Reading Lists for Children of All Ages

The following books are great stories with themes that support the teaching of spiritual truths. They would work well in a junior church program to introduce a lesson topic or as books to recommend to parents. The book suggestions are grouped by Virtue or topic for easy reference. Most are adaptable to any age group and those that would work best with older or younger children are identified. Most can be found in the local library. [*older children—4th grade and above. # younger children—Pre-K ]

**Affirmation**

**Anger**

**Assertiveness**

**Balance**
*These three books are not stories, but rather are science related, and would be a great place to start a discussion about using spiritual principles for physical and emotional balance.*

**Beauty**

**Being Yourself**

**Birthday**

**Caring**
*Series: Caring for Our Earth, an ecology-based collection of books about what children can do to care for animals, air, forests, land, water, and people.*
Celebrations
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Changing

Children’s Rights
• Castle, Carolyn. For every Child: The UN Convention on the Rights of Children in Pictures. New York: A Phyllis
Folgelman book, 2001
• Gikow, Louise and Weiss, Ellen. For Every Child a Better World by Kermit the Frog. United Nations: Muppet

Cleanliness/orderliness
• Birchman, David Francis. The Raggy Scraggly No-soap No-scrub Girl. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books,
1995.
read!

Series: Brand New Readers
• Viorst, Judith. Super-completely and Totally the Messiest. New York: Atheneum Books for Young

Commitment

Community building
Compassion

Consideration, Cooperation

Courage
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Courtesy

Creation stories
  Multicultural, nondenominational, nonsectarian.

Creativity

Cycle of Life
- Dillon, Leo and Diane. To Every Thing There Is a Season. Scholastic Inc. New York: 1998. From Ecclesiastes, a time and purpose to our lives.
  Ages 4-8.

Death/life after death/loss

Detachment, Determination
• Piper, Watty [pseudo]. The Little Engine That Could. Many publications.

Diversity

Doing what you love

Ecology/environment/relationship with earth
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Facing fear/new experience

Faithfulness

Families

Feelings
• Pinkney, Sandra L. A Rainbow All Around Me. New York: Scholastic, 2002.

Flexibility

Forgiveness
Friendliness/Friendship
• Cannon, Janelle. Stella Luna. New York: Scholastic, 1993

Generosity

Gentleness

Girl power

This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Gratitude/thankfulness

Series: Reading
Railroad Books.
Growing up

Healing
  All, Unity Village, MO, 1998.

Heaven

Helpfulness

Honesty/truthfulness
- This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Humility

Idealism

Imagination
• Seuss, Dr. And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street. New York: Vanguard Press, 1937.
• Seuss, Dr. Oh, the Thinks You Can Think. New York: Beginning Books, 1975.

Interconnectedness/unity

Joy /Joyfulness

Judgment/ Justice
[Series: Ready-to-read].
[Series; A Character Building Book].

Keeping a promise

Kindness
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Let go, let God/release

Life/birth
Life; great birthday book.


Love

Loyalty

Making a difference

Nature/ connection to

New Experience/facing fear

Obedience

Oneness

Order
- Dillon, Leo and Diane. To Every Thing There Is a Season. New York: Scholastic Inc., 1998. From Ecclesiastes, a time
  and purpose to our lives.
  of the Sun”.

Parental Love
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Patience

Peace

Perseverance

Prayers

Prayers/answered
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**Prayerfulness**


**Purity**


**Purposefulness**


**Respect**


**Responsibility/reliability**


**Reverence**


**Self-acceptance**


**Self esteem**


**Service**


**Sharing**


This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA

Steadfastness

Strength, Tact

Thankfulness/gratitude

Series: Reading Railroad Books

Tolerance
• Cannon, Janelle. Stella Luna. New York: Scholastic, 1993

Transformation/positive change

Trust

Truthfulness/honesty

Series: a Character Building Book

Understanding

Unity/interconnectedness
Wholeness/well-being, Will, Willingness
This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA
Children’s Books for Holidays, celebrations and other special events

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Black History Month

Valentines Day

Graduation

Mother’s Day
• #Hallinan, P.K. We’re Very Good Friends, My Mother and I. Nashville: Ideals Children’s Books.

Father’s Day

4th of July

Series: Rookie Choices.

Halloween

Thanksgiving

Christmas

Collections
• *The Book of Virtues for Young People: A Treasury of Great Moral Stories, Simon & Schuster Books for Young
Readers, 1997. *Well-know works including fables, folklore, fiction, drama, and more by such authors as Aesop, Dickens, Tolstoy, Shakespeare, and Baldwin are presented to teach virtues including compassion, courage, honesty, friendship, faith, self-discipline, responsibility, work, courage, perseverance, honest, and loyalty.*


- *Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul, Deerfield Beach: Health Community Inc., 1998. A collection of short stories, anecdotes, poems, and cartoons which present a positive outlook on life.*

**Series**

- *A Character Building Book, PowerKids Press,*
  The Rosen Publishing Group, *Learning about Charity from the Life of Princess Diana,*
  *Learning about Resilience from the Life of Lance Armstrong,*
  This list was shared with us from by the EFL Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA
  *Learning about Teamwork from the Lives of Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay,*
  *Learning about Achievement from the Life of Maya Angelou,*
  *Learning about Assertiveness from the Life of Oprah Winfrey,*
  *Learning about Bravery from the Life of Harriet Tubman,*
  *Learning about Compassion from the Life of Florence Nightingale,*
  *Learning about Courage from the Life of Christopher Reeve,*
  *Learning about Creativity from the Life of Steven Spielberg,*
  *Learning about Dedication from the Life of Frederick Douglass,*
  *Learning about Determination from the Life of Gloria Estefan,*
  *Learning about Dignity from the Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.,* 
  *Learning about Equal Rights from the Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg,*
  *Learning about Fairness from the Life of Nelson Mandela,*
  *Learning about Honesty from the Life of Abraham Lincoln,*
  *Learning about Integrity from the Life of Eleanor Roosevelt,*
  *Learning about Justice from the Life of Cesar Chavez,*
  *Learning about Leadership from the Life of George Washington,*
  *Learning about Love from the Life of Mother Teresa,*
  *Learning about Public Service from the Life of John F. Kennedy,*
  *Jr, Learning about Responsibility from the Life of Colin Powell,*
  *Learning about Strength of Character from the Life of Muhammad Ali,*
  *Learning about the Work Ethic from the Life of Cal Ripkin, Jr.*

[This reading list was created by the Wisdom for Life School in Encinitas, CA]