

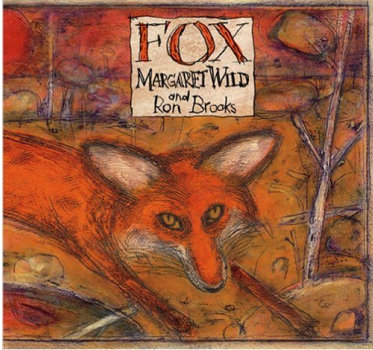
Inquiring into friendship? Relationships?

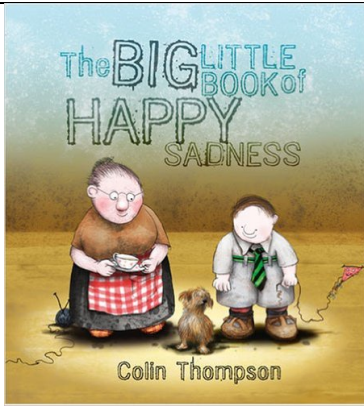
Some texts the help engage and challenge for deeper understanding.

Many of these texts explore some of the more challenging and nuanced aspects of relationships. Many are ambiguous in nature – so perfect for inquiry and creative, reflective thinking.

(List compiled by Kath Murdoch. TEXT from AMAZON.com All books available through AMAZON)

	<p>Marianne Dubuc</p> <p>Enchanted Lion Books</p>	<p>One autumn day, a lion finds a wounded bird in his garden. With the departure of the bird's flock, the lion decides that it's up to him to care for the bird. He does and the two become fast friends. Nevertheless, the bird departs with his flock the following autumn. What will become of Lion and what will become of their friendship?</p>
	<p>Oliver Jeffers</p> <p>Harper Collins</p>	<p>There is a wonder and magic to childhood. We don't realize it at the time, of course . . . yet the adults in our lives do. They encourage us to see things in the stars, to find joy in colors and laughter as we play.</p> <p>But what happens when that special someone who encourages such wonder and magic is no longer around? We can hide, we can place our heart in a bottle and grow up . . . or we can find another special someone who understands the magic. And we can encourage them to see things in the stars, find joy among colors and laughter as they play.</p>
	<p>Simona Ciraolo</p> <p>Flying Eye Books</p>	<p>Ever feel like you need a hug, a really big hug from someone? That's how Felipe the young cactus feels, but his family just isn't the touchy-feely kind. Cactuses can be quite prickly sometimes you know . . . and so can Felipe. But he'll be darned if this one pointy issue will hold him back, so one day Felipe sets off on his own to find a friend and just maybe, that long awaited hug.</p> <p>In her debut picture book, Simona Ciraola creates an endearing tale of friendship, beautifully illustrated with buoyant wit and the perfect story to share.</p>
	<p>Bob Graham</p> <p>Puffin Books</p>	<p>Rose wants to get her ball back from the scary old man that lives next door. She finds a way to connect with him and the results are life changing. A book about prejudice, identity, assumptions, communication and relationships.</p>

	<p>Dennis Haseley Jim La Marche</p> <p>Koala Books</p>	<p>A book about the joy of reading but also about earning trust and giving to one another.</p> <p>When a young bear finds a scrap of an old letter, he is so curious about the mysterious marks that he searches out their source—a cabin in the woods. There he meets a young woman and is mesmerized by the sound of her voice. Though he cannot understand her words, he returns every day to hear the woman's stories of sailors, goddesses, and far-off lands.</p>
	<p>Irena Kobald Freya Blackwood</p>	<p>Cartwheel moves to a new country with her auntie, and everything is strange: the animals, the plants—even the wind. An old blanket gives Cartwheel comfort when she's sad—and a new blanket just might change her world.</p> <p>This multicultural story of friendship is about leaving home, moving to a foreign and strange place, and finding a new friend. It's a story for all who have experienced change. Irena Kobald's poetic text, paired with Kate Greenaway medalist Freya Blackwood's powerful paintings, renders an emotional and heart-warming story about two children from diverse backgrounds coming together to become new friends.</p>
	<p>Margaret Wild Stephen Michael King</p> <p>Scholastic</p>	<p>Mr. Pockets carries his two small dogs, Biff and Buff, everywhere in the big pockets of his very big coat. But when Biff pokes his foot through a hole in the coat, the hole grows bigger and bigger, and soon he finds that he's lost!</p> <p>Heartwarming and full of humor, The Pocket Dogs is a sweet, reassuring story that is perfect for sharing with the very young.</p> <p>About being reliable, caring for each other, counting on your friends, loyalty.</p>
	<p>Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks</p>	<p>Dog rescues Magpie and the two animals forge a deep friendship, both of them helping to overcome the other's disability. Sitting high on Dog's back, Magpie becomes her friend's missing eye, and as they speed through the countryside together, she forgets that she can no longer fly. At the end of the long day, they curl up to sleep, secure in their togetherness. Then Fox enters their lives. Corroded by malice and loneliness, he sets out to destroy their friendship. This archetypal drama about loneliness, friendship, risk and betrayal is as rich a story for adults as it is for children</p>

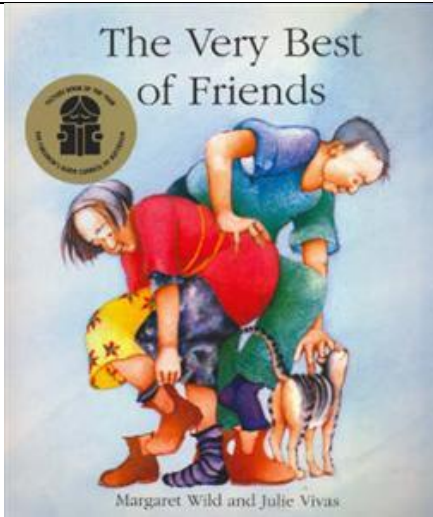


Colin Thompsom

George lived alone with his grandmother and an empty place where his mother and father should be.

One Friday on his way home from school, George visited the animal shelter. There, in the very last cage, was Jeremy, a dog who looked as lost and as lonely as George.

When Jeremy goes home to live with George and his grandmother, their whole lives change, and they learn that when it comes to love, it's quality not quantity that counts .



Margaret Wild
Julie Vivas

Jessie, James and William the cat live on a farm with fifty cattle, twenty chickens, four horses and three dogs. One day their lives are changed, never to be the same again. The combination of Margaret Wild's loving, poignant story and Julie Vivas's exquisite illustrations has produced a memorable picture book which will touch the hearts of young, and not-so-young, readers.