

# Suggested Children's Books

Page 1 of 7

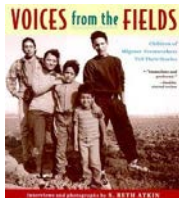


## Short Books For Kids



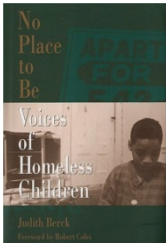
**Armstrong, William and Barkley, James. *Sunder*.**

This is the story of an African American sharecropper family in the late 19th century south. Grades 4-7



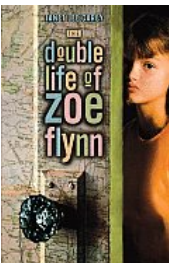
**Atkin, S. Beth. *Voices From the Field: Children of Migrant Farmworkers Tell Their Stories*. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1993.**

Combines interviews with children of migrant farmer families with photographs and original poetry. Grades 3-6



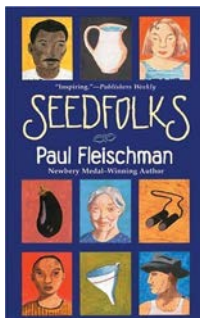
**Berck, Judith, forward by Robert Coles. *No Place to Be: Voices of Homeless Children*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1992.**

An excellent overview of the issues of poverty and homelessness, particularly as they affect children. Includes excerpts from interviews with homeless children, poems, and photos. Grades 3-6



**Carey, Janet Lee. *The Double Life of Zoe Flynn*. 2004.**

When Zoe's family has to live in their van for months after moving from California to Oregon so her father can find work, Zoe tries to keep her sixth-grade classmates from discovering that she is homeless. Grades 3-6



**Fleischman, Paul. *Seedfolks*. 1997.**

Thirteen very different voices- old, young, Haitian, Hispanic, tough, haunted, and hopeful tell one amazing story about a garden that transforms a neighborhood. Grades 4-6

# Suggest Children's Books



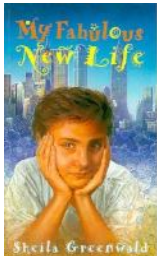
**Fox, Paula. *Monkey Island*. New York: Orchard Books, 1991.**

One boy's adventures living in a park for several months after his mom abandoned him at the shelter in which they had been staying. An adventure story with a positive ending emphasizing that anyone could face circumstances causing homelessness. Grades 3-6



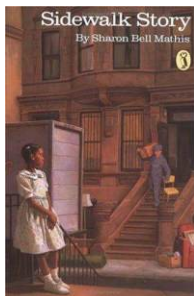
**Fenner, Carol. *The King of Dragons*. 1998.**

Eleven-year-old Ian and his troubled Vietnam-vet father have been living on the streets by day and sleeping in a deserted courthouse by night. Now, though, the weather is getting cooler, food is becoming scant, and Ian's father has disappeared. Grades 4-6



**Greenwald, Shelia. *My Fabulous New Life*. 1993.**

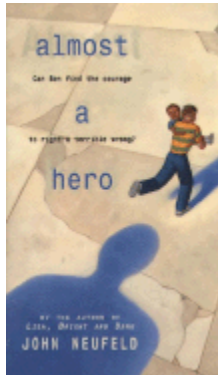
An 11-year-old girl adjusts to new neighborhood in Manhattan. Grades 6-8



**Mathis, Sharon Bell. *Sidewalk Story*. New York: Viking Press, 1971.**

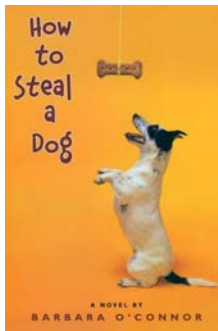
Lilly Etta is upset when her friend's family is evicted from their apartment and no one seems to care. Her determination to make someone pay attention brings about an extraordinary outcome. This book demonstrates the difference that one committed person can make. Grades 3-5

# Suggest Children's Books



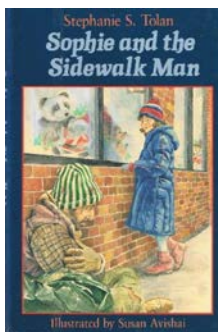
Neufeld, John. *Almost a Hero*. 1995.

Young boy in Santa Barbara does community service assignment at a childcare center for homeless children. Grades 4-6



O'Connor, Barbara. *How to Steal a Dog*. 2007.

Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina and her younger brother concoct an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward. Grades 3-5



Tolan, Stephanie S., illustrated by Susan Avishai. *Sophie and the Sidewalk Man*. New York: Four Winds Press, 1992.

Sophie is saving all of her money to buy the teddy bear she desperately wants from the toy store. When she notices a homeless man sitting on the sidewalk, however, she realizes that sharing is a lot more important. Grades 3-6

# Suggest Children's Books



**Voigt, Cynthia. *Homecoming*. 1981.**

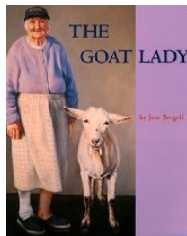
Abandoned by their mother, four children begin to search for a home and an identity. Grades 6-8

## PICTURE BOOKS



**Ancona, George. *Bananas: From Manolo to Margie*. New York: Clarion Books, 1982.**

A picture book that traces the path of a banana from Manolo's village in Honduras to the street vendor's stand in New York City where Margie and her mom are shopping. Provides a good illustration of where the food we eat originates. Grades K-2



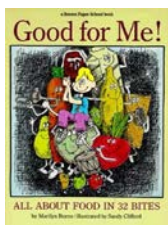
**Bregoli, Jane. *The Goat Lady*. Gardiner, ME: Tilbury House, 2004.**

Two young children befriend a much gossiped about neighbor and the importance of getting to know someone before unfairly judging another based on appearance. Themes of intergenerational relationships, rural and global poverty.



**Bunting, Eve. *Fly Away Home*. 1991.**

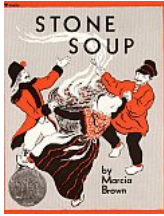
A tender story about a boy and his father who live in the airport. This is a good story to introduce children to the issues of homelessness. Grades K-2



**Burns, Marilyn, illustrated by Sandy Clifford. *Good For Me!: All About Food in 32 Bites*. Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1978.**

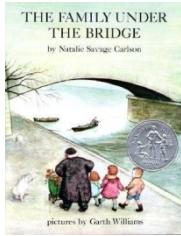
An excellent introduction to good nutrition for kids of all ages, using games and cartoons. Includes sections on the food production system, the history and origin of various foods, and foods from around the world. Grades 4 and up

# Suggest Children's Books



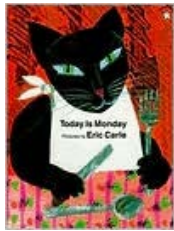
**Brown, Marcia. *Stone Soup*. 1947.**

Based on an old French tale, this story is about three hungry soldiers who outwit the inhabitants of a village into sharing their food for a feast. Grades K-2



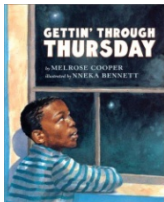
**Carlson, Nancy; Williams, Garth. *The Family Under the Bridge*. Originally, 1958. Reissued, 1989.**

Armand who lives in Paris under a bridge, suddenly finds himself helping care for a newly homeless family. Grades 4-5



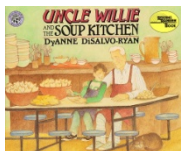
**Carle, Eric. *Today is Monday*. Penguin Group publishing 1997**

Children sing about different foods and days of the week. Until Sunday. Then, all the world's children are invited to come together and share in the meal.



**Cooper, Melrose, illustrated by Nneka Bennett. *Gettin' Through Thursday*. New York: Lee and Low Books, 1998.**

For André and his family, it's always a struggle to get through the week until Mom gets her paycheck on Friday. When he makes the honor roll at school on Thursday, though, his family has an extra special celebration. Grades K-2



**DiSalvo-Ryan, DyAnne. *Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen*. New York: Mulberry Paperback Book, 1991.**

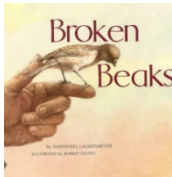
A young boy learns about hunger and poverty in his community by volunteering with his Uncle Willie at the local soup kitchen. A useful introduction to the emergency food network and other local efforts to fight hunger. Grades K-2

# Suggest Children's Books



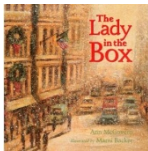
**Hazen, Barbara Shook, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. *Tight Times*. New York: The Viking Press, 1979.**

A young boy struggles with the frustration of wanting a dog when his father has lost his job. May be used to stimulate discussion about circumstances that cause people to go hungry. Grades K-2



**Lachenmeyer, Nathaniel, illustrated by Robert P. Ingpen. *Broken Beaks*. 2005**

This is a picture book that illustrates how hunger and homelessness can occur. A bird sustains a broken beak, can't keep up with the flock, becomes hungry and is befriended by a homeless man. Grades K -2



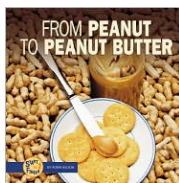
**McGovern, Ann, illustrated by Marni Backer. *The Lady in the Box*. New York: Turtle Books, 1997.**

A storybook about two young children who notice a homeless woman in their neighborhood and are inspired to help by volunteering at a local soup kitchen. Grades K-2



**McCourt, Lisa, illustrated by Tim Ladwig. *Chicken Soup for Little Souls: The Braids Girl*. Deerfield Beach: Health Communications, 1998.**

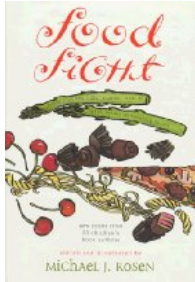
Izzy meets the Braids Girl when she volunteers with her grandpa at a shelter. The Braids Girl really wants not Izzy's old clothes, but her friendship. The story illustrates our common need for love and companionship regardless of age, race, gender, or social standing. Grades K-2



**Nelson, Robin. *From Peanut to Peanut Butter*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 2004.**

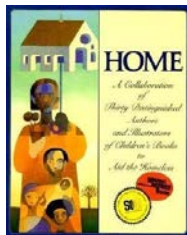
A picture book introducing the process by which peanut butter is made from peanuts. Grades K-1

# Suggest Children's Books



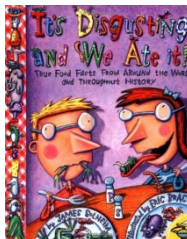
**Rosen, Michael J., editor and illustrator. Food Fight: Poets Join the Fight Against Hunger With Poems to Favorite Foods. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1996.**

This volume is a compilation of wonderful poems about food, written by 33 children's book authors and illustrated by editor Michael J. Rosen. Grades K-6



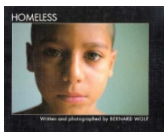
**Rosen, Michael J., editor. Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Distinguished Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books to Aid the Homeless. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1992.**

In this fun and colorful volume, thirty authors and illustrators of children's books reflect on the meaning of home. Grades K-6



**Solheim, James, illustrated by Eric Brace. It's Disgusting and We Ate It: True Food Facts From Around the World and Throughout History. New York: Scholastic Inc, 1998.**

A unique book about all of the weird things that people eat that is fun and informative for people of all ages. Can be used to initiate a discussion about the history of food as well as its cultural significance throughout the world. Grades K and up



**Wolf, Bernard. Homeless. New York: Orchard Books, 1995.**

A collection of photographs illustrating one boy's experience living in a homeless shelter. A positive, dignified portrayal that raises many of the issues related to poverty and homelessness. Grades K-6