

## Honesty Character Education Theme

This bibliography was compiled by Shirley Lukenbill, Librarian, Wooldridge Elementary School, [slukenbi@austinisd.org](mailto:slukenbi@austinisd.org). In order to continue to add to this bibliography, Shirley would appreciate if you would email her if you find additional resources that we could add to this list of resources.

Bender, Marie. ***Honesty Counts***. ABDO Publishing Co., 2003. ISBN: 1577658728. (Hardcover) \$22.78. (Ages 9-12)

Defines honesty as a character trait and discusses how to be honest at home, with friends, at school, and in the community.

Bunting, Eve. ***A Day's Work***. Houghton Mifflin, 1994. ISBN: 0395673216. (Library Binding) \$16.00 (Ages 5-8)

Francisco waits with his Spanish-speaking grandfather at a place day workers are hired. He lies to get his grandfather a job and learns from his grandfather the importance of honesty even in very difficult circumstances.

Demi. ***The Empty Pot***. Henry Holt, 1991. ISBN: 0805012176. (Hardcover) \$16.95. (Ages 4-8)

This beautifully illustrated story powerfully shows the courage it takes to be truthful and the rewards of honesty. Ping, who loves to grow flowers, feels ashamed when he presents an empty pot to the Emperor in a flower-growing contest. His truthfulness bears amazing fruits.

Guntly, Jenette Donovan. ***I Can Tell the Truth***. Gareth Stevens Pub., 2005. ISBN: 0836842499 \$19.33. (Ages 4-8)

Introduces children to the importance of social values by teaching them about trust, not cheating on tests, and being honest with others.

Kimmel, Eric A. ***Three Sacks of Truth: A Story from France***. Holiday House, 1993.

ISBN: 082340921X. (Hardcover) (Nonfiction, Folktale) \$15.95 (Ages 5-8)

With the aid of a perfect peach, a silver fife, and his own resources, Petit Jean outwits a dishonest king and wins the hand of a princess.

Leaney, Cindy. ***Lost and Found: A Story about Honesty***. Rourke Pub., 2004. ISBN: 1589527364. \$28.50

Matt and Jose decide to take the wallet they find on the street to the police station even though they need extra money to go the fair.

Loewen, Nancy. ***How Could You? Kids Talk about Trust***. Picture Window Books, 2002.

ISBN: 140480031X. (Nonfiction) \$23.93. (Ages 5-10)

Uses an advice-column format to define trust and provide examples in daily life.

Nettleton, Pamela Hill. ***Is That True?: Kids Talk about Honesty***. Picture Window Books, 2005.

ISBN: 1-4048-0619-9W. (Hardcover) \$17.95 (Ages 7-11)

In the format of an advice column a fan writes: "I copied an answer on a test, and then I lied to my teacher about it. Now I feel awful." Frank B. Wize talks straight on telling the truth.

Raatma, Lucia. ***Honesty***. Capstone Press, 1999. ISBN: 0736803696. (Hardcover) \$18.60. (Ages 5-7)

Explains the virtue of honesty and how readers can practice it at home, in school, in the community, and with each other.

Shannon, George. ***True Lies : 18 Tales for You to Judge***. Sagebrush Education Resources, 1998.

ISBN: 0613122143. (library binding) \$13.00 (Ages 7-9)

"Presents a collection of eighteen brief folktales in which the reader is asked to explain how the folk character lied and told the truth at the same time." Any of these tales would make a good introduction to discussing "being truthful" but still lying.

\_\_\_\_\_. ***More True Lies: 18 Tales for You to Judge.*** Harper Collins, 2001. ISBN: 0060291885. (library binding) \$15.89 (Ages 7-9)

"Presents a collection of eighteen brief folktales in which the reader is asked to explain how the folk character lied and told the truth at the same time."

Snyder, Margaret. ***Honesty.*** Rourke Book Co., 1999. ISBN: 1559162325. (Hardcover) \$26.60 (Ages 5-8)

Illustrations and simple text provide examples of being honest in everyday life.

Taylor, Stephen. ***To Tell the Truth.*** Stoddard Kids, 1997. ISBN: 0773730052. (Hardcover) \$13.95. (Ages 5-9)

Young Benjamin learns from his classmates that honesty is not always the best policy.

Thoennes Keller, Kristin. ***Honesty.*** Capstone Press, 2005. ISBN: 0736836810. (Hardcover) \$21.26 (Ages 6-9)

Explains what honesty is and why it is important in the home, at school, and in the community.

#### Teens

Avi. ***Nothing But the Truth: A Documentary Novel.*** Orchard Books, 2003.

ISBN: 0531059596. (Hardcover) \$16.95. (YA)

A ninth-grader's suspension for singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" during homeroom becomes a national news story, and leads to him and his teacher both leaving the school.