An annotated list of books for K – 12 students on a variety of health topics, including but not limited to, mental and emotional health, safety skills, physical education and activity, the environment, food and nutrition, food cultures and customs, gardens and farms, alcohol and drug use, and personal and sexual health.

Disclaimer: The Health and Physical Education Booklist was created by the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to promote literacy and wellness. Inclusion does not imply endorsement by OSSE.
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Welcome to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education’s Health and Physical Education Booklist! This booklist contains annotations for close to 300 books for elementary (K – 5), middle (6 – 8), and high school (9 – 12) students on a variety of health topics, including but not limited to, mental and emotional health, safety skills, physical education and activity, the environment, food and nutrition, food cultures and customs, gardens and farms, alcohol and drug use, and personal and sexual health. Each book has been aligned to the 2016 DC Health Education Standards, the Common Core Standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards to facilitate their implementation into curricula. A brief description of each set of standards and where to find them can be found in appendix A.

How do I use this resource?
This Health and Physical Education Booklist has been organized by grade bands: Elementary (K – 5), middle (6 – 8), and high (9 – 12) school. Within each grade band, books have been listed by categories, and within each category, by ascending age. The categories can be found throughout the booklist in headings, and correspond to those of the 2016 DC Health Education Standards. Due to the nature of each topic, some sections reference more books than others. Each book has been listed as follows:

| A Fire Engine for Ruthie | Book Title |
| By Lesléa Newman | Author |
| Theme(s): Defying Stereotypes, Being Yourself, | Key Words |
| Accepting Differences | |
| Description: Nana has dolls and dress-up clothes for Ruthie to play with, but Ruthie would rather have a fire engine. | Description |
| Age: 2-5 | Recommended Age |

The books in the Health and Physical Education Booklist have been aligned to the 2016 DC Health Education Standards, the Common Core standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards. A table that lists the individual standards that each book addresses has been included at the end of each grade band listing.

In addition to being used by classroom teachers and physical and health educators, the Health Education and Physical Education Booklist can be used by school health coordinators, dietitians, nutritionists, school nurses, librarians, parents, foodservices staff members, or anyone interested in enhancing students’ reading skills and knowledge about health and wellness, and teaching them healthy habits.

To use the books you can:
- Incorporate them into existing math, health, science, language arts and social studies curricula as a reading assignment and/or as part of an individual or group activity;
- Assign them as reading material during the summer and/or winter break;
- Create a book club;
- Add them to your school’s library; and
- Host a teacher read aloud session or have an independent reading session in the classroom, followed by a discussion of the book’s content.

Please note the above list is not exclusive, so please use your creativity to incorporate the books in any opportunity that encourages student learning!
Where can I download this booklet?
You can download a PDF version of the Health and Physical Education Booklist at http://osse.dc.gov/service/health-and-wellness-division.

Why is health education important?
It is a well-known fact that healthier students are better learners (Basch, 2010). Research shows that health-risk behaviors such as early sexual initiation, violence, and physical inactivity are consistently linked to poor grades and test scores and lower educational attainment (Carlson et al., 2008; MacLellan, Taylor, & Wood, 2008; Spriggs & Halpern, 2008; Srabstein & Piazza, 2008). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model (WSCC) (Figure 1), a model that depicts how the school environment and local community impact the child’s academic attainment and health (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2015). Two out of the ten components of the WSCC model are covered thoroughly by the books included in this booklist. The two components are: (1) Health Education and (2) Physical Education and Physical Activity. Health education is defined as “education that consists of any combination of planned learning experiences that provide the opportunity to acquire information and the skills students need to make quality health decisions” (CDC, 2010). Hand-in-hand with health education is physical education. Physical education is characterized by a planned, sequential curriculum that provides cognitive content and instruction designed to develop motor skills, knowledge, and behaviors for healthy active living, physical fitness, sportsmanship, self-efficacy, and emotional intelligence, and allows students to learn concepts and skills to establish and maintain a physically active lifestyle (CDC, 2015). A physically active lifestyle contains recommended amounts of physical activity, which consists of bodily movement produced by skeletal muscle that increases energy expenditure (CDC, 2015). Physical activity is an essential component of health and a contributor to enhanced academic achievement (CDC, 2010).

How was this resource created?
The Health and Physical Education Booklist was created by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) through a rigorous selection and review process. First, each book was researched and its content was reviewed to ensure it was age appropriate for the intended audience, addressed concepts that are aligned to health objectives or the framework of study, introduced factual material, and would contribute to the student’s knowledge of that topic as well as their overall education. If found appropriate, its content was aligned to the 2016 DC Health Education Standards, the Common Core standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards. If you know of a great book that you think should be included in this booklist, please send us an email with the title, author, publisher, and ISBN of the book to: osse.heydt@dc.gov.

Additional Resources:
- **DC Public Library**: DC Public Library has an array of books, special services, online and print resources for kids, teens, and educators, as well as enhanced borrowing privileges for educators. For more information visit http://dclibrary.org/freebooks.
- **Healthy Schools Booklist**: The Healthy Schools booklist contains annotations for over 400 books about food and nutrition, food cultures and customs, gardens and farms, physical education and activity, the environment, and healthy habits for children in grades K-5. The Healthy Schools Booklist can be downloaded from http://osse.dc.gov/service/health-and-wellness-division.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOOKLIST
(Grades K-5)
A Fire Engine for Ruthie
By Lesléa Newman
Theme(s): Defying Stereotypes, Being Yourself, Accepting Differences
Description: Nana has dolls and dress-up clothes for Ruthie to play with, but Ruthie would rather have a fire engine.
Age: 2-5

How Do Dinosaurs Say I’m Mad?
By Jane Yolen
Theme(s): Managing Anger, Feelings and Emotions
Description: ROAR! What happens when little dinosaurs get mad? And how do they calm down? Brimming with humor, this sparkling new book handles a timeless children’s topic with wit and wisdom. Romp and stomp! Roar and slam! Almost everyone gets angry. But how can young dinosaurs also learn to calm down, take a time out, and behave?
Age: 3-5

Glad Monster, Sad Monster
By Ed Emberley and Anne Miranda
Theme(s): Feelings and Emotions
Description: Glad, sad, silly, mad - monsters have all kinds of different feelings! In this innovative die-cut book, featuring a snazzy foil cover, you’ll try on funny masks as you walk through the wide range of moods all little monsters (and kids!) experience.
Age: 3-6

Elena’s Serenade
By Campbell Geeslin
Theme(s): Defying Stereotypes, Respect
Description: Elena disguises herself as a boy and learns to be a glassblower like her father, finally earning his respect for her artistry.
Age: 3-7

It’s Okay to Be Different
By Todd Parr
Theme(s): Accepting Differences
Description: While not specifically addressing gender issues, the book enumerates many ways in which it’s okay to be different.
Age: 3-7

William’s Doll
By Charlotte Zolotow
Theme(s): Defying Stereotypes, Being Yourself
Description: To the dismay of his parents, and jeering of his brother, young William wants a doll. His grandmother convinces his father that it’s an acceptable toy for a boy because it will help teach him how to be a father.
Age: 3-7

I Look Like a Girl
By Sheila Hamanaka
Theme(s): Being Yourself, Defying Stereotypes, Accepting Differences
Description: In this vibrantly illustrated picture book, exuberant girls seem to burst both the limits of the page and the confines of traditional expectations. Each child, while engaging in typical childhood activities, is imagining a life as free and wild as that of a tiger, dolphin, Mustang, Condor, or Wolf. A celebration of “what is wild, in the heart-so I can be me,” this book does for girls what the author’s All the Colors of the Earth (Morrow, 1994) did for children of ethnic diversity.
Age: 3-8

The Way I Feel
By Janan Cain
Theme(s): Feelings and Emotions
Description: The zany characters who snuffle, soar and shriek through this book will help kids understand the concept of such emotions as joy, disappointment, boredom and anger. “The Way I Feel” will also show kids how to express their feelings with words.
Age: 3-8

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf
By Leo Buscaglia
Theme(s): Dealing with Grief, Feelings and Emotions, Loss
Description: A warm, wonderfully wise and strikingly simple story about a leaf named Freddie. How Freddie and his companion leaves change with the passing seasons, finally falling to the ground with winter’s snow, is an inspiring allegory illustrating the delicate balance between life and death.
Age: 4+}

The Boy Who Cried Fabulous
By Brett Axel, Terra Bidlespacher
Theme(s): Accepting Differences, Respect
Description: The only thing Roger likes better than exploring the world around him is describing it. And Roger describes most things as fabulous! But his parents have a different view. They want Roger to see things the way they do, so they ban “fabulous” from his vocabulary.
Age: 4+

My Princess Boy (A mom’s story about a young boy who loves to dress up)
By Cheryl Kilodavis
Theme(s): Gender Expression, Being Yourself
Description: My Princess Boy tells the tale of 4-year-old boy who happily expresses his authentic self by happily dressing up in dresses, and enjoying traditional girl things such as jewelry and anything pink or sparkly. My Princess Boy opens a dialogue about embracing uniqueness, and teaches you and others how to accept young boys who might cross-traditional gender.
Age: 4+

The Paper Bag Princess
By Robert Munsch
Theme(s): Individuality, Confidence
Description: The Princess Elizabeth is slated to marry Prince Ronald when a dragon attacks the castle and kidnaps Ronald. In resourceful and humorous fashion, Elizabeth finds the dragon, outsmarts him, and rescues Ronald --- who is less than pleased at her un-princess-like appearance.
Age: 4+

Goblinheart
By Brett Axel, Terra Bidlespacher
Theme(s): Accepting Differences, Being Yourself
Description: Using “fairy” and “goblin” in lieu of female and male, the author has created a timely allegorical fairy tale. A youngster named Julep, who lives in a forest tribe, insists on growing up to be a goblin rather than a fairy. The tribe learns to accept that Julep is a goblin at heart, eventually coming around to support the physical transition that must be made for Julep to live as a goblin.
Age: 4-7

Princess Smartypants
By Babette Cole
Theme(s): Individuality, Confidence
Description: Princess Smartypants prefers to stay a “Ms.” and easily dispatches all but one of her annoying suitors. Getting rid of the final one is a bit more of a challenge.
Age: 4-7
Play Free
By McAll Mason, Max Suarez
Theme(s): Sexual Orientation, Individuality
Description: Girls can wear pants, boys can wear dresses. None of that should cause any messes. Take a stroll through the life of a gender variant boy who just wants to be accepted for who he is. Walk in his shoes for a minute as he shows you his playhouse and introduces you to his friends. Soon you’ll see that we’re all pretty similar and being different isn’t really that big of a deal.
Age: 4-7

The Princess Knight
By Cornelia Funke
Theme(s): Feelings and Emotions
Description: Despite the taunting of her brothers, Princess Violetta becomes a talented knight, and when her father proposes to give her hand in marriage to the knight who wins a tournament, Violetta uses her brains as well as her brawn to outwit him.
Age: 4-7

Today I Feel Silly: And Other Moods That Make My Day
By Jamie Lee Curtis
Theme(s): Feelings and Emotions
Description: Exploring a wide range of emotions and reasons they can differ vastly even within the same day, this is a great book to read with early primary/elementary aged children.
Age: 4-8

Mighty Jackie: The Strikeout Queen
By Marissa Moss
Theme(s): Being Yourself, Confidence
Description: Non-fiction account of teenaged Jackie Mitchell who pitched against baseball greats Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth.
Age: 4-8

The Sissy Duckling
By Harvey Fierstein
Theme(s): Acceptance, Healthy Relationships
Description: Elmer the duckling faces the derision of his schoolmates and out and out rejection by his father, but he has a mother who sticks up for him no matter what. And when he saves his father’s life, Papa declares, “If Elmer is a sissy, then I wish I were a sissy too!” in a resounding moment of triumph for sissies everywhere.
Age: 4-8

Little Mouse’s Big Book of Fears
By Emily Gravett
Theme(s): Changes and New Experiences, Feelings and Emotions, Confronting Fears
Description: Little Mouse is afraid of everything. Join her as she faces her fears and records them in her journal - and discovers that even the biggest people are afraid of some things.
Age: 4-8

When Sophie Gets Angry- Really, Really Angry
By Molly Bang
Theme(s): Managing Anger, Feelings and Emotions, Positive Family Experiences
Description: In this Caldecott Honor-winning, head-on exploration of the causes of and solutions to anger, Sophie gets angry and runs out into the woods, where she climbs a tree to calm down, and is soon ready to come home to her loving family.
Age: 4-8

Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon
By Patty Lovell
Theme(s): Bullying Experiences, Confronting Fears, Self-Esteem
Description: Molly Lou Melon is short and clumsy and has buckteeth and a voice that sounds like a bullfrog being squeezed by a boa constrictor. But armed with the encouraging words of her grandmother, Molly Lou confidently confronts the class bully at her new school.
Age: 4-8

The Berenstain Bears and Too Much Pressure
By Stan Berenstain and Jan Berenstain
Theme(s): Character and Values, Managing Stress and Pressure
Description: Sister and Brother Bear have activities every day after school, and Mama and Papa have their own interests, too. There isn’t much time left over for homework, household chores, or just plain family fun. As the Bears’ lives grow more hectic, pressure builds!
Age: 5-7

The Courage of the Blue Boy
By Robert Neubecker
Theme(s): Finding Courage, Accepting Differences
Description: Blue boy and Polly, his calf, live in a land where everything, including them, is blue. They dream of seeing other places of different colors. They soon arrive in a wondrous multi-colored city. It fills them with joy until they notice once more that only they are blue. Gathering his courage, Blue decides to add his own hues to the city so it will represent all colors but enable him to remain true to self.
Age: 5-8

Liking Myself
By Pat Palmer
Theme(s): Emotional Stability, Social and Emotional Skills
Description: Liking Myself is an encouraging book and a valuable resource for building self-esteem and emotional stability in children 5 to 11 years of age. By writing or drawing responses to a variety of self-esteem activities, children develop social and emotional skills. The book teaches children to listen to and talk about feelings. They learn to manage the full range of their emotions including anxiety, anger, depression, and being overwhelmed without hurting others.
Age: 5-11

Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys
By Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
Theme(s): Individuality, Finding Courage
Description: The youngest and the only girl in a family with five boys, Virgie works hard to convince everyone she is old enough, strong enough, and smart enough to attend the school set up by the Quakers for recently freed blacks in Jonesborough, TN. By the end of summer, she has convinced her family that she can make the seven-mile walk to board school each week and willingly handle the job of “learning to be free.”
Age: 5+

Sea Otter Cove: A Relaxation Story
By Lori Lite
Theme(s): Relaxation, Managing Stress and Pressure
Description: Sea Otter Cove is a story that teaches children how to use diaphragmatic breathing to calm down, lower stress, and control anger. Children love to experience belly breathing with the playful sea otters and sea child. This self-calming breathing technique can help your child to self-soothe, relax, and manage anger.
Age: 6+

Don’t Kiss That Frog
By Fiona Waters
Theme(s): Accepting Differences, Defying Stereotypes, Being Yourself
Description: Perfect for girls who love tiaras, ball gowns, and happy endings—but also sports, silly jokes, and being different. Featuring the work of seven writers and three illustrators, this anthology of “princess stories with attitude” will make kids laugh as they encounter a bevy of sleepy, sporty, clumsy, brave, resourceful, and curious princesses. The exuberant typographic design is an excellent match for the story-telling style and colorful artwork.
Age: 6-10
**Rickshaw Girl**  
*By Mitali Perkins*  
*Theme(s):* Perseverance, Gender Expressions  
*Description:* Ten-year-old Naima longs to earn money to help her poor Bangladeshi family, but her talent in painting traditional patterns, or alpanas, is no use. Disguised as a boy to drive her father’s rickshaw, she wrecks the vehicle threatening the family’s sole livelihood. Her solution is to steal away, disguised as a boy, to a repair shop and offer her services painting decorations on the rickshaws. She is surprised to find that the owner is a woman.  
*Age:* 7+  

**Wilma Jean the Worry Machine**  
*By Julia Cook*  
*Theme(s):* Overcoming Anxiety, Feelings and Emotions  
*Description:* Anxiety is a subjective sense of worry, apprehension, and/or fear. Everyone feels fear, worry and apprehension from time to time, but when these feelings prevent a person from doing what he/she wants and/or needs to do, anxiety becomes a disability. This fun and humorous book addresses the problem of anxiety in a way that relates to children of all ages.  
*Age:* 7-11  

**Nobody’s Perfect: A Story for Children about Perfectionism**  
*By Ellen Flanagan Burns*  
*Theme(s):* Managing Stress, Finding Confidence  
*Description:* Sally Sanders is good at everything she does, or so it seems. Secretly she is afraid that if she can’t do something well, or be the best, she will feel like a failure. She is scared that she is not “good enough.” As a perfectionist, hitting the wrong note at a piano recital, or not making the soccer team feels like the end of the world! Gradually, through the help of her teachers and mother, Sally learns to have fun and not worry so much about being the best.  
*Age:* 8+  

**The Feelings Book: The Care and Keeping Your Emotions (Revised)**  
*By Lynda Madison*  
*Theme(s):* Feelings and Emotions  
*Description:* The Feelings Book will help you understand your emotions, and deal with them in positive ways. You’ll get tips on how to express your feelings and stay in control, plus get sensitive advice on handling fear, anxiety, jealousy, and grief. Learn how to stay in the driver’s seat of your own emotions!  
*Age:* 8+  

**The Survival Guide to Bullying: Written by a Teen**  
*By Aija Mayrock*  
*Theme(s):* Bullying Experiences, Feelings and Emotions  
*Description:* The Survival Guide to Bullying covers everything from cyber bullying to how to deal with fear and how to create the life you dream of having. From inspiring “roems” (rap poems), survival tips, personal stories, and quick quizzes, this book will light the way to a brighter future.  
*Age:* 10+  

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<td>Lovell, P. (1994). <em>Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon</em>. Holmes, New York: Spoken Arts, Inc. ISBN-13: 978.039.9234163</td>
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By Perez Hilton
Theme(s): Bullying, Teasing, Conflict Resolution, Being Yourself
Description: He was born that way- The Boy with Pink Hair. He had a cotton candy colored mop that no one had ever seen before . . . Life is not easy being pink. Adults stare at the boy, little children giggle behind his back and some kids are just mean. But the boy has a best friend who appreciates his uniqueness and parents who are loving and supportive, so he can do just about anything.
Age: 3+

Ballerino Nate
By Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
Theme(s): Bullying, Being Yourself, Ignoring Stereotypes
Description: Nate has the heart of a dancer, and he is determined to learn ballet. Even his older brother, Ben, can’t change his mind with his claims that “boys don’t dance.” Or can he? When Ben tells Nate that he’ll have to wear pink shoes and a dress, Nate becomes awfully worried. And when he’s the only boy in his ballet class, he begins to think that Ben is right: Maybe boys don’t dance.
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My Body Belongs to Me: A Book About Body Safety
By Jill Starishevsky
Theme(s): Boundaries, Abuse, Healthy Relationships
Description: Without being taught about body boundaries, a child may be too young to understand when abuse is happening—or that it’s wrong. This rhyming story and simple, friendly illustrations provide a way to sensitively share and discuss the topic, guiding young children to understand that their private parts belong to them alone. The overriding message of My Body Belongs to Me is that if someone touches your private parts, tell your mom, your dad, your teacher, or another safe adult.
Age: 3-8

I Can Be Safe: A First Look at Safety
By Pat Thomas
Theme(s): Safety Practices
Description: This friendly little book acknowledges kids’ fears and makes them aware of things they need in order to feel safe in different situations. They learn, for instance, to look both ways when crossing a road, to wear special clothing for sports, to know their parents’ names, phone number, and emergency numbers, and many other details.
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Age: 4+
### Be Careful and Stay Safe (Learning to Get Along)
*By Cheri J. Meiners*
**Theme(s):** Safety Practices, Emergencies  
**Description:** The world can seem so perilous, especially where our children are concerned. But even very young children can learn basic skills for staying safe in ordinary situations and preparing for emergencies. This book teaches little ones how to avoid potentially dangerous situations, ask for help, follow directions, use things carefully, and plan ahead.  
**Age:** 4-8

### Impatient Pamela Says: Learn to Call 911
*By Mary Koski*
**Theme(s):** Emergencies, Safety Practices  
**Description:** A practical workbook that can be used alone or alongside *Impatient Pamela Calls 9-1-1*, this is a fabulous teaching aid for 9-1-1 lessons. It walks children through the process of learning all about emergencies, including what a true emergency is, when it is appropriate to call 9-1-1, and who will come to the home when a call is made.  
**Age:** 5-7

### The Only Boy in Ballet Class
*By Denise Gruska*
**Theme(s):** Teasing, Bullying, Being Yourself  
**Description:** People don’t understand how wonderful dancing makes Tucker feel and he is teased and taunted. One day, however, his dance skills lead to a stunning move on the football field.  
**Age:** 5-8

### Max
*By Rachel Isadora*
**Theme(s):** Preventing Sports Injury, Defying Stereotypes  
**Description:** Max takes his sister every Saturday morning to ballet class while he goes on to his baseball game, but one day the teacher asks him if he wants to stretch with the class. Max finds out ballet can be good for getting ready to win a baseball game.  
**Age:** 4-8

### Oliver Button is a Sissy
*By Tomie DePaola*
**Theme(s):** Bullying, Teasing, Acceptance  
**Description:** Oliver prefers to read, paint, and wants to take tap-dancing lessons, and is jeered at by classmates. His father reluctantly allows the dance classes because they are a way to exercise, but he’s not happy about it. Oliver goes on to wow his classmates at the school talent show even though he doesn’t win.  
**Age:** 4-8

### Kids to the Rescue: First Aid Techniques for Kids
*By Maribeth Boelts*
**Theme(s):** First-Aid, Emergencies, Safety Practices  
**Description:** This simple first aid book helps kids think wisely in an emergency. Well illustrated and easy to understand, it describes accident situations that children are likely to find themselves in. The paramedic/teacher author team provides step-by-step directions for handling such common problems as cuts, bloody noses, stings, electric shock and burns.  
**Ages:** 4-12

### We Can Work It Out Conflict Resolution for Children
*By Barbara Kay Polland*
**Theme(s):** Conflict Resolution, Communication  
**Description:** If you think it’s hard for grown-ups to know what to do when everyday conflicts arise, you can imagine what it’s like for children, who are just learning how to communicate constructively with others.  
**Age:** 5-10

### Impatient Pamela Calls 9-1-1
*By Mary Koski*
**Theme(s):** Emergencies, Safety Practices  
**Description:** This simple first aid book helps little ones how to avoid potentially dangerous situations, ask for help, follow directions, use things carefully, and plan ahead.  
**Age:** 4-8

### I Can Make My World a Safer Place
*By Paul Kivel*
**Theme(s):** Bullying, Friendship, Identity  
**Description:** Pinky’s favorite color is pink, and his best friend, Rex, is a girl. Kevin, the third-grade bully, says that makes Pinky a sissy. Deep down, Pinky thinks Kevin is wrong, but he’s still worried. Does Pinky have to give up his favorite things, and worse, does he have to give up his best friend?  
**Age:** 6-8

### What Would You Do?
*By Linda Schwartz*
**Theme(s):** Body Boundaries, Positive Relationships  
**Description:** In simple, reassuring language, the author explains that a child’s body is his or her own; that it is all right for kids to decline a friendly hug or kiss, even from someone they love; and that you can still be friends even if you don’t want a hug now.  
**Age:** 8+

### Stick Up for Yourself: Every Kid’s Guide to Personal Power & Positive Self-Esteem (Revised)
*By Gershen Kaufman, Lev Raphael, Pamela Espeland*
**Theme(s):** Bullying, Teasing, Conflict Resolution, Self-Esteem  
**Description:** It’s the ultimate resource for any kid who’s ever been picked on at school, bossed around, blamed for things he or she didn’t do, or treated unfairly—and for any kid who sometimes feels frustrated, angry, powerless, or scared.  
**Age:** 8-12
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<td>Bradley, B.K. (2006). Ballerino Nate. New York, New York: Penguin Publishing Group. ISBN-13: 978.080.3729544</td>
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<td>DePaola, T. (1979). Oliver Button is a Sissy. Wilmington, Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN-13: 978.015.6681407</td>
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<td>Frankel, E. (2013). <em>Dare!</em> A Story About Standing Up to Bullying in Schools. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Free Spirit Publishing. ISBN-13: 978.157.5426594</td>
<td>K-2.2.1.3, K-2.2.4.12, K-2.2.7.17, K-2.2.7.18, 3-5.2.1.1, 3-5.2.1.2</td>
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1-LS1-2
Early Elementary School Daddy’s Roommate
*By Michael Willhoite*
**Theme(s):** Family Structures
**Description:** This book uses simple language and color illustrations. The main character and narrator is a young boy who talks about his Daddy and his Daddy’s roommate Frank. He mentions all the fun activities they do together including going to the beach and the zoo. The book concludes with the statement, “being gay is just one more kind of love. And love is the best kind of happiness.”

**Age:** 4+

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### All I Want To Be Is Me
*By Phyllis Rothblatt*
**Theme(s):** Gender Expressions, Gender Diversity, Healthy Friendships
**Description:** “All I Want To Be Is Me” is a beautifully illustrated children’s book reflecting the diverse ways that young children experience and express their gender. The book gives voice to the feelings of children who don’t fit into narrow gender stereotypes, and who just want to be free to be themselves.

This book is a celebration of all children being who they are, and is a positive reflection between girls’ and boys’ bodies.

**Age:** 4+

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### Amazing Grace
*By Mary Hoffman*
**Theme(s):** Gender Identity, Gender Expressions, Gender Nonconforming
**Description:** Grace loves stories, whether they’re from books, movies, or the kind her grandmother tells. So when she gets a chance to play a part in Peter Pan, she knows exactly who she wants to be.

**Age:** 4+

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### When Kathy is Keith
*By Wallace Wong*
**Theme(s):** Gender Expression, Gender Identity, Respect
**Description:** No one believes Kathy is actually Keith, not her parents or even Santa Claus. A sensitive portrayal of a young girl who identifies as a boy, which explores tolerance and diversity.

**Age:** 3-6

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### When Kayla was Kyle
*By Amy Frabick*
**Theme(s):** Bullying, Gender Expression
**Description:** Kyle doesn’t understand why the other kids at school call him names. He looks like other boys, but doesn’t feel like them. Can Kyle find the words to share his feelings about his gender - and can his parents help him to transition into the girl he was born to be? When Kayla Was Kyle is a picture book children of all ages will want to read because it addresses the increasingly emerging ideas around Gender Diversity.

**Age:** 4+

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### Pink
*By Lynne Rickards*
**Theme(s):** Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity
**Description:** What’s a penguin to think when he wakes up pink? Poor Patrick hates the idea of being different from all his friends, and sets off to Africa in search of pink flamingos that might accept a pink penguin. He soon discovers that color isn’t everything.

**Age:** 4+

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### Are You a Boy or a Girl?
*By Karleen Pendelton Jimenez*
**Theme(s):** Gender Identity, Being Yourself
**Description:** Black and white photo illustrations accompany the story of a girl who follows her own interests, despite the comments of others.

**Age:** 4 – 8

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### Tutus Aren’t My Style
*By Linda Skeers*
**Theme(s):** Gender Expressions, Being Yourself
**Description:** DePaola recounts his childhood exploits, including dressing up as Snow White for Halloween, using his mother’s lipstick to dress up as his favorite actress, Mae West, the entire family accidentally eating chocolate laxatives, and more.

**Age:** 5-8

---

### Amazing You! Getting Smart about your Private Parts
*By Gail Saltz*
**Theme(s):** Biological Gender Differences, Human Body
**Description:** Here is a picture book designed especially for young children who are becoming sexually aware but aren’t ready to learn about sexual intercourse. Written with warmth and honesty, Amazing You! presents clear and age-appropriate information about reproduction, birth, and the difference between girls’ and boys’ bodies.

**Age:** 4-8

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**Age:** 5-8

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### The Body Book for Boys
*By Jonathan Mar, Grace Norwich*
**Theme(s):** Puberty, Human Body
**Description:** A must-have book for boys looking for straightforward advice about their changing bodies and growing up. There are answers to questions about everything from shaving, vocal changes, bad breath, smelly feet, braces, and acne, to school, sports, girls, friends, family, and more.

**Age:** 5-8

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### I am Jazz
*By Jessica Herthel*
**Theme(s):** Gender Identity, Gender Expressions
**Description:** The story of a transgender child based on the real-life experience of Jazz Jennings, who has become a spokesperson for transkids everywhere.

**Age:** 4 – 8

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### 10,000 Dresses
*By Marcus Ewert*
**Theme(s):** Being Yourself, Identity
**Description:** Every night, Bailey dreams about magical dresses: dresses made of crystals and rainbows, dresses made of flowers, dresses made of windows. . . . Unfortunately, when Bailey’s awake, no one wants to hear about these beautiful dreams. Then Bailey meets Laurel, an older girl who is touched and inspired by Bailey’s imagination and courage, and Bailey’s dreams come true!

**Age:** 5+

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### 26 Fairmont Avenue
*By Tomie DePaola*
**Theme(s):** Gender Expressions, Being Yourself
**Description:** DePaola recounts his childhood exploits, including dressing up as Snow White for Halloween, using his mother’s lipstick to dress up as his favorite actress, Mae West, the entire family accidentally eating chocolate laxatives, and more.

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Age: 5-10

My First Body Book  
By Angela Wilkes  
Theme(s): Human Body, Organs, Body Systems  
Description: This instructive and interactive book teaches young children all about their bodies, how they work and what they can do. Amazing see-through section lets children look right inside the human body. Superb illustrations of internal organs and remarkable photographs help children understand how the systems of the body work together.  
Age: 6+

Backwards Day  
By S. Bear Bergman  
Theme(s): Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Being Yourself  
Description: Tenalp is a world where there are seventeen seasons, including one where bubblegum falls from the sky for three days and a single day when everything - everything everywhere - is backwards. Andrea looks eagerly forward to Backwards Day every year, so she can turn into a boy for the day. But one year she doesn’t turn along with everyone else. She’s miserable. The very next day, however, she turns into a boy - and stays that way! When they finally figure out what’s happened, the miracles of Backwards Day are fully revealed to the reader.  
Age: 6+

Be Who You Are  
By Jennifer Carr  
Theme(s): Gender Identity, Being Yourself  
Description: Be Who You Are is a picture book depicting the life of a transgendered girl. Nick was born in a boy’s body, but has always felt like a girl inside. Supported by family, Nick requests to be no longer called a boy or dress like a boy; “Always remember to be who you are Nick. Remember that we love you, and we are so proud of you.” This book is an excellent way to introduce or explain what it means to be transgender to young children, and also a great resource to remind transgendered children that they are accepted and loved.  
Age: 7+

The Everything KIDS’ Human Body Book: All You Need to Know About Your Body Systems - From Head to Toe!  
By Sheri Arsenel  
Theme(s): Human Body, Body Systems, Basic Organs  
Description: Your body is an amazing machine. Every second of the day and night—without you even knowing it—your body is busily working to keep you running smoothly. So how does your body do it all? The Everything Kids’ Human Body Book is the expert answer to all your questions—from the tips of your toes to the top of your head, you will learn the hows and whys of the human body.  
Age: 7-12

The Care and Keeping of You: The Body Book for Younger Girls  
By Valerie Schafer  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: The best-selling body book for girls just got even better! With all-new illustrations and updated content for girls ages 8 and up, it features tips, how-tos, and facts from the experts. You’ll find answers to questions about your changing body, from hair care to healthy eating, bad breath to bras, periods to pimples, and everything in between. Once you feel comfortable with what’s happening!  
Age: 8+

On Your Mark, Get Set, Grow!  
By Lynda Madaras  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: In her uniquely warm and funny style, Lynda Madaras wrote this entirely new book especially for younger boys to give them everything they need to know about the new and exciting changes that are happening to their bodies during puberty.  
Age: 8-10

What’s Happening to My Body? Book for Girls  
By Lynda Madaras  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: What’s Happening to My Body? Book for Girls gives sensitive straight talk on: the body’s changing size and shape; the growth spurt; breast development; the reproductive organs; the menstrual cycle; body hair; diet and exercise; romantic and sexual feelings; and puberty in the opposite sex. It also includes information on anorexia and bulimia, sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, and birth control.  
Age: 8-12

The Period Book: Everything You Don’t Want to Ask (But Need to Know)  
By Karen Gravelle  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: The Period Book is a reassuring must-read for every girl about to have her period, and every parent wishing to prepare a daughter for this important milestone. And with eleven now the average age at which girls get their period, this supportive and practical approach, providing clear and sensitive answers to common questions, is even more welcome today.  
Age: 8-12

What’s Happening to Me? A Guide to Puberty  
By Peter Mayle  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: Designed to ease the embarrassment of explaining puberty to children, this book presents the facts of life during puberty. It aims to present them with honesty, sympathy and a sense of humor. Discusses the mental and physical changes that take place during puberty.  
Age: 9-12

Let’s Talk About S-E-X  
By Sam Gitchel  
Theme(s): Reproduction, Human Body, Healthy Sexual Relationships  
Description: Parents and educators will find discussions of feelings, respecting oneself and others, what’s normal, making sense of love and sex, and helpful advice. The book is filled with sound information, illustrations and diagrams, appropriate body terminology, information on STDs and more. Here, the changes all preteens go through are explained in a simple, straightforward manner.  
Age: 9-12

The Boy’s Body Book: Everything You Need to Know for Growing Up You  
By Kelli Dunham  
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body  
Description: Growing up isn’t as easy as it looks. With changing emotions, friends, expectations, and bodies, some days it can seem like life is one big roller coaster ride. The Boy’s Body Book is the #1 bestselling guide for boys, and it’s here to help with expert advice, common sense tips, fast facts, and answers to all questions a boy might have.  
Age: 10+
It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health
By Robie Harris, Michael Emberley
Theme(s): Reproduction, Human Body, Gender Identity
Description: It’s Perfectly Normal has been updated with information on subjects such as safe and savvy Internet use, gender identity, emergency contraception, and more. Providing accurate and up-to-date answers to nearly every imaginable question, from conception and puberty to birth control and STDs, It’s Perfectly Normal offers young people the information they need—now more than ever—to make responsible decisions and stay healthy.
Age: 10+

Wandering Son, Volumes 1-6
By Shimura Takako
Theme(s): Sexual Orientation, Friendship
Description: Shuichi Nitori and his new friend Yoshino Takatsuki have happy homes, loving families, and are well liked by their classmates. But they share a secret that further complicates a time of life that is awkward for anyone: Shuichi is a boy who wants to be a girl, and Yoshino is a girl who wants to be a boy. Written and drawn by one of today’s most critically acclaimed creators of manga, Shimura portrays Shuishi.
Age: 10+

The Care and Keeping of You 2: The Body Book for Older Girls
By Cara Natterson
Theme(s): Puberty, Human Body
Description: This thoughtful advice book will guide you through the next steps of growing up. With illustrations and expert contributors, this book covers new questions about periods, your growing body, peer pressure, personal care, and more!
Age: 10-12

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The Berenstain Bears Visit the Dentist
By Stan and Jan Berenstain
Theme(s): Oral Hygiene
Description: Sister Bear watches Dr. Bearson fill Brother Bear’s small cavity. Then it’s her turn in the chair to have a dangling baby tooth removed. An entertaining story for preschoolers of a cheerful and informative visit to a dentist.
Age: 3-7

The Tooth Book
By Dr. Seuss
Theme(s): Oral Hygiene
Description: Teeth—they come in handy when you chew or smile! In Dr. Seuss’s hilarious ode to teeth, little ones will laugh out loud as they find out all the things teeth can do and how to take care of them so they last a lifetime!
Age: 4+

The Tale of Georgie Grub
By Jeanne Willis
Theme(s): Hygiene, Washing Habits
Description: This hilarious tale of Georgie Grub, a child who refuses to bathe himself hard enough, much to the consternation of his poor mother, is sure to disgust and delight children and adults alike. No matter how hard Georgie’s mother tries to get him to wash, the moment she says “soap,” the bad little hooligan runs and hides. However, when Georgie meets an amusingly gruesome end, it’s his mother who gets the last laugh.
Age: 4+

Curious George Goes to the Hospital
By HA and Margret Rey
Theme(s): Doctors and Hospitals
Description: Readers learn all about the hospital as George goes in for an operation to remove a puzzle piece he has eaten.
Age: 4-7

Arthur’s Chicken Pox: An Arthur Adventure
By Marc Brown
Theme(s): Illness, Doctors
Description: Just when Arthur is looking forward to going to the circus, he comes down with the chicken pox. D.W. teases him about his spots, but she is actually jealous of all the extra attention Arthur is getting. Finally, on the day of the circus, Arthur is well enough to go, but D.W. wakes up with the spots she so badly wanted.
Age: 5+

Keeping Clean (Looking After Me)
By Liz Gogerly, Mike Gordon Jou
Theme(s): Personal Hygiene
Description: Keeping Clean is a playful lesson of the importance of cleaning up after playing dirty. Karim and Kurt are two little boys who hate bathing and keeping clean. This changes when they visit the zoo and see how animals groom themselves.
Age: 5-8

Teeth (Looking After Me)
By Liz Gogerly, Mike Gordon Jou
Theme(s): Oral Hygiene
Description: Marta has a wobbly tooth. Her mother explains that all children have teeth that fall out, and new ones grow in their place. Marta learns all about how to clean her teeth and look after them so that they last her whole adult life.
Age: 5-8

Kip Gets Sick
By Suzanne I. Barchers
Theme(s): Common Cold
Description: Can Kip’s friends help him feel better? Beginning readers will love the playful illustrations, challenging words, and fresh text that combine to help progress early reading and provide practice opportunities for various phonemic sounds and skills.
Age: 5-8

Oh, The Things You Can Do That Are Good for You: All About Staying Healthy
By Tish Rabe
Theme(s): Hygiene, Maintaining Health, Safety Practices
Description: The Cat in the Hat takes young readers to a Seussian Spa where they learn the basics of healthy living. Updated with the assistance of the Partnership for a Healthier America, the Cat explains the importance of eating right; staying active; getting enough sleep; handwashing; brushing and flossing; wearing protective gear when playing sports—even the best way to sneeze when you don’t have a tissue handy!
Age: 5-8

Vaccinations (My Health)
By Dr Alvin Silverstein, Virginia Silverstein, Laura Silverstein Nunn
Theme(s): Vaccines, Preventing Disease
Description: Burns discusses the function of skin, what happens when burns or blisters damage it, types of injuries, their treatment, and why protection from the sun is important. Vaccinations describes how the common childhood communicable diseases are transmitted, their signs, and their symptoms. Background material includes how vaccines were developed, how they work, why they are necessary, and their public-health aspect.
Age: 8+

What Are Germs? (My Health)
By Dr Alvin Silverstein, Virginia Silverstein, Laura Silverstein Nunn
Theme(s): Germs, Illness and Bacteria, Personal Health
Description: Have you ever heard someone say, “at least I have my health?” Did you know that you have billions of microorganisms living on your skin and inside your body. Most of them don’t cause you any harm. But sometimes, even the normally harmless microorganisms can make you sick. And everybody knows that germs can make you sick.
Age: 8+
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<th>Health Education Standards 2016</th>
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<td>Barchers, S.I. (2011). Kip Gets Sick. Huntington Beach, California: Teacher Created Materials. ISBN-13: 978.143.3324222</td>
<td>K-2.4.1.1, 3-5.4.1.1, 3-5.4.2.5, 3-5.4.4.10, 3-5.4.5.11, 3-5.4.6.12, 3-5.4.2.6</td>
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<td>Berenstain, S. &amp; Berenstain, J. (1993). The Berenstain Bears Visit the Dentist. New York, New York: Random House Children’s Books. ISBN-13: 978.039.4848365</td>
<td>K-2.4.1.2, K-2.4.2.5, K-2.4.7.7, 3-5.4.7.14, 3-5.4.2.6, 3-5.4.3.9, 3-5.4.6.13, 3-5.4.1.4</td>
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<td>Brown, M. (1996). Arthur’s Chicken Pox: An Arthur Adventure. New York, New York: Little Brown Books for Young Readers. ISBN-13: 978.031.6110501</td>
<td>K-2.4.1.1, 3-5.4.1.1, 3-5.4.2.5, 3-5.4.4.10, 3-5.4.5.11, 3-5.4.2.6</td>
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<td>Rey, H.A., &amp; Rey, M. (1966). Curious George Goes to the Hospital. Boston, Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN-13: 978.039.5070628</td>
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<td>Silverstein, A., Silverstein, V., &amp; Silverstein, L.N. (2002). Vaccinations (My Health). London, England: Franklin Watts. ISBN-13: 978.053.1155646</td>
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The Berenstain Bears and Too Much Junk Food
By Stan Berenstain, Jan Berenstain
Theme(s): Healthy Habits, Comparison of Healthy and Unhealthy Foods, Maintaining a Healthy Body
Description: One of the secrets of staying healthy is eating right. The Berenstain Bears find out how this is done with the help of Dr. Grizzly’s slide show on how the body works, the Bear family makes a healthful adjustment in their diet and fitness habits.
Age: 5-8

Good Enough to Eat: A Kid’s Guide to Food
By Lizzy Rockwell
Theme(s): Nutrients, Health Foods, Water Consumption
Description: Mama Bear lays down the law when she notices that Papa and the cubs are being unhealthy. With the help of Dr. Grizzly’s slide show on how the body works, the Bear family makes a healthful adjustment in their diet and fitness habits.
Age: 3-7

Gregory, the Terrible Eater
By Mitchell Sharmat
Theme(s): Healthy Foods, Food Groups
Description: Gregory isn’t like most goats. Instead of indulging in delicacies like old shoes, boxes, and bottle caps, he prefers to eat fruits, vegetables, eggs, and fish. Mother Goat and Father Goat are disgusted, and after several attempts to get Gregory to eat like a proper goat, they finally take him to see Dr. Ram. But when Gregory finally develops a taste for flat tires and broken violins, he’s not just eating like a goat—he’s eating like a pig! Will Gregory be able to find a healthy balance before he eats everything in the house?
Age: 4-8

Foods and the Family Menu
By Avery Hart, Paul Mantell
Theme(s): Balanced Diets, Healthy Eating Habits, Maintaining a Healthy Body
Description: How did that delicious food get there? From planting wheat to mixing dough, climbing trees to machine-squeezing fruit, picking cocoa pods to stirring a vat of melted bliss, here is a clear, engaging look at the steps involved in producing some common foods. Health tips and a peek at basic food groups complete the menu.
Age: 5-8

What’s on My Plate?: Choosing from the Five Food Groups
By Jennifer Boothroyd
Theme(s): Food Groups, Portion Sizes, MyPlate
Description: Eating a balanced diet is important. Healthy foods give you energy to learn and play. Do you know what the five food groups are? Or how much food from each group you need to stay healthy? Using the MyPlate diagram, this helpful book introduces the five food groups, appropriate serving sizes, and how to eat a balanced and nutritious diet.
Age: 8-12

Kids Garden!: The Anytime, Anyplace Guide to Sowing & Growing
By Roz Fulcher
Theme(s): Food Gardens
Description: Here’s a gardening book for everyone! If you are someone who lives where there is no space to garden outside you can create a Kitchen Scrap Garden, a Fast Food Salad Garden. Alternatively, if you are happy with dirt to dabble in, you can grow an edible tepee of pole beans, nasturtiums, and sweet peas. Along with these projects, this book covers gardening basics, garden philosophies, and how to create your special flower garden.
Age: 9-12

Why Should I Eat Well?
By Claire Llewellyn
Theme(s): Balanced Diets, Healthy Eating Habits, Maintaining a Healthy Body
Description: Boys and girls discover the importance of eating sensibly and keeping to a balanced diet. They learn that good eating habits are important for health and fitness.
Age: 4-8

To Market, To Market
By Nikki McClure
Theme(s): Health Foods, Food Origins, Local Foods
Description: Alternating between story and fact, this lovingly crafted picture book follows a mother and son to the weekly market. As they check off items on their shopping list, the reader learns how each particular food was grown or produced, from its earliest stages to how it ended up at the market.
Age: 5-7

Eating Well (Looking After Me)
By Liz Gogerly, Mike Gorden Jou
Theme(s): Health Foods, Health Practices, Maintaining a Healthy Body
Description: One of the secrets of staying fit and healthy is eating well. Eating Well is the story of friends, Ethan and James, and the lessons they share with readers of the importance of a proper diet.
Age: 5-8

Be Good to Your Body--Healthy Eating and Fun Recipes
By Roz Fulcher
Theme(s): Preparing Nutritious Meals, Health Foods
Description: More than 50 illustrated recipes encourage kids to delight in preparing and eating fresh, healthful foods. Simple dishes and snacks include fruit pizza, cheesy spaghetti squash, frozen grape pops, and turkey joes.
Age: 8-11
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<td>Boothroyd, J. (2016). What's on My Plate?: Choosing from the Five Food Groups. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Lerner Publishing Group. ISBN-13: 978.146.7796712</td>
<td>K-2.5.1.1, K-2.5.1.2, K-2.5.1.4, K-2.5.2.6, K-2.5.4.9, K-2.5.5.10, K-2.5.7.13, K-2.5.7.14, K-2.5.8.15, 3-5.5.1.2, 3-5.5.5.9, 3-5.5.8.13</td>
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“N” is for NO SMOKING...Please
By Eileen Tucker Cosby
Theme(s): Living Smoke Free, Dangers of Smoking
Description: This hard cover children’s book spreads the word about the dangers of smoking, and pleads with children not to start this nasty habit. Each page is delightfully illustrated in full color, and is easy to read and understand.
Age: 4-8

What Are Drugs? (A Drug-Free Kids Book)
By Gretchen Super
Theme(s): Illegal Drugs, Consequences of Drugs, Addiction
Description: Examines, in simple text and illustrations, what drugs are, what they can do to your body, and the problems of drug addiction.
Age: 5-8

Poison Alert!: My Tips to Avoid Danger Zones at Home
By Gina Bellisario
Theme(s): Identifying Harmful Substances
Description: Matthew’s little brother doesn’t know about harmful substances. But Mighty Matthew does! He rescues his brother from household poisons. That means cleaners, medicines, and houseplants. He also points out poisons in the grass and garage. Matthew knows how to stay safe at home!
Age: 5-8

Taking Medicine (Looking After Me)
By Liz Gogerly, Mike Gordon Jou
Theme(s): Safe Medicine Consumption
Description: If not taken carefully, medicines can be very harmful. In Taking Medicine, Jimmy tries to make his teddy bear better by giving him medicine. He soon learns that medicines are not magical and that if they are not taken properly, they can be dangerous.
Age: 5-8

No thanks, But I'd Love to Dance: Choosing to Live Smoke Free
By Jackie Reimer
Theme(s): Living Smoke Free, Consequences of Smoking
Description: Conveying a positive, nonjudgmental message to children, this tale provides techniques for empowering them to refuse offers of tobacco in pursuit of a healthy, active lifestyle. Belle, an exuberant six-year-old, and her beloved Grandma Bee share a great love for dancing. As a result of tobacco use earlier in her life, Grandma Bee must now use an oxygen tank to assist in her breathing. Observant Belle, who cannot imagine life without dancing, consciously makes the lifelong choice to dance instead of smoke.
Age: 7-9

The Berenstain Bears and the Drug-Free Zone
By Stan Berenstain, Jan Berenstain
Theme(s): Drug Abuse
Description: Sister and Brother uncover a drug problem in Bear Country, and they’re determined to track down the culprits. But just when they’re sure they’ve solved the case, they learn that jumping to conclusions is not the best way to solve a problem.
Age: 9+

The Addiction Monster and the Square Cat
By Sheryl Letzgus McGinnis
Theme(s): Addiction, Consequences of Drug Use
Description: Follow along with Pumpkin, the square cat, as he tells the story of his beloved Scotty Boy whom he watched go from a young, carefree, talented, drug-free popular kid to his descent into the hellish world of drugs. The book also tells of other young children whose dreams and ambitions were shattered by the Addiction Monster.
Age: 10+

An Elephant In the Living Room The Children’s Book
By Jill M. Hastings, Marion H. Typpo
Theme(s): Addiction, Coping
Description: An illustrated story to help children understand and cope with the problem of alcoholism or other drug addiction in the family.
Age: 9-12

Straight Talk: Drugs and Alcohol
By Stephanie Paris
Theme(s): Drugs and Alcohol Dangers, Saying No
Description: Readers are given helpful information about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, including narcotics, hallucinogens, and prescription medications in this nonfiction book. Through detailed images, diagrams, informational text, an index, a glossary of terms, and a list of websites that provide additional information, readers are given the tools and information they need to educate themselves about addiction, drug abuse, the health and social issues that drugs and alcohol can cause, and how to say no to peer pressure.
Age: 9-12

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<td>The Earth Book</td>
<td>By Todd Parr</td>
<td>Health and Environment</td>
<td>Todd Parr explores the important, timely subject of environmental protection and conservation in this ecofriendly picture book. This book includes lots of easy, smart ideas on how we can all work together to make the Earth feel good - from planting a tree and using both sides of the paper, to saving energy and reusing old things in new ways.</td>
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<td>Compost Stew</td>
<td>By Mary McKenna Siddals</td>
<td>Health and Environment, Composting</td>
<td>This book provides all the answers for kids and families looking for simple, child-friendly ways to help the planet. With rhymes and illustrations, it is best for young kids and those who do not know much about compost beforehand.</td>
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<td>The Curious Garden</td>
<td>By Peter Brown</td>
<td>Health and Environment, Gardening</td>
<td>While out exploring one day, a little boy name Liam discovers a struggling garden and decides to take care of it. As time passes, the garden spreads throughout the dark, gray city, transforming it into a lush, green world.</td>
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<td>Diary of a Worm</td>
<td>By Doreen Cronin</td>
<td>Composting</td>
<td>A baseball-capped crawler gives readers a glimpse into his life in these hilarious diary entries. Difficulties such as having no arms, having a head that looks a lot like your rear end, and facing the dangers imposed by people digging for bait are balanced by a loving family and good friends. The full-color watercolor-and-ink illustrations sprawl across the pages in lush earth tones.</td>
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<td>How a Seed Grows</td>
<td>By Helene Jordan</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
<td>How does a tiny acorn grow into an enormous oak tree? With beautiful and accurate watercolor illustrations from Loretta Krupinski, this book by Helene Jordan traces the process of how a little seed grows into the plants and trees that surround us.</td>
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<td>Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow: A Compost Story</td>
<td>By Linda Glaser</td>
<td>Composting, Health and Environment</td>
<td>This book follows one family through the year as they help the environment by composting their foods scraps. They tend to a backyard compost pile and use the newly created soil in their garden.</td>
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<td>One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia</td>
<td>By Miranda Paul</td>
<td>Health and Environment, Pollution</td>
<td>In Njau, Gambia, people simply dropped the bags and went on their way. One plastic bag became two then a hundred. The bags accumulated in ugly heaps alongside roads. Water pooled in them, bringing mosquitoes and disease. They killed livestock that tried to eat them. Something had to change. Isatou Ceesay was that change. She found a way to recycle the bags and transform her community.</td>
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<td>The Reason for a Flower: A Book About Flowers, Pollen, and Seeds (Explore!)</td>
<td>By Ruth Heller</td>
<td>Health and Environment, Gardening</td>
<td>The reason for a flower is to manufacture seeds, but Ruth Heller shares much more about the parts of plants and their functions in her trademark rhythmic style and stunning illustrations.</td>
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<td>Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table</td>
<td>By Jacqueline Briggs Martin</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
<td>Will Allen is no ordinary farmer. A former basketball star, he's as tall as his truck, and he can hold a cabbage, or a basketball, in one hand. This is a children's book about Will Allen and his urban agriculture work. The book focuses on problem solving and how Farmer Will can see what others don't; for example how an abandoned city lot could become a table big enough to feed the world.</td>
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<td>Judy Moody Saves the World</td>
<td>By Megan MacDonald</td>
<td>Health and Environment</td>
<td>When Judy learns how rapidly rain forests around the world are being destroyed, she decides to take action to save them. Before she knows it, her entire class is involved.</td>
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<td>A Beekeeper's Year</td>
<td>By Sylvia Johnson</td>
<td>Health and Environment</td>
<td>This informative book for upper-elementary students takes the reader through the four seasons of beekeeping. Engaging photographs show how new queen bees are introduced, how beehives are maintained, and how honey is harvested. Beekeeping terms and recipes are included.</td>
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<td>Charlie and Lola: We are Extremely Good Recyclers</td>
<td>By Lauren Child</td>
<td>Health and Environment</td>
<td>After Charlie convinces Lola to recycle her old toys instead of throwing them away, Lola discovers a recycling competition. If she can recycle one hundred plastic, metal, and paper items, she can get her very own real live tree to plant. But she only has two weeks, so Lola decides to ask her classmates to help. They turn out to be extremely good recyclers indeed. This adventure is printed on FSC - approved paper and includes recycling tips.</td>
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<td>Briggs, J. (2013). Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table. Bellevue, WA: Readers to Eaters. ISBN: 978.098.3661535</td>
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MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOKLIST
(GRADES 6-8)
The Death Defying Pepper Roux.
By Geraldine McCaughrean
Theme(s): Confronting Fears, Feelings and Emotions
Description: Pepper’s fourteenth birthday is a momentous one. It’s the day he’s supposed to die. Everyone seems resigned to it—even Pepper, although he would much prefer to live. But can you sidestep Fate? Jump sideways into a different life? Naive and trusting, Pepper sets a course through dangerous waters, inviting disaster and mayhem at every turn, one eye on the sky for fear of angels, one on the magnificent possibilities of being alive. New York Times bestselling and Printz Award-winning author Geraldine McCaughrean has created a gripping tale filled with dark humor and daring escapades, where the key to a boy’s life lies in facing his own death. Join him on the run—if you can keep up.
Age: 8-14

Maniac Magee
By Jerry Spinelli
Theme(s): Individuality, Prejudice and Tolerance, Support Services
Description: Jeffrey Lionel “Maniac” Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn’t made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run—and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.
Age: 8-14

After Tupac and D Foster.
By Jacqueline Woodson
Theme(s): Life experiences, Feelings and Emotions, Understanding Self and Others
Description: The day D Foster enters Neeka and her best friend’s lives, the world opens up for them. Suddenly they’re keenly aware of things beyond their block in Queens, things that are happening in the world - like the shooting of Tupac Shakur - and in search of their Big Purpose in life. When - all too soon - D’s mom swoops in to reclaim her, and Tupac dies, they are left with a sense of how quickly things can change and how even all-too-brief connections can touch deeply.
Age: 10+

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie
By Jordan Sonnenblick
Theme(s): Grief, Family Relationships, Managing Stress and Pressure
Description: Steven has a totally normal life (well, almost). He plays drums in the All-City Jazz Band (whose members call him the Peasant), has a crush on the hottest girl in school (who doesn’t even know he’s alive), and is constantly annoyed by his younger brother, Jeffrey (who is cuter than cute, which is also pretty annoying). But when Jeffrey gets sick, Steven’s world is turned upside down, and he is forced to deal with his brother’s illness, his parents’ attempts to keep the family in one piece, his homework, the band, girls, and Dangerous Pie.
Age: 11+

Bridge to Terabithia
By Katherine Paterson
Theme(s): Confronting Fears, Grief, Loss, Friendship
Description: Two competitive fifth graders develop an extraordinary bond by creating an imaginary sanctuary in the woods called Terabithia in this story about acceptance, imagination and freedom. Jess and Leslie’s tale is packed full of humor, intense emotion and even grief after an accident changes everything for them. Much-lauded author Katherine Paterson, who twice won Newbery Medals and National Book Awards among other honors, creates a world within a world that pulls at the heartstrings of readers.
Age: 11+

After Ever After
By Jordan Sonnenblick
Theme(s): Friendships, Family Relationships, Managing Stress and Pressure
Description: Jeffrey isn’t a little boy with cancer anymore. He’s a teen who’s in remission, but life still feels fragile. The after effects of treatment have left Jeffrey with an inability to be a great student or to walk without limping. His parents still worry about him. His older brother, Steven, lost it and took off to Africa to be in a drumming circle and “find himself.” Jeffrey has a little soul searching to do, too, which begins with his escalating anger at Steven, an old friend who is keeping something secret, and a girl who is way out of his league but who thinks he’s cute.
Age: 11+

Crash
By Jerry Spinelli
Theme(s): Bullying Experiences, Treatment of Others
Description: Crash Coogan, a seventh-grade football star, has been an aggressive person from the time he was very young; sometimes, he is too aggressive. He enjoys his rough, macho behavior until he meets an unusual neighbor who forces him to think about his life and his way of treating others.
Age: 11-13

Let’s Get This Straight: the Ultimate Handbook for Youth with LGBTQ Parents.
By Tina Fakhrid-Deen
Theme(s): Identity, Pride, Self-Esteem, Feelings and Emotions, Family Relationships, Courage
Description: Let’s Get This Straight reaches out to young people with one or more gay, lesbian, bi, or trans parents to provide them with the tools to combat homophobia, take pride in their alternative family structures, and speak out against injustice. This short but thorough book profiles forty-five diverse youth and young adults, all of whom voice their opinions and provide advice for other youth living in LGBTQ households. Let’s Get This Straight also includes probing questions, fun activities, engaging quizzes, and reflective journal sections for youth to share their feelings and experiences about having a gay parent. By reading this book, readers will learn how to: identify and overcome barriers to having a gay parent; address discrimination and heterosexism; build a strong self-esteem and sense of belonging; communicate effectively with their parents and individuals outside of the LGBTQ community; access resources and support for their families; respond effectively when challenged about being in a sexual minority family; and reduce the isolation, fear, shame, and confusion that can be associated with having gay parents. As the media brings ever-increasing exposure to gay-headed households, this book is more important than ever. Let’s Get This Straight is the perfect blend of wit, sharing of experiences, and “expert” advice that children with LGBTQ parents need to become more self-aware and affirming, and to maintain healthy relationships with their parents.
Age: 11-13

The Skin I’m In
By Sharon G. Flake
Theme(s): Bullying Experiences, Identity, Pride
Description: Maleeka Madison is a strong student who has had enough of being teased about her “too black” skin and handmade clothes. So when she starts seventh grade, she decides to adopt a sassier attitude and a tougher circle of friends.
Age: 12+

Table of Contents
Purge
By Sarah Darer Littman
Theme(s): Eating Disorders, Understanding Self and Others
Description: Janie Ryman hates throwing up. So why does she binge eat and then stick her fingers down her throat several times a day? That’s what the doctors and psychiatrists at Golden Slopes hope to help her discover. But first Janie must survive everyday conflicts between the Barfers and the Starvers, attempts by the head psychiatrist to fish painful memories out of her emotional waters, and shifting friendships and alliances among the kids in the ward.
Age: 12+

Do-Over
By Rachel Vail
Theme(s): New Experiences, Friendship, Family Relationships, Feelings and Emotions
Description: Whit is furious with his father, disappointed with his best friend, and completely baffled by girls. For someone who doesn’t quite know “how to get started” with girls, Whit moves quickly from his first kiss, to his first heartbreak, to his first real girlfriend, wishing that he could correct all his embarrassing mistakes along the way by calling “do-over.” But do-overs only happen in basketball, so maybe he’ll just have to live with his mistakes . . . and forgive others for theirs.
Age: 12+

Things I Have to Tell You
By Betsy Franco
Theme(s): Life experiences, Feelings and Emotions
Description: The voices in this collection have so much to question, so much to grieve. They have so much to celebrate, so much to rage against. They’re ready to speak up and begin the conversation — with you and with the world. More than thirty uncensored poems are accompanied by Nina Nickles’ masterful photographs, which sensitively capture the moods and essence of adolescence. Here, painted in the words of teenage girls, is a portrait of their dreams and desires - a record of hope, disillusionment, anger, joy, sadness, and most of all, strength.
Age: 12+

Wringer
By Jerry Spinelli
Theme(s): Bullying Experiences, Courage
Description: When boys in Palmer’s town turn 10, they are expected to become “wringers” by ending the lives of pigeons wounded in a town event. At the far edge of age 9, Palmer not only abhors the tradition, he is hiding a pigeon in his room. Powerful Theme(s) of bullying, peer pressure and courage make this a moving story for older middle school students.
Age: 12+

Get Well Soon
By Julie Halpern
Theme(s): Friendship, Depression, Feelings and Emotions
Description: Anna Bloom is depressed—so depressed that her parents have committed her to a mental hospital with a bunch of other messed-up teens. Here she meets a roommate with a secret (and a plastic baby), a doctor who focuses way too much on her weight, and a cute, shy boy who just might like her. But wait! Being trapped in a loony bin isn’t supposed to be about making friends, losing weight, and having a crush, is it?
Age: 12+

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| New York, New York: Har-  
erCollins.  
ISBN-13: 978.014.2413999 | 6-8.1.2.6, 6-8.1.4.12, 6-8.1.5.14, 6-6-8.1.2.7, 6-8.1.7.16, 6-8.1.1.4 | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1-3**  
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.10** | N/A                              |

Table of Contents
**No Castles Here**  
*By A.C.E. Bauer*  
*Theme(s):* Violence, Bullying and Teasing, Individuality  
*Description:* Augie Boretski knows how to get by. If you’re a scrawny loser in the destitute city of Camden, New Jersey, you keep your head down, avoid the drug dealers and thugs, and try your best to be invisible. Augie used to be good at that, but suddenly his life is changing… First, Augie accidentally steals a strange book of fairy tales. Then his mom changing. . . First, Augie accidentally steals a strange book of fairy tales. Then his mom...  
*Age:* 8-12

**I Have a Dream, Writings and Speeches That Changed the World**  
*By Martin Luther King, Jr, James M. Washington (Editor)*  
*Theme(s):* Peaceful Conflict Resolution  
*Description:* This book honors Martin Luther King Jr.’s courageous dream and his immeasurable contribution by presenting his most memorable words in a concise and convenient edition. In addition to the famed keynote address of the 1963 March on Washington, the renowned civil rights leader’s most influential words included here are the “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” the essay “Pilgrimage to Nonviolence,” and his last sermon, “I See the Promised Land,” preached the day before he was assassinated.  
*Age:* 10+

**Totally Joe**  
*By James Howe*  
*Theme(s):* Bullying and Teasing, Individuality, Unhealthy Relationships  
*Description:* “Everybody says you and Colin were kissing.” “What? That’s ridiculous!” “For heaven’s sake, Joe, if you and Colin want to kiss, you have every right to.” “We did not kiss,” I told her. Addie shrugged. “Whatever.” What was it with my friends? From the creator of The Misfits, the book that inspired NATIONAL NO NAMECALLING WEEK, comes the story of Joe Bunch... As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography—life from A to Z—and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the challenges of being a gay teenager.  
*Age:* 11-14

**No Easy Answers: Bayard Rustin and the Civil Rights Movement**  
*By Calvin Miller*  
*Theme(s):* Conflict Resolution, Discovering Rights  
*Description:* Bayard Rustin found his niche in New York City as an organizer and behind-the-scenes worker for the fledgling civil rights movement, becoming a committed activist who worked closely with luminaries as MLK Jr. and A. Philip Randolph. Rustin espoused the nonviolent protest he learned from Gandhi and spoke often of his belief that true equality would not exist until economic equality was achieved. But much of Rustin’s work for civil rights was swept away when he was prosecuted for a homosexual encounter. Deserted by many of the movement leaders, Rustin retreated into obscurity. Today, Bayard Rustin is remembered as a tireless force, a man who gave his life and his work to the cause he so fervently believed in, and who struggled to bear two crosses—being black and being gay— at a time when one was more than enough.  
*Age:* 12-16

**Yummy: The Last Days of Southside Shorty**  
*By Gregory Neri*  
*Theme(s):* Violence, Gang Activity  
*Description:* Eleven-year-old Roger is trying to make sense of his classmate Robert “Yummy” Sandifer’s death, but first he has to make sense of Yummy’s life. Was Yummy some sort of monster, or just another kid? As Roger searches for the truth, he finds more and more questions. Did he really kill someone? And why do all the answers seem to lead back to a gang—the same gang Roger’s older brother belongs to?  
*Age:* 12-17

**Out of Control**  
*By Norma Fox Mazer*  
*Theme(s):* Sexual Harassment and Assault, Report Services  
*Description:* An incident of sexual harassment occurring in a high school corridor dramatically alters the lives of two of the students involved. Of the three youths accused of assaulting sharp-tongued Valerie Michon, only Rollo, a junior, experiences twinges of guilt which evolve into a desperate need to be forgiven by his family as well as his victim. Meanwhile, bitter, fearful Valerie struggles to regain her independence and trust in men.  
*Age:* 12+

**Stargirl**  
*By Jerry Spinelli*  
*Theme(s):* Bullying and Teasing, Peer Pressure, Individuality  
*Description:* From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of “Stargirl, Stargirl.” The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal.  
*Age:* 12+

**Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip**  
*By Jordan Sonnenblick*  
*Theme(s):* Managing Injuries  
*Description:* There’s nothing All Star pitcher Peter Friedman loves more than baseball. He breathes it, dreams it, and works his tail off to be great. Then a pitching accident over the summer ruins Pete’s arm. If he can’t play baseball in high school, what is he supposed to do? If he isn’t the star pitcher, then who is he? To make matters more complicated, there’s something going on with Pete’s grampa.  
*Age:* 12+

**What Are My Rights?: Q&A About Teens and the Law**  
*By Thomas A. Jacobs*  
*Theme(s):* Discovering Rights, Legal Responsibilities  
*Description:* Teens often have questions about the law, but they don’t always know where to turn for the answers. This book gives them those answers, exploring more than 100 legal questions pertaining specifically to teens. The third edition includes fresh facts, updated statistics, and additional questions and answers, including a new chapter addressing online issues from Facebook to file sharing.  
*Age:* 12+

**Dreamland**  
*By Sarah Dessen*  
*Theme(s):* Unhealthy Relationships, Learning Boundaries, Codependence  
*Description:* After her sister left, Caitlin felt lost. Then she met Rogerson. When she’s with him, nothing seems real. But what happens when being with Rogerson becomes a larger problem than being without him?  
*Age:* 12+
The Outsiders
By SE Hinton
Theme(s): Violence, Bullying and Teasing, Gangs
Description: No one ever said life was easy. But Ponyboy is pretty sure that he’s got things figured out. He knows that he can count on his brothers, and he knows that he can count on his friends—Johnny and Two-Bit. And when it comes to the Socs—a vicious gang of rich kids who enjoy beating up on “greasers” like him and his friends—he knows that he can count on them for trouble. But one night someone takes things too far, and Ponyboy’s world is turned upside down.
Age: 12+

Vicious: True Stories by Teens About Bullying
By Hope Vanderberg of Youth Communication
Theme(s): Bullying and Teasing, Peer Pressure
Description: Essays by teens address bullying: physical, verbal, relational, and cyber. These stories will appeal to readers because the cruelty and hurt are unmistakably real—and the reactions of the writers are sometimes cringe-worthy, often admirable, and always believable.
Age: 13+

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Are You There God, It’s Me Margaret?
By Judy Blume
Theme(s): Puberty, Self-Esteem, Developing Relationships
Description: Margaret Simon, almost twelve, is happy to belong. But none of them can believe Margaret doesn’t have religion, and that she isn’t going to the Y or the Jewish Community Center. What they don’t know is Margaret has grown up in the face of love. Many young people face daily tormenting and bullying, and this is especially true for LGBT kids and teens. In response to a number of tragic suicides by LGBT students, syndicated columnist and author Dan Savage uploaded a video to YouTube with his partner, Terry Miller. Speaking openly about the bullying they suffered, and how they both went on to lead rewarding adult lives, their video launched the It Gets Better Project YouTube channel and initiated a worldwide phenomenon. It Gets Better is a collection of original essays and expanded testimonials written to teens from celebrities, political leaders, and everyday people, because while many LGBT teens can’t see a positive future for themselves, we can.
Age: 12+

Johnny Hazzard
By Eddie De Oliveira
Theme(s): Puberty, Self-Esteem, Developing Relationships
Description: Johnny Hazzard’s an American boy living in London for the summer. He’s not for experience is taking some unexpected turns. This is a novel about growing up American, growing up in the world, and growing up in the face of love.
Age: 12+

The Underground Guide to Teenage Sexuality
By Michael J. Basso
Theme(s): Sexual Health, Personal Health, Contraceptive Options, Sexual Orientation, Peer Pressure, Healthy Relationships
Description: Basso covers all the basics (physical, emotional, and social) as well as facts about contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, and homosexuality. He also makes a strong case for abstinence without appearing to be pushing that agenda. The approach is especially reasonable in including help on how to say no and deal with peer pressure to have sex, drink, or do drugs. The classic guide to teen sexuality updated and expanded with information on dangerously-transmitted diseases; contraception; sexual abuse; healthy relationships; hotlines and resources; and more.
Age: 12+

Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out.
By Susan Kuklin
Theme(s): Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation
Description: Author and photographer Susan Kuklin met and interviewed six transgender or gender-neutral young adults and used her considerable skills to represent them thoughtfully and respectfully before, during, and after their personal acknowledgment of gender preference. Portraits, family photographs, and candid images grace the pages, augmenting the emotional and physical journey each youth has taken. Each honest discussion and disclosure, whether joyful or heartbreaking, is completely different from the other because of family dynamics, living situations, gender, and the transition these teens make in recognition of their true selves.
Age: 13+

Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: A Book for Teens on Sex and Relationships
By Ruth Bell
Theme(s): Sexual Health, Sexual Orientation, Contraceptive Options
Description: “It seems like everyone else has the script. Everyone else knows what’s happening and I look around and say, Duh.” Of course, the truth is that no one has the script because there is no script to follow. This comprehensive book includes discussion of sexual technique, STDs and the danger of promiscuous sex, gay sex and sexual identity, and teenage pregnancy and its alternatives.
Age: 13-17
Politically active friend, Ike. Girlfriend Terese. Then there's Terese's soccer-playing boyfriend, Grady is happy about his decision to finally come out to be none other than Kevin, the popular team. Soon Russel meets other gay students, but closeted star of the school's baseball The text is interspersed with quick personalized quizzes to build understanding and self-confidence.

Age: 12+

Coping With Birth Control
By Michael D. Benson
Theme(s): Contraceptive Options, Healthy Sexual Practices
Description: Birth control can be confusing and daunting for some teens. What's available? How does it work? What works best? Teens who are ill informed about birth control will most likely use it incorrectly or not at all. Benson addresses teens' concerns about birth control, discusses new methods, and provides information teens need to make intelligent decisions.

Age: 12-14

Boy's Guide to Girls: 30 Pointers You Won't Get From Your Parents or Friends
By Gary J. Campbell and Frank C. Hawkins
Theme(s): Healthy Relationships, Dating, Self-Esteem
Description: Written in a lively, upbeat tone, this book guides young men through the maze of emotions, peer pressure, and misconceptions that surround girls and dating. Filled with solid advice and information that enables young men to make good decisions and handle themselves around girls now and in the future, the text is interspersed with quick personalized quizzes to build understanding and self-confidence.

Age: 12+

Parrotfish
By Ellen Wittlinger
Theme(s): Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Respect
Description: McNair has never felt quite right as a girl, but it's a shock to everyone when she cuts her hair short, buys some men's clothes, and announces she'd like to be called by a new name. Grady. Although Grady is happy about his decision to finally be true to himself, everybody else is having trouble processing the news. But as the victim of some cruel jokes, Grady also finds unexpected allies, including the school geeks Sebastian, and Kita Charles, who's a gorgeous senior.

Age: 12+

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**No B.O.!: The Head-to-Toe Book of Hygiene for Preteens**
*By Marguerite Crump*
**Theme(s):** Hygiene, Personal Health, Positive Health Practices

**Description:** Puberty can be a pain. Who needs acne? Stinky feet? B.O.? Good hygiene can make a big difference in how kids feel about themselves during this challenging time. It can also make a difference in how others feel about them.

**Age:** 10-13

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**Coyote and the Turtle’s Dream**
*By Terry Lofton*
**Theme(s):** Health Promotion, Preventing Disease, Positive Health Behaviors

**Description:** The novel, Coyote and the Turtle’s Dream, is the first in a series of three books for middle schoolers ages 10-13 which feature the Eagle book series characters and are about healthy eating and preventing diabetes. It combines a fun mystery with health promotion messages about preventing type 2 diabetes and builds on American Indian and Alaska Native storytelling traditions honored in the original Eagle Books series for younger children.

**Age:** 10-13

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**Anatomy of a Pandemic**
*By Amber J. Keyser*
**Theme(s):** Spread of Disease, Risk Factors and Prevention of Disease

**Description:** Sickness is a fact of everyday life. But when sickness spreads from person to person rapidly, a deadly pandemic could result. Find out the causes behind major pandemics of history such as the Spanish flu and the Bubonic plague. Then go behind the scenes to meet the people who are working hard every day to stop pandemics before they start.

**Age:** 10-14

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**Food Poisoning and Foodborne Diseases**
*By Elaine Landau*
**Theme(s):** Food Safety, Food Handling

**Description:** Every year new problems erupt with the safety of the foods we eat and water we drink. In this book, you’ll read case studies involving many of the diseases that can be caused by ingesting unsafe foods. You’ll also find out what happens when a problem is detected, how government agencies attempt to inspect and protect our food supplies, and what we can do to carefully prepare and handle foods to keep ourselves safe.

**Age:** 12+

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**Mountains Beyond Mountains (Adapted for Young People): The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World**
*By Tracy Kidder, Michael R. French (Adaptor)*
**Theme(s):** Global Health, Barriers to Healthcare

**Description:** Tracy Kidder’s critically acclaimed adult nonfiction work, Mountains Beyond Mountains has been adapted for young people by Michael French. In this young adult edition, readers are introduced to Dr. Paul Farmer, a Harvard-educated doctor with a self-proclaimed mission to transform healthcare on a global scale. Farmer focuses his attention on some of the world’s most impoverished people and uses unconventional ways in which to provide healthcare, to achieve real results and save lives.

**Age:** 12+

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**The Watts Teen Health Dictionary**
*By Charlotte Isler, Alwyn T. Cohall*
**Theme(s):** Preventing Disease Risk Factors, Healthy Practices

**Description:** In dictionary format (for speed and ease of use), with brief, to-the-point entries, and with a full complement of helpful features -- from diagrams to hotlines -- The Watts Teen Health Dictionary is a unique and valuable teen sourcebook. A comprehensive and essential resource that answers teens’ questions about their bodies and their health, offers accurate, up-to-date information on diseases and therapies, enables teens to identify health risks and problems, and more.

**Age:** 12+

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**Outbreak!: The Science of Pandemics**
*By Darlene R. Stille*
**Theme(s):** Disease, Treatment Options

**Description:** A pandemic is an outbreak of a disease that affects whole continents or even the entire world. Controlling pandemics takes the cooperation of everyone, from the government to the individual. Headline Science uses news stories and everyday applications to explain the science behind pandemics.

**Age:** 12-14

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Middle School Booklist (Grades 6-8) • Disease Prevention
A Moose Boosh: A Few Choice Words About Food  
By Eric-Shabazz Larkin  
Theme(s): Agriculture, Healthy Eating, Food Sources, Cooking, Gardening  
Description: In more than 40 exuberant poems and “vandalized” photographs, you’ll meet a city kid who fantasizes about farming on a stoop, a girl with crumpets and crêpes in her head, and a boy with a pet cabbage. “Doctor Food” prescribes good food as medicine and “Dancing Kitchen” will have you shimming with your skillet. From the amuse-bouche to the very last pea on the plate, A Moose Boosh celebrates food—growing it, making it, slurping it and especially sharing it with loved ones at the dinner table. Bon appétit!  
Age: 10+ (Appropriate for Upper Elementary and Middle School)

Foodworks: Over 100 Science Activities and Fascinating Facts That Explore the Magic of Food  
By Ontario Science Center  
Theme(s): Food Sources, Human Digestion, Healthy Eating  
Description: Discusses the role of food, what it does and how it acts inside the body, through explanatory text and science activities.  
Age: 10-17

101 Questions About Food and Digestion That Have Been Eating at You  
By Faith Hickman Brynie  
Theme(s): Human Digestion, Healthy Eating, Food Safety, Food Sources  
Description: Using an accessible question-and-answer format, the author helps readers discover and learn facts about food and digestion. Her appealing and clear writing style makes learning about food and digestion as digestible as a chocolate cake.  
Age: 11-14+

Feeding the Young Athlete: Sports Nutrition Made Easy for Players, Parents and Coaches  
By Cynthia Lair with Scott Murdoch, Ph.D, RD  
Theme(s): Healthy Eating, Description: Eat to win!  
Practice is only part of a winning sports strategy. Whole foods have to be part of the playbook to increase energy, endurance, and focus, both on and off the field. What to eat and when to eat, pre-game, during, and afterward? How much fluid do you need to be hydrated? What to eat when you’re on the road? These are essential tips for young athletes, competing on a demanding schedule and eating on the run. Simple nutrition lessons are organized into 10 Essential Eating Guidelines and recipes for cooking with whole grains and vegetables. These recipes and eating tips offer a gateway for young players, parents, and coaches to improve performance and establish lifelong eating habits.  
Age: 12+

Chew On This: Everything You Don’t Want to Know About Fast Food  
By Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson  
Theme(s): Food Sources, Food System, Food Chain  
Description: Kids love fast food. And the fast food industry definitely loves kids. It couldn’t survive without them. Did you know that the biggest toy company in the world is McDonald’s? In fact, one out of every three toys given to a child in the United States each year is from a fast food restaurant. Not only has fast food reached into the toy industry, it’s moving into our schools. One out of every five public schools in the United States now serves brand name fast food. But do kids know what they’re eating? Where do fast food hamburgers come from? And what makes those fries taste so good? In Chew On This, they share with kids the fascinating and sometimes frightening truth about what lurks between those sesame seed buns, what a chicken ‘nugget’ really is, and how the fast food industry has been feeding off children for generations.  
Age: 12-14+ (Recommended reading level, 6 – 8 grades per scholastic.com)

A Healthy Diet  
By Elaine Landau  
Theme(s): Food Sources, Healthy Eating, Calorie Balance, Cooking (Meal Planning and Preparation)  
Description: The best way for a person to stay healthy is to eat a well-balanced diet. Learn how to plan and maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle in this informative book. Note: The Food Guide Pyramid appears in this book.  
Age: 12-14+

Inside Out: Portrait of an Eating Disorder  
By Nadia Shivack  
Theme(s): Positive Body Image, Healthy Eating  
Description: Nadia Shivack was fourteen years old when she met Ed, her eating disorder. Sometimes like an alien in her body, sometimes like a lover, Ed was unpredictable and exciting, but ultimately always dangerous and destructive. Raw, brave, and brilliant, Nadia’s journey takes readers to the intimate corners of these misunderstood diseases. You will never think about eating disorders in the same way again.  
Age: 12+

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Street Pharma (Dealing with Drugs)  
By Jessica Wilkins  
Theme(s): Over the Counter Drugs, Addiction  
Description: Prescription and over-the-counter medications are the most commonly abused drugs by high school students after marijuana. Street Pharma looks at this growing problem and gives young readers the information they need to say no before they start or find help to quit when they’ve become addicted.  
Age: 10-13

Addiction The Brain Disease  
By Hannah Carlson  
Theme(s): Addiction  
Description: Addiction, the Brain Disease is a young adult guide to the physical, emotional, social, psychological disease of addiction. Addiction to substances, behaviors, and addiction to the self are explored. Self-tests, personal stories, treatment, recovery, dictionary of addictions, terms, and meanings are included. Also includes lists of resources, help sources, a bibliography, illustrations, and personal stories.  
Age: 12+

A Hero Ain’t Nothin But a Sandwich  
By Alice Childress  
Theme(s): Substance Abuse, Addiction, Consequences  
Description: Benjie can stop using heroin anytime he wants to. He just doesn’t want to yet. Why would he want to give up something that makes him feel so good, so relaxed, so tuned-out? As Benjie sees it, there’s nothing much to tune in for. School is a waste of time, and home life isn’t much better. All Benjie wants is for someone to believe in him, for someone to believe that he’s more than a thirteen-year-old junkie. Told from the perspectives of the people in his life—including his mother, stepfather, teachers, drug dealer, and best friend—this powerful story will draw you into Benjie’s troubled world and force you to confront the uncertainty of his future.  
Age: 12+

Drug & Alcohol Abuse  
By Hal Marcovitz  
Theme(s): Substance Abuse, Addiction  
Description: A history of drugs and alcohol in the United States. Alcohol is being widespread in the United States and more people are drinking frequently. This causes many problems and not just in the family. Abusive drinking can later become an addiction and lead to a drug addiction too.  
Age: 12+

A Teen’s Guide to Living Drug Free  
By Bettie B. Youngs, Jennifer Youngs, Tina Moreno  
Theme(s): Living Drug Free, Alternative to Drug Use  
Description: Dedicated to the fresh, new perspectives of today’s teenagers, this new volume shares advice, commentary and stories on dealing with one of the most prevalent challenges of adolescence: drugs and alcohol. But more and more, teens are using their courage and knowledge to meet this challenge head-on, choosing to live a drug- and alcohol-free lifestyle. This book gives teens insight on what to do when things seem beyond their control.  
Age: 12+

Tobacco Information for Teens: Health Tips about the Hazards of Using Cigarettes, Smokeless Tobacco, and Other Nicotine Products  
By Karen Bellenir  
Theme(s): Dangers of Smoking, Addiction, Quitting  
Description: Tobacco Information for Teens, Second Edition offers updated information about the health consequences associated with smoking and other forms of tobacco use. It explains some of the cultural influences that can make tobacco use seem attractive, and it discusses various methods by which nicotine is consumed. For teens who want to stop smoking—or help someone else quit—facts about smoking cessation are presented along with tips for dealing with the effects of nicotine withdrawal. The book concludes with directories of resources for more information.  
Age: 13+

Difference Like Me: A Book for Teens Who Worry about Their Parents Use of Alcohol/Drugs  
By Evelyn Leite, Pamela Espeland  
Theme(s): Addictions in Families, Coping, Negative Consequences of Drug Abuse  
Description: Written for teenagers, this volume looks at life with parents who abuse alcohol or other drugs. It explains what chemical dependence is and what its effects are, and offers practical suggestions, advice and resources for helping teenagers feel better about their families and themselves.  
Age: 12+

Substance Abuse: The Ultimate Teen Guide (It Happened to Me)  
By Sheri Mabry Bestor  
Theme(s): Substance Abuse, Addiction, Negative Consequences of Drug Abuse  
Description: There are a variety of reasons young people turn to drugs, and the impact of such behavior can often be devastating. Whether alcohol, marijuana, ecstasy, or the latest drug of choice, substance abuse among teens continues to be a concern. This disorder affects so many people in one way or another, not only the addicted individual but also his or her family members and friends. In Substance Abuse: The Ultimate Teen Guide, Sheri Mabry Bestor looks at the various reasons why young people experiment with drugs and alcohol—and the consequences of doing so.  
Age: 12-17

Different Like Me: A Book for Teens Who Worry about Their Parents Use of Alcohol/Drugs  
By Evelyn Leite, Pamela Espeland  
Description: Addictions in Families, Coping, Negative Consequences of Drug Abuse  
Theme(s): Addictions in Families, Coping  
Age: 12+  

Substance Abuse in Families, Coping, Negative Consequences of Drug Abuse  
By Evelyn Leite, Pamela Espeland  
Description: Addictions in Families, Coping, Negative Consequences of Drug Abuse  
Theme(s): Addictions in Families, Coping  
Age: 12+

Teens Talk About Alcohol and Alcoholism  
By Paul Dolmetsch  
Theme(s): Alcohol Abuse, Addictions in Families, Coping  
Description: An essential guide for all teenagers and children to discuss among themselves, showing them how to exercise control over alcohol and informing them of its effects and abuses, and also what they can and cannot do about their alcoholic parents.  
Age: 12-17
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Flush
By Carl Hiaasen
Theme(s): Health and Environment, Sanitation, Pollution, Advocacy
Description: Noah’s dad tried to stop the Coral Queen casino boat’s illegal dumping by sinking the boat. But his bold protest fizzles: within days the casino is back in business, and Noah’s dad is behind bars and out of action. Now Noah is determined to succeed where his father failed. But even though pumping raw sewage into the waters of the Florida Keys is both gross and against the law, turns out it’s near impossible to catch the flusher.
Age: 10+

They Came From Below
By Blake Nelson
Theme(s): Health and Environment, Dangers of Pollution
Description: While vacationing on Cape Cod, best friends Emily, age sixteen, and Reese, seventeen, meet Steve and Dave, who seem too good to be true, and whose presence turns out to be related to a dire threat of global pollution.
Age: 12+

Roots Shoots Buckets and Boots
By Sharon Lovejoy
Theme(s): Agriculture, Gardening, Food System
Description: Green thumbs and non-green thumbs alike will fall in love with Roots, Shoots, Buckets, & Boots, a remarkably fun and informative introduction to the wonderful world of gardening—and more specifically, gardening with children. Learn how to make everything from a pizza garden, to a sunflower house, to a moon garden.
Age: 12-14+

A Teen Guide to Eco-Gardening, Food, and Cooking
By Jen Green
Theme(s): Agriculture, Composting, Cooking, Gardening, Healthy Eating, Recycling
Description: This book gives school-age readers realistic and practical advice on how they can live an eco-conscious life, and that action can be taken by themselves, with their family, or as part of a school or community group. Readers learn how to grow things in even the smallest of spaces, source eco-friendly food, think about water, energy and packaging waste, and prepare delicious dishes.
Age: 12-14+
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<td>Mendenhall, E., &amp; Koon, A. (2012). Environmental Health Narratives: A Reader for Youth. Albuquerque, New Mexico: New Mexico University Press. ISBN-13: 978.082.6351661</td>
<td>6-8.4.1.2, 6-8.4.2.4, 6-8.4.2.5, 6-8.4.3.9, 6-8.4.5.12, 6-8.4.2.6, 6-8.4.2.7</td>
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Damage

By A.M. Jenkins

Theme(s): Life experiences, Managing Stress and Pressure

Description: Profusely illustrated with archival images, Gay America reveals how gay men and women have lived, worked, and loved for the past 125 years. Gays and lesbians play a very prominent role in American life today, whether grabbing headlines over political gains, strolling in and being the subject of movies and television shows, or filling the streets of nearly every major city each year to celebrate Gay Pride. However, this was not always the case, and this book charts their journey along with the history of the country. First touching on colonial times, the book moves on to the Victorian period and beyond, including such historical milestones as the Roaring ‘20s, the Kinsky study, the McCarthy witch hunts of the 1950s, the Beat generation, Stonewall, disco, AIDS, and present-day battles over gay marriage. Providing a sense of hope mixed with pride, author Linas Alsenas demonstrates how, within one century, gay women and men have gone from being socially invisible to becoming a political force to be reckoned with and proud members of the American public living openly and honestly. The book includes a bibliography and an index.acceptance, and living openly and honestly. The book includes a bibliography and an index.acceptance, and friendship.

Ages: 12-16

Suicide Notes

By Michael Thomas Ford

Theme(s): Depression, Life Experiences, Feelings and Emotions, Positive Outlets

Description: Fifteen-year-old Jeff wakes up on New Year’s Day to find himself in the hospital. Make that the psychiatric ward. With the nutjobs. Never mind the bandages on his wrists, clearly this is all a huge mistake. Jeff is the nutjobs. Never mind the bandages on his hospital. Make that the psychiatric ward. With

Stupid Fast

By Geoff Herbach

Theme(s): Managing Stress and Pressure, Coming of Age

Description: My name is Felton Reinsein, which is not a fast name. But last November, my voice finally dropped and I grew all this hair and then I got stupid fast. Now they want me, the guy they used to call Squirrel Nut, to try out for the football team. With the jocks. But will that fix my mom? Make my brother stop dressing like a pirate? Most important, will it get me girls—especially Aleah? But deep down I know I can’t run forever. And I wonder what will happen when I finally have to stop.

Age: 13+

Damage

By A.M. Jenkins

Theme(s): Character and Values, Friendship, Depression

Description: As the Pride of the Panthers, football star Austin Reid is a likable guy, good with the ladies. Lately though, he doesn’t like his life — or anything else — so much. And the worst part is that he can’t seem to figure out why.

Age: 13+
I Don’t Want to Be Crazy
By Samantha Schutz
Theme(s): Dealing with Anxiety, Life Changes
Description: A harrowing, remarkable poetry memoir about one girl’s struggle with anxiety disorder. This is a true story of growing up, breaking down, and coming to grips with a psychological disorder. When Samantha Schutz first left home for college, she was excited by the possibilities -- freedom from parents, freedom from a boyfriend who was reckless with her affections, freedom from the person she was supposed to be.
Age: 14+

A Blue So Dark
By Holly Schindler
Theme(s): Mental Illness in the Family, Positive Outlets, Managing Stress and Pressure
Description: Fifteen-year-old Aura Ambrose has been hiding a secret. Her mother, a talented artist and art teacher, is slowly being consumed by schizophrenia, and Aura has been her sole caretaker ever since Aura’s dad left them. Convinced that “creative” equals crazy, Aura shuns her own artistic talent. But as her mother sinks deeper into the darkness of mental illness, the hunger for a creative outlet draws Aura toward the depths of her imagination. Just as desperation threatens to swallow her whole, Aura discovers that art, love, and family are profoundly linked—and together may offer an escape from her fears.
Age: 14+

It’s Kind of a Funny Story
By Ned Vizzini
Theme(s): Dealing with Depression, Managing Stress and Pressure, Living with Illness
Description: At his new school, Craig realizes that he isn’t brilliant compared to the other kids; he’s just average, and maybe not even that. He soon sees his once-perfect future crumbling away. The stress becomes unbearable and Craig stops eating and sleeping-until, one night, he nearly kills himself. Craig’s suicidal episode gets him checked into a mental hospital, where his new neighbors include a transsexual sex addict, a girl who has scarred her own face with scissors, and the self-elected President Armelio. There, isolated from the crushing pressures of school and friends, Craig is finally able to confront the sources of his anxiety.
Age: 14+

The Perks of Being a Wallflower
By Stephen Chbosky
Theme(s): Finding Confidence, Self-Esteem, Friendship
Description: The critically acclaimed debut novel from Stephen Chbosky, Perks follows observant “wallflower” Charlie as he charts a course through the strange world between adolescence and adulthood. First dates, family drama, and new friends. Sex, drugs, and The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Devastating loss, young love, and life on the fringes. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it, Charlie must learn to navigate those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.
Age: 14+

Elena Vanishing
By Elena Dunkle, Clare B. Dunkle
Theme(s): Positive Body Image, Healthy Eating
Description: Seventeen-year-old Elena is vanishing. Every day means renewed determination, so every day means fewer calories. This is the story of a girl whose armor against anxiety becomes artillery against herself as she battles on both sides of a lose-lose war in a struggle with anorexia. Told entirely from Elena’s perspective over a five-year period and co-written with her mother, award-winning author Clare B. Dunkle, Elena’s memoir is a fascinating and intimate look at a deadly disease, and a must read for anyone who knows someone suffering from an eating disorder.
Age: 14-18+

Never Enough
By Denise Jaden
Theme(s): Positive Body Image
Description: Sixteen-year-old Loann admires and envies her older sister Claire’s strength, popularity, and beauty, but as Loann begins to open up to new possibilities in herself, she discovers that Claire’s all-consuming quest for perfection comes at a dangerous price. This book tackles powerful Theme(s) including bullying, child abuse, eating disorders and positive body image, in a sensitive way that is appropriate for teens. Additionally, the author does not provide simple answers for the problems presented; however, she dramatically illustrates the importance of speaking out and reaching out to trusted adults in order to influence and support peers to make positive food and lifestyle choices.
Age: 14-18+
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### Break These Rules: 35 YA Authors on Speaking Up, Standing Out, and Being Yourself

**By Luke Reynolds**

**Theme(s):** Individuality, Self-Respect, Communication and Relationships

**Description:** Middle grade and young adult authors speak candidly on the unspoken “rules” of adolescence in this collection of moving, inspiring, and often funny essays. This unique volume encourages readers to break with conformity and defy age-old, and typically inaccurate, orthodoxy.

**Age:** 12-17

### Accident and Safety Information for Teens: Health Tips About Health Hazards, Traumatic Injuries, and Emergency Preparedness

**By Karen Bellenir**

**Theme(s):** Injury Prevention, Safety Practices

**Description:** Provides basic consumer health information for teens about accident and injury prevention, disaster preparedness, and coping with emergencies. Includes index and resource information.

**Age:** 13-17

### Sticks and Stones

**By Beth Goobie**

**Theme(s):** Conflict Resolution, Healthy Relationships

**Description:** Jujube is thrilled when Brent asks her out. She is not so happy when the rumors start flying at school. Pretty soon her name is showing up on bathroom walls and everyone is snickering and sniping. Deciding that someone has to take a stand, Jujube gathers all the other girls who are labelled sluts—and worse—and tries to impress on her fellow students the damage that can be done by assigning a label that reduces a person to an object.

**Age:** 12-16

### Beyond Texting: The Fine Art of Face-to-Face Communication for Teenagers

**By Debra Fine**

**Theme(s):** Communication Skills, Communication and Relationships

**Description:** Beyond Texting is the first book for teens to explain how to be plugged in without neglecting the necessity and power of physical, human interaction. Sure, MySpace and Facebook are wonderful ways to communicate with friends or stay in touch with a far off relative. Yet, success in the online world does not transfer to success in the art of conversation. Even the most outgoing teen may find a job interview, first date, or meeting with a teacher to be challenging because of lack of skills.

**Age:** 13+

### Something Girl

**By Beth Goobie**

**Theme(s):** Abuse, Unhealthy Relationships, Nontraditional Families

**Description:** Sophie is in a lot of trouble. She is on probation for stealing and is doing poorly at school. Her mom doesn’t really talk to her, and the other adults in her life are pressuring Sophie to talk about her bruises. Sophie worries that if she tells, she will be sent to live in a group home. Her friend Jujube is the only person who knows the truth, and now Jujube, too, wants Sophie to speak up.

**Age:** 14

### Kiss

**By Ted Dekker & Erin Healy**

**Theme(s):** Unhealthy Relationships, Friendship, Communication

**Description:** Let me tell you all I know for sure. My name. Shauna. I woke up in a hospital bed, missing six months of my memory. In the room was my loving boyfriend—how could I have forgotten him?—my uncle and my abusive stepmother. Everyone blames me for the tragic car accident that left me near death and my dear brother brain damaged. But what they say can’t be true—can it? I believe the medicine is doing strange things to my memory. I’m unsure who I can trust and who I should run from. And I’m starting to remember things I’ve never known. Things not about me. I think I’m going crazy. And even worse, I think they want to kill me. But who? And for what? Is dying for the truth really better than living with a lie?

**Age:** 14+

### Snitch

**By Allison van Diepen**

**Theme(s):** Gang Activity, Unhealthy Relationships

**Description:** Lines are clearly marked at South Bay High School. It’s mixed territory for the Crips and the Bloods, which means the drama never stops. Julia DiVino wants none of it. No colors, no C-Walks—it’s just not her thing. But everything changes when Eric Valienté transfers to South Bay and rolls into her life. Lines are redrawn. And then they are crossed.

**Age:** 14+

### Speak

**By Laurie Halse Anderson**

**Theme(s):** Sexual Assault, Communication, Self-Advocacy, Support Services

**Description:** Melinda is a friendless, outcast because she busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops, so now nobody will talk to her, let alone listen to her. Only her art class offers any solace, and it is through her work on an art project that she is finally able to face what really happened at that terrible party: she was raped by an upperclassman, a guy who still attends Merryweather and is still a threat to her. Her healing process has just begun when she has another violent encounter with him. But this time Melinda fights back, refuses to be silent, and thereby achieves a measure of vindication.

**Age:** 14+
Crews: Gang Members Talk to Maria Hinojosa
By Maria Hinojosa
Theme(s): Gang Activity and Violence
Description: Teenagers who band together for personal protection call themselves crews instead of gangs. Teens interviewed for this book talk about the role of crews, the violence in their lives, and their thoughts about the future.
Age: 14+

Talking Peace, A Vision for the Next Generation
By Jimmy Carter
Theme(s): Alternatives to Violence, Conflict Resolution
Description: Former president Jimmy Carter explains his ideas to gain peace in the world. He tells what the Carter Center has done to foster peace and gives young people ideas for helping the world.
Age: 14+

Asking For It
By Shannon Kennedy
Theme(s): Unhealthy Relationships, Dating Violence
Description: Sarah Flynn’s fondest desires come true when she makes the varsity cheer squad at Stewart Falls Academy. And wonder of wonders, her dream guy, Jason Phillips, the football captain, finally has time for her. He claims to “love” her as much as she adores him. However, things aren’t as perfect as they seem. No matter how hard she tries, she can’t make him happy. As the days go by it grows harder and harder to explain her constant injuries. She knows she shouldn’t be battered by someone who supposedly cares about her, but how can she change Jason? And more importantly, can she get out of this relationship alive?
Age: 15+

A Thousand Splendid Suns
By Khaled Hosseini
Theme(s): Sexism in Relationships
Description: Born a generation apart and with very different ideas about love and family, Mariam and Laila are two women brought jarringly together by war, by loss and by fate. As they endure the ever escalating dangers around them—in their home as well as in the streets of Kabul—they come to form a bond that makes them both sisters and mother-daughter to each other, and that will ultimately alter the course not just of their own lives but of the next generation.
Age: 16+

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Fade to Black
By Alex Flinn
HarperTeen
Theme(s): Sexual Orientation, Sexual Health
Description: The victim: After his windshield was shattered with a baseball bat, HIV-positive Alex Crusen ducked under the steering wheel. But he knows what he saw. Now he must decide what he wants to tell. The witness: Daria Bickell never lies. So if she told the police she saw Clinton Cole do it, she must have. But did she really? The suspect: Clinton was seen in the vicinity of the crime that morning. And sure, he has problems with Alex. But he’d never do something like this. Would he?
Age: 12-16

Boy Meets Boy
By David Levithan
Theme(s): Sexual Orientation, Romantic Relationships
Description: When Paul meets Noah, he thinks he’s found the one his heart is made for. Until he blows it. The school bookie says the odds are 12-to-1 against him getting Noah back, but Paul’s not giving up without playing his love really loud. This is a happy-meaningful romantic comedy about finding love, losing love, and doing what it takes to get love back in a crazy-wonderful world.
Age: 13-17

Luna
By Julie Ann Peters
Little Brown Books for Young Readers
Theme(s): Range of Sexual Expressions, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation
Description: Regan’s brother Liam can’t stand the person he is during the day. Like the moon from which Liam has chosen his female namesake, his true self, Luna, only reveals herself at night. In the secrecy of his basement bedroom Liam transforms himself into the beautiful girl he longs to be, with help from his sister’s clothes and makeup. Now, everything is about to change—Luna is preparing to emerge from her cocoon. But are Liam’s family and friends ready to welcome Luna into their lives? Compelling and provocative, this is an unforgettable novel about a transgender teen’s struggle 12 for self-identity and acceptance.
Age: 13-18

Almost Perfect
By Brian Katcher
Delacorte Books for Young Readers
Theme(s): Sexual Orientation, Romantic Relationships
Description: You only hurt the ones you love. Logan Witherspoon recently discovered that his girlfriend of three years cheated on him. But things start to look up when a new student breezes through the halls of his small-town high school. Sage Hendricks befriends Logan at a time when he no longer trusts or believes in people. Sage has been homeschooled for a number of years and her parents have forbidden her to date anyone, but she won’t tell Logan why. One day, Logan acts on his growing feelings for Sage. Moments later, he wishes he never had. Sage finally discloses her big secret: she’s actually a boy. Enraged, frightened, and feeling betrayed, Logan lashes out at Sage and disowns her. But once Logan comes to terms with what happened, he reaches out to Sage in an attempt to understand her situation. But Logan has no idea how rocky the road back to friendship will be.
Age: 14+

Sex, Etc. Magazine
By Rutgers University
Theme(s): Sexual Health, Romantic Relationships, Body Image
Description: The Sex, Etc. magazine allows teens to hear directly from other teens about the sexual health issues they face every day. Backed by adult health professionals at Answer, these teen-written stories provide honest, accurate, comprehensive information related to sexual health, body image, relationships and much more!
Age: 14+

Crank
By Ellen Hopkins
Theme(s): Sexual Assault, Drugs and Sexual Activity, Teenage Pregnancy
Description: Kristina Snow is the perfect daughter: gifted high school junior, quiet, never any trouble. Then, Kristina meets the monster: crank. And what begins as a wild, ecstatic ride turns into a struggle through hell for her mind, her soul—her life.
Age: 14+

The Road to Healing: A Journal for Teen Survivors of Sexual Abuse (Journal’s for Teens)
By Jennifer Yonker
Theme(s): Sexual Assault, Recovery, Legal Action
Description: This is a journal formatted workbook for teen survivors of sexual abuse. Using simple, easy to read headers such as “This is how my life was before the abuse” and “I’m afraid if people knew they would think differently of me” teens are guided through the process of healing from the trauma of sex abuse.
Age: 14+

Jumping Off Swings
By Jo Knowles
Theme(s): Sexual Activity, Unsafe Sexual Practices, Boundaries, Teenage Pregnancy
Description: Ellie remembers how the boys kissed her. Touched her. And when she gave it to them, she felt loved. For a while anyway. So when Josh, an eager virgin with a troubled home life, leads her from a party to the backseat of his van, Ellie follows. But their “one-time thing” is far from perfect: Ellie gets pregnant. Josh reacts with shame and heartbreak, while their confidantes, Caleb and Corinne, deal with their own complex swirl of emotions. No matter what Ellie chooses, all four teenagers will be forced to grow up a little faster as a result.
Age: 14+

Teen Guide to Sex and Relationships
By Jess C. Scott, Matt Posner
Theme(s): Healthy Sexual Relationships, Sexual Health
Description: Teen Guide answers the important and confusing questions young people have about their bodies and their hearts. It’s an advice book from two authors who care about young people and want to help them work through the tough issues that will be on their minds as they move through an emotionally complex time of their lives. Every question is answered in a conversational way, as if the author were sitting next to you speaking from the heart.
Age: 14+
By Patti Feuereisen, Caroline Pincus
Theme(s): Sexual Abuse, Recovery, Legal Rights
Description: Invisible Girls weaves together powerful first-person narratives with gentle guidance and seasoned insights to help girls through the maze of feelings that swirl around the abuse experience. This gives every young woman who struggles with the scars of sexual abuse the courage that comes from knowing that she is not alone, while other girls come out from behind the veil of secrecy to become vibrant, healthy, and whole.
Age: 14+

100 Questions You’d Never Ask Your Parents: Straight Answers to Teens’ Questions About Sex, Sexuality, and Health
By Elisabeth Henderson, Nancy Armstrong
Theme(s): Sexual Health, Human Body
Description: Teens have questions about sex; it’s a matter of who they ask and how reliable the answers are. Collected directly from teens and presented in a simple and accessible Q&A format, 100 Questions You’d Never Ask Your Parents provides information about sex, drug, body, and mood in a way that’s honest, nonjudgmental, and responsible.
Age: 14-17

This Book Is Gay
By James Dawson
Theme(s): Range of Sexual Expressions, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation
Description: Lesbian. Bisexual. Queer. Transgender. Straight. Curious. This book is for everyone, regardless of gender or sexual preference. Inside you’ll find the answers to all the questions you ever wanted to ask: from sex to politics, hooking up to stereotypes, coming out and more. This candid, funny, and uncensored exploration of sexuality and what it’s like to grow up LGBT also includes real stories from people across the gender and sexual spectrums, not to mention hilarious illustrations.
Age: 14-17

Sex: An Uncensored Introduction
By Nikol Hasler
Theme(s): Sexual Health, Sexual Expressions and Orientation, Contraceptive Options
Description: Sex: An Uncensored Introduction provides honest, in-depth information about sex, sexual orientation, masturbation, foreplay, birth control options, and protection against disease. This revised and updated edition includes updated information about everything from STIs to new sex-related legislation as well as brand new sections on sexting, online dating and safety, and sex-related bullying of all kinds.
Age: 14-17

Asking for It: The Alarming Rise of Rape Culture—and What We Can Do about It
By Kate Harding
Theme(s): Sexual Assault, Rape Culture
Description: In Asking for It, Kate Harding combines in-depth research with an in-your-face voice to make the case that twenty-first-century America supports rapists more effectively than it supports victims. Drawing on real-world examples of what feminists call “rape culture”—from politicos’ revealing gaffes to institutional failures in higher education and the military—Harding offers ideas and suggestions for how we, as a society, can take sexual violence much more seriously without compromising the rights of the accused.
Age: 16+

Deal with It! A Whole New Approach to Your Body, Brain, and Life as a gURL
By Esther Drill, Rebecca Odes, Heather McDonald
Theme(s): Personal Health, Healthy Relationships
Description: Deal With It! offers a whole new approach for dealing with your life as a girl. It’s a resource to help you learn about, laugh about, and figure out the stuff you go through on your way through life. It won’t tell you what to do, because you’ll need to decide that for yourself. But whether you’re wondering about your body, your feelings or your changing relationships with the people around you, this book provides accurate information and outlines your options.
Age: 14-19

Emergency Room
By Caroline B. Cooney
Theme(s): Healthcare Providers, Contributing Factors
Description: In order to get firsthand experience with emergency medicine—and an edge over the competition—before attending medical school, Seth decides to volunteer at City Hospital. Meanwhile, Diana volunteers in the inner-city ER, hoping to save the world one patient at a time. One night, they’ll get their wish as they confront a student with a gunshot wound, the victim of a gruesome motorcycle accident, and a kidnapping gone horribly awry. Hour by hour, minute by minute, Diana and Seth’s adrenaline-fueled shift will alter the course of their lives—and the lives of everyone in the emergency room—forever.
Age: 15-19
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<td>Rutgers University. Sex, Etc. Magazine. (n.d.).</td>
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Finding Miss Sunshine: How the Worst News of My Teenage Life Sent Me on One Giant Adventure Back to Health
By Heidi Tankersley
Theme(s): Health Screenings, Personal Responsibility for Health
Description: With entertaining excerpts from her real-life account, Heidi walks you through the journey she took to go from suffering with a serious colon disease to enjoying health and vibrancy again. If you’re longing to feel good again, read this book. Your body (and bowels) will never be the same.
Age: 12-17

The Affordable Care ACT
By Tamara Thompson
Theme(s): Healthcare
Description: Explores the pros and cons of the Affordable Care Act, who benefits from the ACA, how the economy is affected by the ACA, and the impact of the ACA rollout.
Age: 13-17

Nutrition and Food Safety
By Terry L. Smith
Theme(s): Food Safety
Description: In Nutrition and Food Safety learn about the many risks to our food and water supplies, including bacterial contamination, agricultural pesticides, food additives, allergens, and industrial chemicals, and how the interconnecting responsibilities of farmers, food processors, retailers, government regulators, and consumers ensure a safe food supply.
Age: 14-17

YOU: The Owner’s Manual for Teens: A Guide to a Healthy Body and Happy Life
By Michael F. Roizen, Mehmet Oz
Theme(s): Differences between Adult and Adolescent Bodies, Health Practices
Description: There’s a big difference between an adult’s body and your body, between adults’ health mysteries and your health mysteries, between their questions and your questions. So, teens, this book is for YOU. We’ll talk to you about the biological changes that are happening in your brain and your body. We’ll show you how to get more energy, improve your grades, protect your skin, salvage more sleep, get fit, eat well, maximize your relationships, make decisions about sex, and so much more.
Age: 14-17

To Repair the World: Paul Farmer Speaks to the Next Generation
By Paul Farmer
Theme(s): Global Health, Health Disparities
Description: Here, for the first time, is a collection of short speeches by the charismatic doctor and social activist Paul Farmer. One of the most passionate and influential voices for global health equity and social justice, Farmer encourages young people to tackle the greatest challenges of our times.
Age: 15+

Pandemics and Global Health
By Barry Youngerman
Theme(s): Global Health, Infectious Diseases
Description: Pandemics and Global Health begins with an introduction that reviews major types of infectious agents and modes of transmission. It then provides a historical overview of infectious diseases and attempts to control epidemics. Thorough case studies from the United States, China, Africa, and India detail recent outbreaks in each area and government response, thereby demonstrating the need for transparency, commitment, and adequate financing in the fight against major diseases. Gathering key information on many contemporary international public health issues, this book is a valuable resource for anyone wanting to become more informed on global health concerns.
Age: 14-17

Health Care (Global Viewpoints)
By Noel Merino
Theme(s): Healthcare, Delivery, Global Health
Description: This edition of the Global Viewpoints series discusses international health care topics. Included articles explore how health care quality and access to health care services vary from country to country, including the United States, France, Cuba, and Germany. The text also examines the costs of health care and how diseases challenge health care globally. By illuminating the complexities and interrelations of the global community, this excellent resource helps students and other researchers enhance their global awareness.
Age: 14-17
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Essential Gardening for Teens
By Ruth Chasek
Theme(s): Agriculture, Gardening
Description: Readers are given the basics and are then encouraged to get more information from seed packets, other gardening books, and a local garden center. This attitude gives teens ownership of the process and shows respect for whatever potential readers may have.
Age: 14-18+

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle
By Barbara Kingsolver
Theme(s): Agriculture, Food Sources, Food System, Food Chain
Description: This book chronicles the year that Barbara Kingsolver, along with her husband and two daughters, made a commitment to become locavores, those who eat only locally grown foods.
Age: 14-18+

Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foods
By Gary Paul Nabhan
Theme(s): Agriculture, Food Access, Food Sources, Food System
Description: Nabhan, a subsistence hunter, ethnobiologist, and activist devoted to recovering lost food traditions, gave himself a task: to spend a year trying to eat foods grown, fished, or gathered within 250 miles of his Arizona home. His book, both personal document and political screed, details this experiment from the moment Nabhan purges his kitchen of canned and other processed foods to a final food-gathering pilgrimage.
Age: 14-18+

Fueling the Teen Machine
By Ellen Shanley
Theme(s): Calorie Balance, Positive Body Image, Healthy Eating, Cooking (Meal Planning and Preparation)
Description: This book is a guide for parents and caregivers to give them the tools to ensure the daily health of their children. This book may also serve as a resource to teens, providing the latest information on a wide range of food topics. This handbook covers everything from carbohydrates to eating disorders and vitamins, discussing each aspect sensitively and suggesting the ultimate new frontier for busy teens—cooking their meals themselves. This book contains sections on portion distortion, fitness for health, and how to read food labels, while outlining the latest studies, statistics, nutrition guidelines, and health information. New recipes, tips on creating shopping lists, and meal-planning ideas are included and vegetarian and vegan issues for teens are addressed.
Age: 14-18+

Salt Sugar Fat: How the Food Giants Hooked Us
By Michael Moss
Theme(s): Food Access, Food Sources, Food System, Food Chain, Healthy Eating, Human Digestion
Description: Every year, the average American eats thirty-three pounds of cheese and seventy pounds of sugar. Every day, we ingest 8,500 milligrams of salt, double the recommended amount, almost none of which comes from the shake of those on our table. It comes from processed food, an industry that hails in $1 trillion in annual sales. In Salt Sugar Fat, Pulitzer Prize–winning investigative reporter Michael Moss shows how we ended up here. Featuring examples from Kraft, Coca-Cola, Luncaball, Frito-Lay, Nestlé, Oreo, Capri Sun, and many more, Moss’s explosive, empowering narrative is grounded in meticulous, eye-opening research. He takes us into labs where scientists calculate the “bliss point” of sugary beverages, unearth marketing techniques taken straight from tobacco company playbooks, and talks to concerned insiders who make startling confessions. Just as millions of “heavy users” are addicted to salt, sugar, and fat, so too are the companies that peddle them. You will never look at a nutrition label the same way again.
Age: 14-18+

The Green Teen Cookbook
By Laurane Marchive and Pam McElroy
Theme(s): Calorie Balance, Cooking (Meal Planning and Preparation), Food Access, Food Sources, Health Eating
Description: Going green is hard to do especially when it comes to food. There are acronyms to learn, labels to decipher, seasons to accommodate, and grocery stores to navigate and that’s before you even turn on the stove! The Green Teen Cookbook cuts through the chaos and shows teens how to shop smarter, cook more consciously, and eat a healthier diet.
Age: 14-18+

Eating Dangerously: Why the Government Can’t Keep Your Food Safe ... and How You Can
By Michael Booth, Jennifer Brown
Theme(s): Food Safety, the Food System/Food Chain
Description: Though written for adults, this book provides a comprehensive history of the safety net (or lack thereof) in the food industry. This book sheds light on the growing problem and introduces readers to the very real, very immediate dangers inherent in our food system. This two-part guide to our food system’s problems and how consumers can help protect themselves is written by two seasoned journalists, who helped break the story of the 2011 listeria outbreak that killed 33 people.
Age: 15+

In Defense of Food: An Eater’s Manifesto
By Michael Pollan
Theme(s): Calorie Balance, Healthy Eating, Food System, Food Chain
Description: This book proposes an answer to the question of what we should eat that comes down to seven simple but liberating words: Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants. Pollan’s bracing and eloquent manifesto shows us how we can start making thoughtful food choices that will enrich our lives, enlarge our sense of what it means to be healthy, and bring pleasure back to eating.
Age: 15+

Indoor Kitchen Gardening: Turn Your Home Into a Year-round Vegetable Garden
By Elizabeth Millard
Theme(s): Agriculture, Food Access, Gardening, Healthy Eating
Description: It takes just a few dollars and a few days for you to start enjoying fresh, healthy produce grown indoors in your own home. This book will teach you how to grow microgreens, sprouts, herbs, mushrooms, tomatoes, peppers, and more—all inside your own home, where you won’t have to worry about seasonal changes or weather conditions.
Age: 14-18+
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Addiction
By Christina Fisanick
Theme(s): Addiction, Consequences, Treatment Options
Description: Essays debate the nature of addiction, how it should be prevented, the effects of various addictions on interpersonal relationships, and different types of treatment.
Age: 15-17

For Teenagers Living With a Parent Who Abuses Alcohol/Drugs
By Edith Lynn Hornik-Beer
Theme(s): Addictions in Families, Coping
Description: For Teenagers Living With a Parent Who Abuses Alcohol/Drugs by Edith Lynn Hornik-Beer answers questions about alcoholism asked by teenagers. Included are: What causes alcoholism? Where can I get help? What do I do about the abuse? Should I stay at home? Where can I go? How can anyone expect me to concentrate in school? I stay at home? Where can I go? How can anyone expect me to concentrate in school? Why do I fight with my parents even when they are sober? This book answers those questions which teenagers in this situation have to know.
Age: 12-17

Go Ask Alice
By Anonymous
Theme(s): Drug Use, Addiction, Consequences
Description: This powerful diary of a teenager’s struggle with the seductive—often fatal—world of drugs and addiction tells the truth about drugs in strong and authentic voice.
Age: 15+

Last Night I Sang to the Monster
By Benjamin Alire Sáenz
Theme(s): Drug Use, Addiction, Consequences
Description: Zach is eighteen, bright, and articulate. He’s also an alcoholic, in rehab instead of high school, but he doesn’t remember how he got there.
Age: 16+

Clean
By Amy Reed
Theme(s): Drug Use, Addiction, Recovery
Description: Olivia, Kelly, Christopher, Jason, and Eva have one thing in common: They’re addicts. Addicts who have hit rock bottom and been stuck together in rehab to face their problems, face sobriety, and face themselves. None of them wants to be there. But they’ll all have to deal with themselves—and one another—if they want to learn how to live. Because when you get that high, there’s nowhere to go but down, down, down.
Age: 12-17

Buzzed: The Straight Facts About the Most Used and Abused Drugs from Alcohol to Ecstasy
By Cynthia Kuhn, Scott Swartzwelder, Wilkie Wilson
Theme(s): Drugs
Description: A bestseller in its three previous editions, Buzzed is now revised and updated with the most recent discoveries about drugs. It includes new information about biological and behavioral changes in addiction, the prescription-drug abuse epidemic, distinctive drug effects on the adolescent brain, and trends from synthetic cannabinoids to e-cigarettes. It reports on how these drugs enter the body, how they manipulate the brain, their short-term and long-term effects, the different “highs” they produce, and the circumstances in which they can be deadly.
Age: 14+

Notes from the Midnight Driver
By Jordan Sonnenblick
Theme(s): Drinking Under the Influence, Consequences
Description: After drinking some vodka and taking his mom’s car for a spin to his father’s girlfriend’s house, who just happens to be his former third-grade teacher, 16-year-old Alex Gregory finds himself on his neighbors’ lawn with police yelling at him and a broken gnome under his car. For drinking and driving, Alex is sentenced to 100 hours of community service at a nursing home with Solomon Lewis. Sol is a difficult, crotchety, eccentric old man with emphysema who lashes out at Alex in strange Yiddish phrases. Soon Alex grows found of Sol, who teaches him something about the guitar, respecting the elderly, and taking responsibility for his actions.
Age: 12-17

I’ve Gotten a DWI/DUI. Now What?
By Corona Brezina
Theme(s): Driving Under the Influence, Legal Consequences
Description: Some young people are surprised to learn that the penalties for drinking and driving are much more severe than getting a traffic ticket due to carelessness or bad judgment. Depending on the state, driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence (DWI/DUI) charge is a misdemeanor or a felony crime that involves the criminal court or juvenile justice system. Readers learn about case terminology, their legal rights and responsibilities, the legal process involved in a DWI/DUI charge, and what happens after a conviction.
Age: 13-17

Drug Information for Teens
By Elizabeth Magill
Theme(s): Drugs, Consequences, Addiction Cycle
Description: This book provides students with facts about drug use, abuse, and addiction. It describes the physical and mental effects of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, ecstasy, inhalants and many other drugs and chemicals that are often abused. It includes information about the process that leads from casual use to addiction and offers suggestions for resisting peer pressure and helping friends stay drug free.
Age: 13-17

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens
By Sean Covey
Theme(s): Alternatives to Drug Use
Description: Being a teenager is both wonderful and challenging. In The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, author Sean Covey applies the timeless principles of the Seven Habits to teens and the tough issues and life-changing decisions they face. In an entertaining style, Covey provides a step-by-step guide to help teens improve self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, achieve their goals, get along with their parents, and much more.
Age: 12-17
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Chemicals (Opposing Viewpoints)
By Margaret Haerens
Theme(s): Environment and Health, Health Consequences from Pollution
Description: Provides insight into the health risks posed by exposure to chemicals found in plastics, cosmetics, and other products common in everyday life; examines the controversies surrounding e-cigarettes, pesticides, hydraulic fracturing, and chemical dispersants used in oil spills; and considers the efforts to reform the existing federal regulatory framework to protect the American public from toxic chemical exposure.
Age: 13-17

Air Pollution & Health
By Emily Sanna
Theme(s): Environment and Health, Health Consequences from Pollution
Description: This absorbing book covers the history, causes, symptoms, measurement, and prevention and regulation efforts of air pollution. The book covers how ozone depletion affects health; what is ground-level air pollution and its effect on health; what is acid rain; and how global warming and air pollution are related.
Age: 13-18

Harvest for Hope: A Guide to Mindful Eating
By Jane Goodall, Gail Hudson, Gary McAvoy
Theme(s): Composting, Food Sources, Food System, Food Chain
Description: In this provocative and encouraging book, Jane Goodall sounds a clarion call to Western society, urging us to take a hard look at the food we produce and consume—and showing us how easy it is to create positive change. Offering her hopeful, but stirring vision, Goodall argues convincingly that each individual can make a difference.
Age: 14-18

Water Pollution & Health
By Cordelia Strange
Theme(s): Environment and Health, Health Consequences from Pollution
Description: The book reveals the fascinating and deadly cases of early water pollution and presents water pollution as it is today—its causes from both manmade as well as natural sources, the health consequences of water pollution, how water is tested and treated, what measures governments and industries are taking to provide clean water for living, and more.
Age: 13-18

Slice of Organic Life
By Sheherazade Goldsmith
Theme(s): Agriculture, Cooking (Meal Planning and Preparation), Food Access, Food Sources, Food System, Food Chain, Gardening, Composting, Recycling
Description: Featuring over 90 self-contained projects, from growing your own food organically, cooking home-grown produce, keeping selected livestock, and leading a more sustainable lifestyle, this down-to-earth, yet practical guide is the perfect start for someone looking to go “green.” The team of experts offers options for city dwellers with little space, for those living in the suburbs with a bit of land, and for those who have acres of land and no ideas on how to use them.
Age: 14-18+

Generation Green
By Linda Sivertsen
Theme(s): Recycling, Composting
Description: We all know about the Earth’s environmental crisis, but there is someone who can truly make a difference: you. If you text your friends or chat with them online, download music to your iPod, or toss bottles and papers into recycling bins, you’re already more eco-savvy than you think. It’s just as easy to do even more to help save the earth, and Generation Green shows you how. This book: Lays out the inside scoop on the biggest issues affecting our planet, such as global warming and overflowing landfills Offers dozens of tips on how to shop, dress, eat, and travel the green way Includes interviews with teens like you who are involved with fun, innovative green causes Shows that being environmentally conscious can be a natural part of your life -- and your generation’s contribution to turning things around.
Age: 14-18+
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2016 DC HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS

Introduction: The 2016 DC Health Education Standards were created by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, in partnership with the State Board of Education, District agencies, health advocates, parents, teachers and other local stakeholders to ensure that these Standards reflect best-practices, evidence-based approaches, and align with the National Health Education Standards, second edition (NHES). The standards provide a clear, skill-based, and age-appropriate approach to the essential health topics that currently impact District students.

These standards are grounded in the latest health trends within the District of Columbia and reflect the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model, considered the ideal framework in addressing health and academic outcomes. Reflecting a strong consensus among educators, these standards establish high expectations for all of our students. They detail the knowledge and skills that students need to maintain and improve their health and wellness, prevent disease, and reduce health-jeopardizing behaviors.

For additional information, visit http://osse.dc.gov/healtheducationstandards.

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

Introduction: The Common Core is a set of high-quality academic standards in mathematics and English language arts/literacy, which outline what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade. The standards were created to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college, career, and life, regardless of where they live. Forty-two states, the District of Columbia, four territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity have voluntarily adopted and are moving forward with the Common Core.

For additional information on the English language arts and literacy in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects, visit http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/. For additional information on the Mathematics subjects, visit http://www.corestandards.org/Math/.

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

Introduction: The Next Generation Science Standards are based on the Framework for K–12 Science Education developed by the National Research Council. The standards were developed through a collaborative process led by 26 states and a 40-member writing team and nationwide partners to provide students with an internationally benchmarked science education.

For additional information, visit http://www.nextgenscience.org/overview-topics.
**A food system**: The path that food travels from field to fork. It includes the growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, marketing, consuming, and disposing of food. It also includes the inputs needed and outputs generated at each step.

**Advice**: Ideas or suggestions offered to help someone with a problem or situation.

**Aggressive**: A type of communication in which people insist on being right and often overreact, blame, or criticize others; ready or likely to attack or confront.

**Agriculture**: The science or practice of farming, including cultivation of the soil for the growing of crops and the rearing of animals to provide food, wool, and other products.

**Anorexia nervosa**: A serious eating disorder characterized by a fear of gaining weight that results in prolonged self-starvation and dramatic weight loss.

**Anxiety disorder**: A disorder involving serious fear or anxiety interferes with a person’s life.

**Anxiety**: An ongoing feeling of fear, worry, or panic of what might happen.

**Assertive**: A type of communication style where people say what they think and stand up for what they believe; want or need without hurting others or denying others’ rights.

**Brutal**: Cruel; harsh; heartless.

**Bulimia nervosa**: An eating disorder characterized by episodes of overeating, usually high calorie foods, followed by vomiting, laxative use, fasting, or excessive exercise.

**Bully**: To frighten someone or hurt them, especially if they are smaller or weaker than you.

**Calorie Balance**: When the calories consumed (from foods) are balanced by the calories used (in normal body functions, daily activities, and exercise). Calorie balance is necessary for weight maintenance.

**Compost**: A mixture of decayed or decaying organic matter used to fertilize soil. Composting is the act of making compost.

**Confrontation**: A face to face meeting; an open conflict of opposing ideas.

**Crosswalk**: A lane marked off for pedestrians to use when crossing the street. This is the safest place to cross the street.

**Depression**: A mood disorder characterized by sadness, hopelessness, pessimism, loss of interest in life, reduced emotional well-being, and abnormalities in sleep, appetite, and energy level.

**Distressed**: Extremely upset or unhappy.

**Emotional health**: A positive sense of wellbeing which enables an individual to be able to function in society and meet the demands of everyday life. You are considered emotionally healthy when the feelings you experience are appropriate responses to events.

**Encourage**: To suggest that someone does something that you believe would be good.

**Escalating**: Becoming greater in size or seriousness.

**Food chain**: (1) A hierarchical series of organisms each department on the next as a source of food. (2) The series of processes by which food is grown or produced, sold, and eventually consumed.

**Food Safety**: Refers to the conditions and practices that preserve the quality of food to prevent contamination and foodborne illnesses.

**Food Source**: Refers to how we categorize food based on its origin (i.e. plant, animal, processed).

**Forgive**: To stop being angry with somebody for something they did that upset you.

**Ignorance**: Lack of knowledge.

**Injury**: Physical damage done to a person or a part of their body.

**Insecure**: Lacking self-confidence or assurance.

**Insult**: To speak or treat someone with disrespect.

**Loner**: A person that makes no effort to keep friendships, takes little interest in having relationships, and seems indifferent to their families.

**Mental Illness**: A clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome marked by the patient’s distress, disability, or the risk of suffering disability or loss of freedom.

**Name-calling**: An attack on a person instead of an issue; resorting to saying bad things about your opponent.

**Perceived norms**: Beliefs about what “normal” behavior is and what is accepted by others even if it is not true.

**Recycling**: To treat or process (used or waste materials) so as to make suitable for reuse. Recycling food waste is often referred to as composting.

**Socialize**: To participate in a group, talking to many people at an event.

**Solution**: The successful action of solving a problem.

**Stop**: Stop at all curbs; come to an end.

**Stress**: The feeling of being under pressure due to change, or any physical, and or mental demand on the body; worry; strain.

**Stressor**: Anything that causes stress.

**Survive**: To stay alive through a dangerous time.

**Victim**: Someone who is harmed or suffers some loss.

**Vulnerable**: Open to attack; capable of being wounded or damaged; unprotected.
The Office of the State Superintended of Education would like to acknowledge the contributions of the individuals and organizations who dedicated their time and expertise to the development of this comprehensive booklist.

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- **Student Wellness Division**  
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  District of Columbia Public Schools  
  http://dcps.dc.gov/page/health-and-wellness
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