

Children's Book List

Issues of poverty, charity, and hunger

The Berenstain Bears Think of Those in Need (Stan and Jan Berenstain, 1999)

When the bear cubs realize they have a lot more toys and things in their house than they really need, Mother Bear has an idea of what to do.

Sam and the Lucky Money (Karen Chinn, Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu, 1995)

It is the Chinese New Year, and Sam's grandparents give him four dollars to buy anything he wants. He walks the streets of Chinatown with his mother, trying to figure out the best way to spend it. After meeting a homeless man, Sam starts thinking of his "lucky money" in a new way.

Whoever You Are (Mem Fox and Leslie Staub, 1997)

A simple picture book, with vivid illustrations, that celebrates human connections.

Kids Ending Hunger: What Can We Do? (Tracy Apple Howard with Sage Howard, 1992)

A great resource for children and adults interested in the issues of chronic hunger. The book has a great deal of background information and ideas for ways to help end world hunger.

Beatrice's Goat (Page McBrier and Lori Lohstoeter, 2001)

Based on the true story of a girl who was able to go to school after her family received a goat as a gift.

The Teddy Bear (David McPhail, 2002)

A homeless man finds a teddy bear lost by a little boy in this tale of compassion.

Material World: A Global Family Portrait (Peter Menzel and Charles C. Mann, 1994)

An adult book, but the photographs will interest everyone. The photographs show families from around the world surrounded by their household items. The contrasts can be startling.

The Greatest Table: A Banquet to Fight Against Hunger (Michael J. Rosen, 1994)

This unique book folds out to look like a long table. Each page is illustrated by a different artist and invites the reader and the world to share a meal.

If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World's People (David J. Smith and Shelagh Armstrong, 2002)

A picture book that imagines the world as a village of just 100 people, and illustrates the uneven distribution of resources.

A Thread of Kindness: A Tzedakah Story (Leah Shollar and Shoshana Mekibel, 2000)

Adapted from a Midrash, the book tells the story of a family that is given a treasure, and what they decide to do with it.

Galimoto (Karen Lynn Williams and Catherine Stock, 1990)

One day, seven-year-old Kondi decides to make a galimoto, a toy car, with scraps of wire and wood. He goes looking in his African village for what he needs to complete his project and overcome the obstacles in his way.