

# Meeting Ourselves and Others on the Page:

## Children's Literature as a Doorway to Social Emotional Learning



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Grade 5 Teacher, MSAD 17  
2021 Oxford County Teacher of the Year



*Session Resources*

# Session Intentions:

1

Broaden repertoire of books that lend themselves to SEL practice/instruction.

2

Explore potentially new-to-you books & brainstorm how they might be used.

3

Share smart thinking.

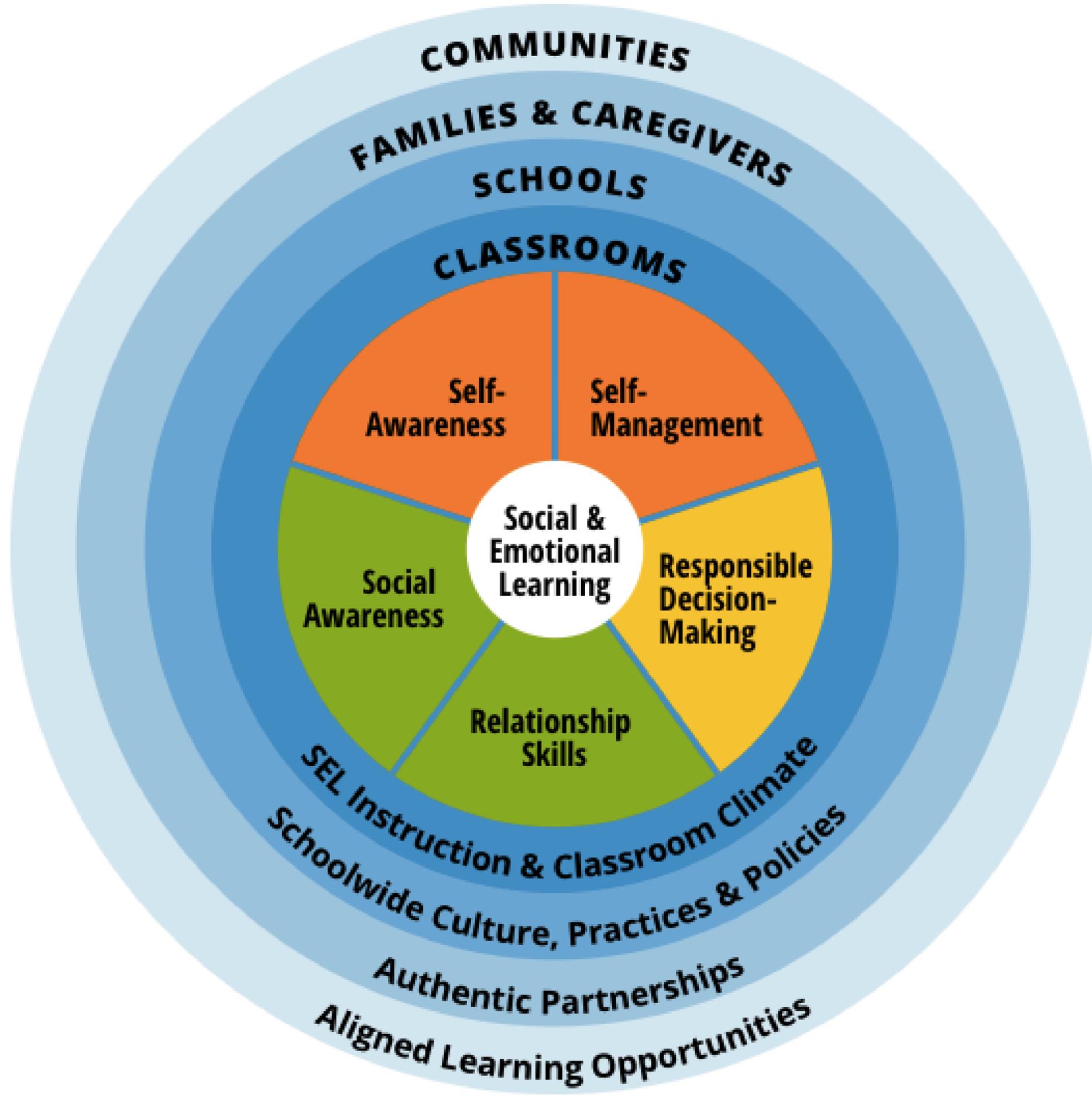


**Who's in the Room?**

# About Melissa



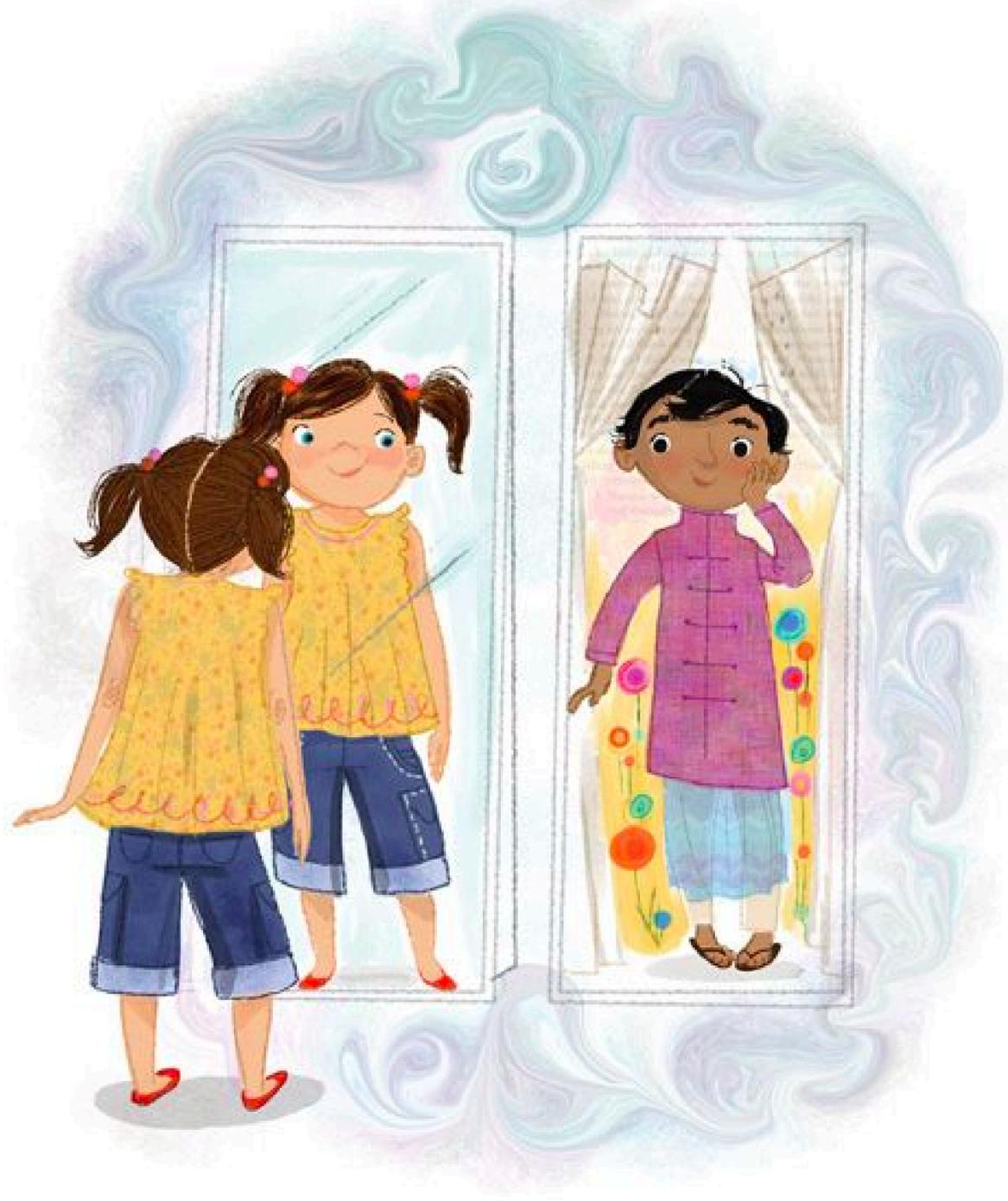
- Oxford Elementary School, MSAD 17
- 23 years in grades 4, 5, 6
- National Board Certified Teacher
- 2021 Oxford County Teacher of the Year
- OES Reads, OHills Reads, Read Across America
- Author of educator materials
- NCTE member & presenter



# CASEL Framework

[source: www.casel.org](http://www.casel.org)

# Meeting Ourselves and Others on the Page



**"Children need windows and mirrors.  
They need mirrors in which they see  
themselves and windows through which  
they see the world."**

- Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop



Rudine Sims Bishop, "Mirrors, Windows and Sliding Glass Doors," in *Perspectives* (1990)

# Identity

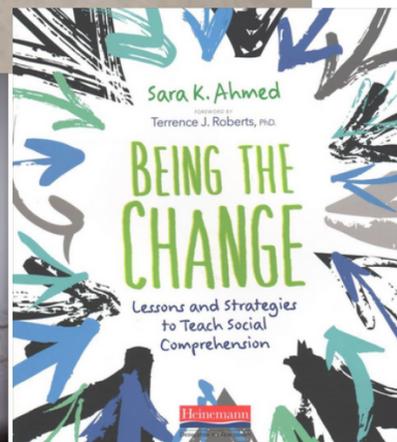
- Personality
- Physical Features
- Opinions, beliefs
- Perspective
  - How you treat others
- Family
  - Financial status
- Culture
- Ethnicity
- Language
- Religion
- Environment & Community
- Nationality
- Food
- Age
- Gender
- Reactions
- Sportsmanship
- Lifestyle
- Job
- Traditions
- Celebrations

# Identity

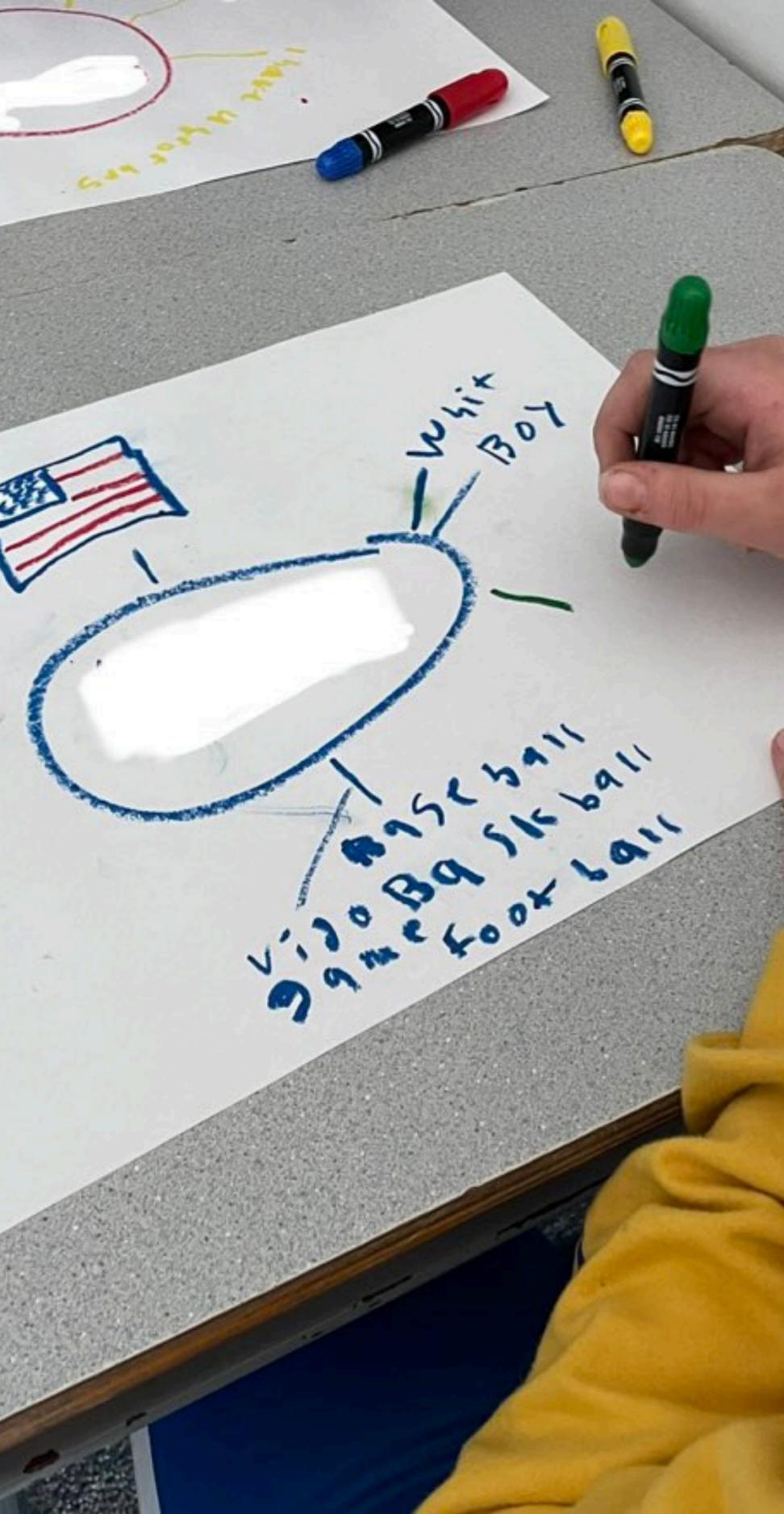
**identity:** the qualities, beliefs, personality, looks and/or expressions that make a person or group

**intersectionality\*:** how race, class, gender, and other individual characteristics “intersect” with one another and overlap

\*Kimberlé Crenshaw (1989)



# (Foundation Rooted in) Identity



- reflection on what makes us who we are
- similarities and differences with others acknowledged, celebrated, valued
- extend this understanding of identity to literature



# Picture Book Biographies

- real life models of resilience, perseverance
- success stories of dealing with adversity
- often words of wisdom
- broaden view of what can be, aspirations

# I'm Your Neighbor Books

- Curated collection of Immigrant and New Generation texts & other resources
- Universality of feelings, cultivates empathy
- PINE Project

<https://imyourneighborbooks.org/>



# Book Tasting

- 6 rounds, 6 books, 6 mins. each
- 30 sec. transitions
- Placemat for note-taking
  - CASEL connections
  - Possible discussion points or questions
- Share out at the end

# CASEL's Core COMPETENCIES



Self-Awareness



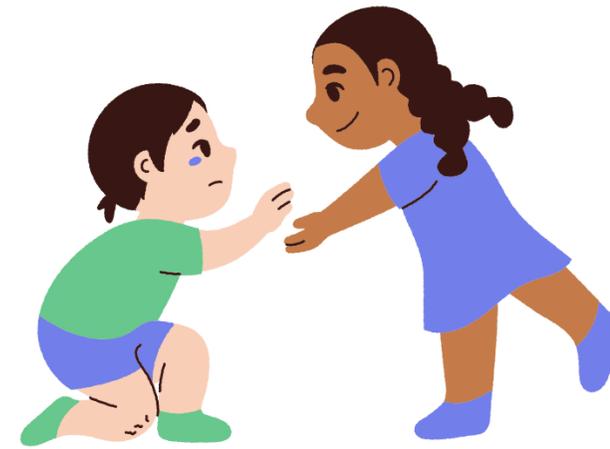
Self-Management



Responsible Decision-Making

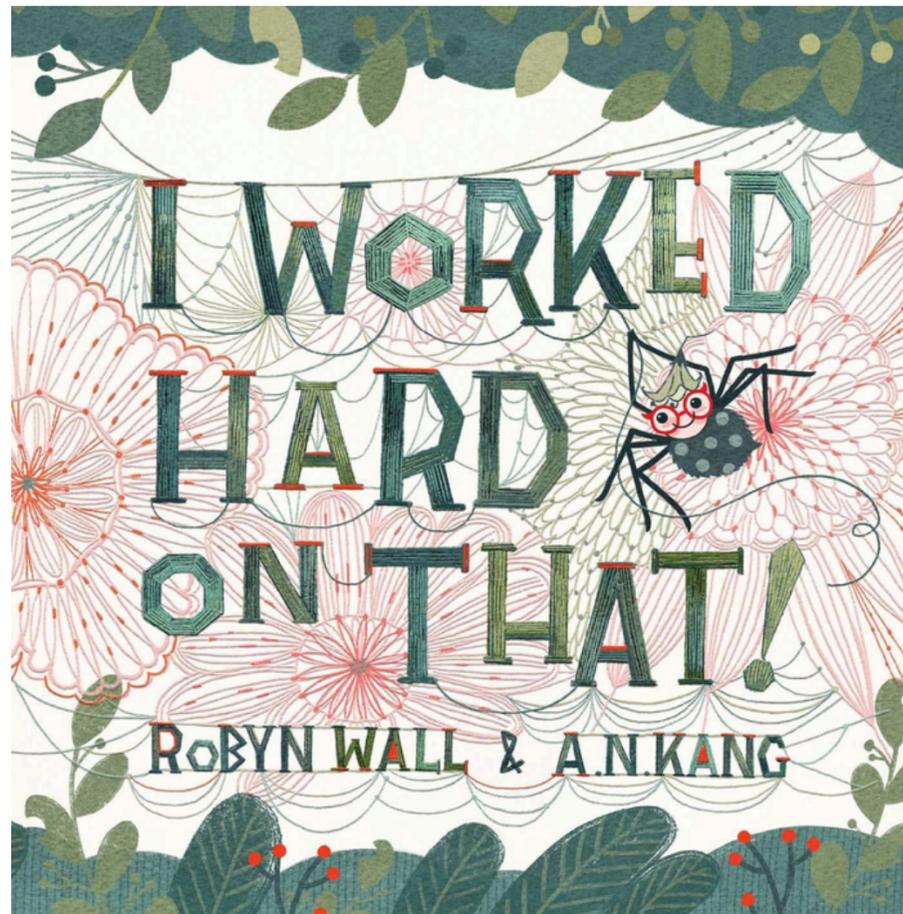


Social Awareness

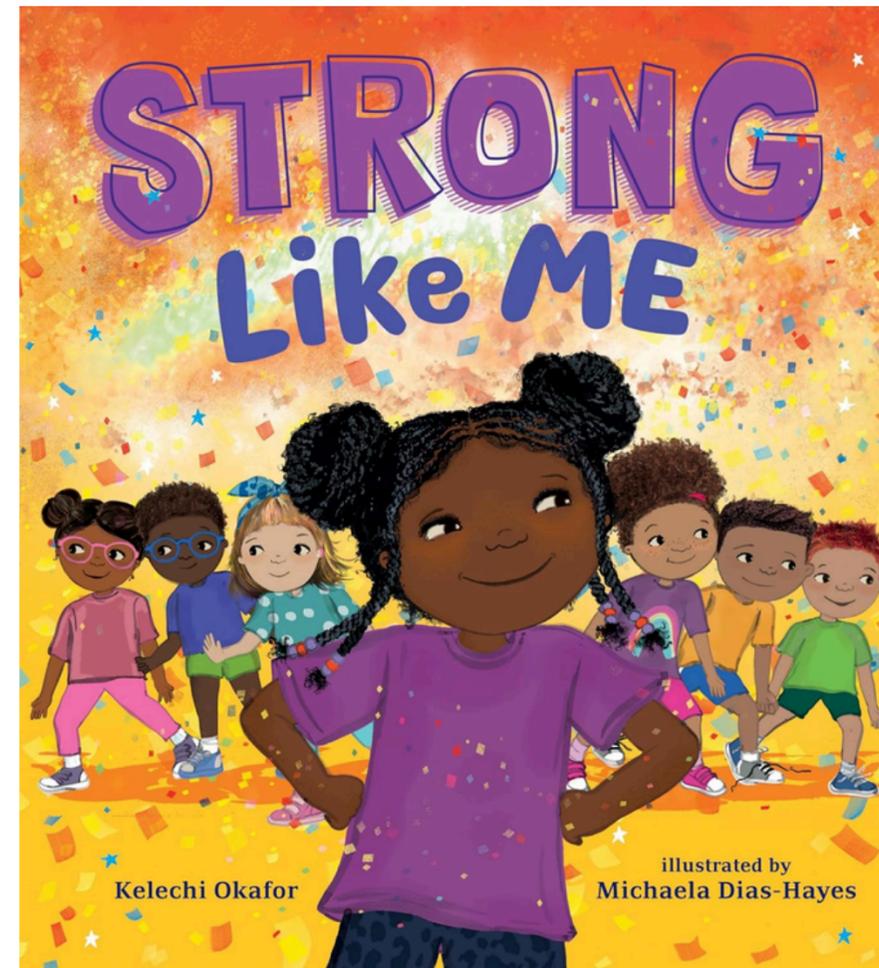


Relationship Skills

# Looking Forward to:



October, 2024



February, 2025