds of bullying and how to work with both bullying and bullied children.

Dellasega, Cheryl *Girl Wars: Twelve Strategies That Will End Female Bullying*

The book deals with middle school and high school girls.

Fox, D. and Beane, A.L. *Good Bye Bully Machine*

This book helps pre-adolescent/ adolescent students see how bullying starts and how it grows and gives advice on how to make bullying stop.

Freeman, Judy S. *Easing the Teasing: Helping Your Child Cope with Name-calling, Ridicule and Verbal Bullying*

This is a parent's guide to bullying.

Fried, SuEllen *Bullies and Victims: Helping Your Child Survive the Schoolyard Battlefield*

The text gives concrete information about the problem of bullying and offers practical solutions.

Garbarino, James *And Words Can Hurt Forever: How to Protect Adolescents from Bullying Harassment and Emotional Violence*

The authors uncover the staggering amount of hostility and cruelty that exists in high school environments despite the best intentions of schools and parents.

Jakubiak, D.J. *A Smart Kid's Guide to Online Bullying*

This text allows students in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to think critically and reflect on how they use technology. (Adolescents)

Jones, J. *Bullies*

Students are presented with 10 specific points to think about when dealing with bullies. (Adolescents)

Monteverde, Matthew *Making Smart Choices about Violence, Gangs and Bullying*

The text studies teens and violence. It covers these topics : the reasons teens choose violence, how to avoid violent situations, the outcomes of choosing violence, living with the outcomes of your choices. (Young Adults)

Roman, Trevor *Bullies Are a Pain in the Brain*

Recent events in our schools have shown that bullies -- aside from being a pain in the brain -- can bring out reactions from their victims that are dangerous. Teaching our children how to deal with bullies is important for parents, just as not being bullied is important to kids. (Elementary Students, Early Adolescents)

Sheras, Dr. Peter *Your Child: Bully or Victim? Understanding and Ending Schoolyard Tyranny*

This is a parent's guide to bullying.

Thomas, Pat *Stop Picking On Me: A First Look At Bullying*

This picture book explores bullying in simple terms. The troublesome issue is made accessible to young children.