# **Celebrating Our Classroom Community**

# BLUEPRINT

#### Jabari Jumps

- Written and illustrated by Gaia Cornwall
- · Candlewick Press, 2017

As children begin this unit on celebrating what they have learned this year, they cheer on Jabari as he faces his fears to make his first jump off the diving board. During read alouds, children make predictions and think about the character's feelings. They discuss the importance of believing in and taking care of yourself.

#### Vocabulary

• sprang: leaped, bounced up

#### When Pencil Met Eraser

- Written by Karen Kilpatrick and Luis O. Ramos, Jr.
- Illustrated by German Blanco
- Imprint, 2019

Pencil loves to draw, filling whole pages with anything he imagines. But when Eraser comes along and wants to participate, Pencil is less than enthusiastic—until Eraser wins him over with a wonderful maze! This book about an unlikely friendship continues children's celebration of how we take care of each other. Children practice making inferences based on illustrations during read alouds, and they review ways to act kindly and solve problems by working together.

#### Vocabulary

- stargaze: to spend time looking up at the night sky
- · resist: to stop yourself

#### Me...Jane

- Written and illustrated by Patrick McDonnell
- Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2011

This biography tells the story of scientist and conservationist Jane Goodall. As a child, with her stuffed toy chimpanzee in tow, Jane draws, writes, and observes the animals and plants around her in order to answer her insatiable questions about the world. As children learn about how Jane grew up, they practice making connections to Jane and to other living things in their world. Children also tap into their own curiosity as they ask questions about the book and the world.

#### Vocabulary

- · cherish: to love and protect
- curious: wanting to know more

#### She's Got This

- Written by Laurie Hernandez
- · Illustrated by Nina Mata
- HarperCollins, 2018

This inspirational book about perseverance shows how Zoe learns to excel at gymnastics. She finds the courage to keep on trying even after she falls off the balance beam. Children continue thinking about how confidence and persistence help us to take care of ourselves. During read alouds, they relate to the character's journey, while investigating their own perseverance and progress throughout the year in small groups.

#### Vocabulary

• grip: to hold tightly or squeeze

#### The Big Umbrella

- Written by Amy June Bates and Juniper Bates
- Illustrated by Amy June Bates
- Simon & Schuster, 2018

In this book, a red umbrella with a smiling face always has room for one more on a rainy day. As all kinds of community members seek shelter from the rain, the umbrella grows to accommodate the crowd. When the sun finally comes out, the community emerges from beneath the big umbrella. This book helps children to think about how inclusion is an important way that we take care of each other and show kindness.

#### Vocabulary

 plaid: a pattern of lines that creates rectangles

### Pie Is for Sharing

- Written by Stephanie Parsley Ledyard
- Illustrated by Jason Chin
- Roaring Brook Press, 2018

In this community oriented book, a summer picnic shows us how the concept of sharing, so central to social emotional learning, touches almost every aspect of our lives. Illustrations show community members not only sharing food and toys, but also stories and time together. This book encourages children to think about different ways they share in the classroom. During read alouds, children practice making inferences from illustrations and thinking about how the characters feel.

#### Vocabulary

 bandages: strips of material that protect boo-boos

#### All Kinds of Friends

- Written by Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly
- Photographs by Shelley Rotner
- Millbrook Press, 2017

Friends can be funny, smart, athletic, and imaginative. We might know them from school or sports teams or as neighbors. They might be similar to us in some ways or different from us in other ways. In this photographic essay, page after page shows diverse, smiling children playing, reading, and being active together. This book celebrates human connection on a child's level as they begin reviewing ways we take care of each other.

## 10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

- · Written and illustrated by Melanie Walsh
- Candlewick Press. 2012

With bright, blocky illustrations, flaps to lift, and informative text, this book offers children practical suggestions for how they can take care of the Earth. As children revisit the idea of taking care of our environment, this book shows how small things can make a big difference, empowering children to try new ways of caring for their world. During read alouds, children practice identifying and summarizing what they have learned.

#### Vocabulary

• reduce: to make less

#### Run Wild

- Written and illustrated by David Covell
- Viking Books for Young Readers, 2018

With positivity and encouragement, this book celebrates the sheer joy of outdoor play, inviting children to celebrate their physicality. Children make predictions and perform some of the actions from the book during read alouds. They also discuss how friends can take care of each other during group play.

#### Vocabulary

- shore: the beach, where the ocean meets the sand
- flowing: moving easily without stopping

<sup>\*</sup>The children's books suggested here are readily available through Children's Literacy Initiative, most school or public libraries, or your local school equipment supplier.