



Monthly Booklist

May 2006

Picture books for young children featuring intergenerational friendships among non-relatives.

At Taylor's Place by Sharon Phillips Denslow. Pictures by Nancy Carpenter. (1990) Ages 4-8
A young girl, Tory, helps her older friend, Taylor, make a weathervane in his carpenter's workshop. This gentle story, set amidst crisp autumn surroundings, is filled with rich tones.

Fifty-Five Grandmas and a Llama by Lynn Manuel. Pictures by Carolyn Fisher. (1997) Ages 3-7
Sam's efforts to find a grandmother are so successful that he discovers the problems of having too many grandmothers. This story will tickle funny bones young and old.

Good-Bye, Curtis by Kevin Henkes. Pictures by Marisabina Russo. (1995) Ages 2-5
In this cheerful story, neighbors say a fond farewell their beloved letter carrier, after 42 years of service. Curtis has seen many changes in the community, but his devotion is unwavering.

Mrs. Katz and Tush by Patricia Polacco. (1992) Ages 4-8
An elderly Jewish widow and her young African-American neighbor become friends when he gives her a kitten named Tush. The two share traditions and transitions in this great read-aloud.

Old Beaver by Udo Weiglet. Pictures by Bernadette Watts. (2002) Ages 3-7
Old Beaver is too old to do a lot of work, so he starts to relax in the sun. The other animals don't think this is proper, so they decide to find a younger, stronger beaver. When the younger one can't do anything right, will Old Beaver be willing to help?

Old Henry by Joan W. Blos. Pictures by Stephen Gammell. (1987) Ages 4-8
The neighbors aren't too happy about Henry and his beat-up old house that he doesn't want to repair. This tale uses humor to celebrate difference as well as community.

Rose Meets Mr. Wintergarten by Bob Graham. (1992) Ages 4-8
A young girl's attempt to retrieve her ball from her grouchy old neighbor's yard changes the way they feel about each other and challenges some ageist stereotypes.

When Artie Was Little by Harriet Berg Schwartz. Pictures by Thomas B. Allen. (1996) Ages 4-8
Artie enjoys sitting on his front porch and telling stories about his youth—his pony Jack, his dog Skipper, and his trip with an barnstormer—to the neighborhood children.

Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox. (1985) Ages 4-8
Wilfred is a young boy who lives next to a nursing home that he visits often. His friendships with the residents lead him to explore the idea of memories and their value.