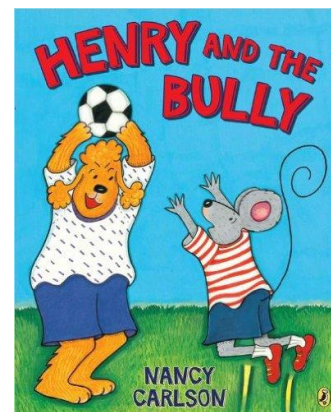


### Books of the Month

**Henry and the Bully** by Nancy Carlson – Although there are a lot of books out there dealing with the topic of bullying, Carlson has a friendly and compassionate spin on both the bully and the one being bullied in this story. Ages 4-6.

**The Little, Little Girl with the Big, Big Voice** by Kristen Balouch – A little girl with a very LOUD voice, looking for a friend, scares away many of the animals in the jungle until she meets her match and finds an animal with a voice just as loud as hers! Ages 3-5.



### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

**Boy + Bot** by Ame Dyckman – Despite their many misunderstandings, a little boy and a robot become good friends. Ages 3-6.

**Jessica** by Kevin Henkes – Ruthie is about to start Kindergarten – along with Jessica, her imaginary friend. Although her parents are concerned about whether or not she'll make friends at school, especially if she takes Jessica along with her, their worries are resolved in a most surprising way! Ages 4-8.

**Yo, Jo!** by Rachel Isadora – Jomar is waiting on the steps outside his house for his grandfather to come home and is greeted through all kinds of friendly slang by the neighborhood kids. Ages 4-8.

**Help! A Story of Friendship** by Holly Keller – What should you believe about your friend? Gossip? What others say? Or should you trust what you know to be true? Ages 5-8.

**If You Plant a Seed** by Kadir Nelson – If you plant a seed of selfishness, what can you expect to grow out of it? But if you plant a seed of kindness and generosity, the benefits are so much greater. Ages 4-8.

**Yo! Yes?** by Chris Raschka – With very few words, Raschka tells a beautiful story of a tentative new friendship. Ages 3-6.

**I'm Not!** By Pam Smallcomb – Sometimes quiet children can feel like they don't measure up to their outgoing counterparts. This story shares how all children are equally valuable. Ages 4-6.

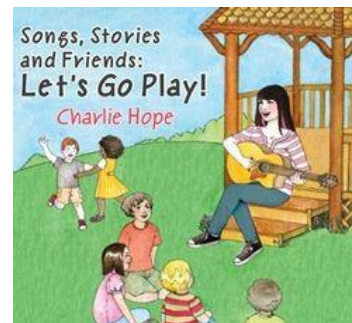
**City Dog, Country Frog** by Mo Willems – A touching story that takes readers through the cycle of friendship, including loss but, in the end, renewal. Ages 5-8.

**My New Friend is So Fun (Elephant and Piggie)** by Mo Willems – No booklist on friendship would be complete without a story of the adventures of Elephant (Gerald) and Piggie. In this story, Piggie finds a new friend – and Gerald gets jealous. Ages 4-7.



### Children's Music

One of the best songs on friendship comes from an album by children's singer/songwriter Charlie Hope. Check out track #3 titled "Best Friends." A fun song for your children to dance to or just listen to as they play.



## Rhyme of the Month

### FRIENDSHIP SIGNING SONG

Sing to the Tune of: **BINGO**

I have a friend the very best

And we have fun together.

You are my good friend.

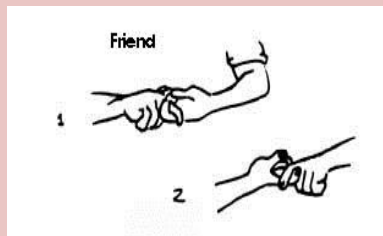
*Point to child, point to self,  
make sign for "friend"*

You are my good friend.

*Repeat gestures from above...*

You are my good friend.

And we have fun together.



## Learning Ideas for September

### Alphabet Papers Display/Game

On one side of sturdy paper, write each child's name in your class. Invite children to draw a picture of themselves on the other side of the paper. You could also ask parents to send in a picture from home and glue the photograph to the paper.

Here are a few examples of activities to do with these name cards:

- **Circle Time Activity** – Select one or two (or more) cards each day and talk about the friend you've selected, introducing their name, their picture, showing where they sit in circle, etc.
- **Library Book** - Put the cards into a binder (use plastic sleeves inside the binder to preserve the pictures) of everyone in your class. Include this binder as one of the books in your library area for children to look at on their own time.
- **Classroom Display and Counting Game** – Create a display of these picture cards at children's level, where children can see them easily. Use this display to ask children questions such as - how many of our friends have names beginning with "A?" "B?" Let's count altogether! Count and then write down the number so children can see how many friends do have names beginning with different letters of the alphabet. You can count anything – how many children have long hair, brown eyes, etc

### GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER ...

This is a fun circle time activity to do with children, especially during the beginning of the year when they are getting to know each other. An added bonus is the strong sense of beat and hearing/saying syllables children are practicing, a great pre-reading skill.

**Hicky Picky Bumblebee** by JoAnn Nally

Hicky Picky Bumblebee

Won't you say your name to me?

*(child says name or teacher helps by reading their nametag)*

Let's clap it...

Let's tap it...

Let's snap it...

Go around the circle repeating this chant using another child's name, until everyone has had a turn.

\*Later in your year, you can add to this activity by writing each child's name for all to see after they have told you their name.



Free STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org). You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the Calendar of the Pierce County Library web site: [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org).