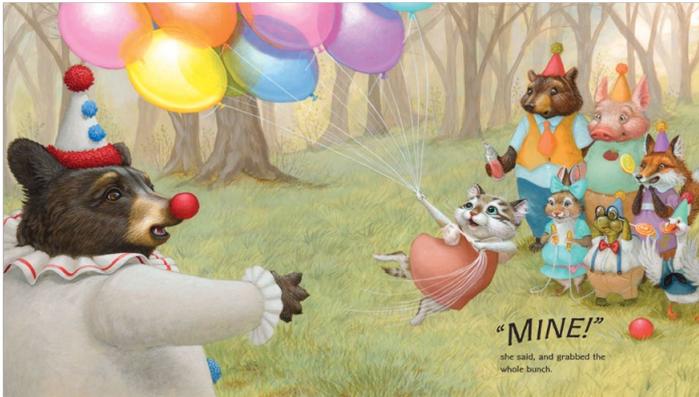


A Page in a Book[©]

RECOMMENDING THE BEST BOOKS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

By Gerry P. Smith



Sharing the Joy of Generosity

A pacifier, a bottle, a favorite toy, a security blanket – these are some of the first things that a young child senses are uniquely their own. But as toddlers age into the years of interactive play with their peers, and their landscape of ‘things’ broadens, learning to share can be the difference between frustrated tears and peace in the realm. The following titles explore the natural feelings children experience regarding their possessions (or things they want to possess) and open up positive conversations about sharing. With a focus on the good feelings that sharing can generate, these books give a boost to the joy of generosity!

BERNICE GETS CARRIED AWAY

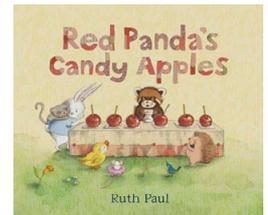


HANNAH E. HARRISON

Red Panda's Candy Apples

By Ruth Paul (Candlewick Press)

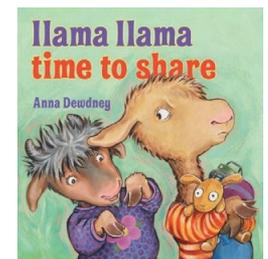
Red Panda makes the best sticky and sweet candy apples. So he decides to make some to sell, looking forward to the reward of coins in his jar. But he soon discovers that it's hard to let go of something that you'd like to keep (and eat) yourself. Red Panda's brisk business quickly leaves him with only one apple left, and his last two customers fighting over it. When the struggle over the last apple turns to tears, Red Panda remembers a secret solution that will let everyone enjoy a candy apple. Exploring the mixed feelings that we get when we share the things we love, the real joy of giving comes to the fore in this sweet title.



Llama Llama Time to Share

By Anna Dewdney (Viking / Penguin)

Children playing together for the first time can be a dance of mutual discovery as kids feel out each other's boundaries, seek out common interests, and learn what things are sometimes hard to share. When Llama Llama meets new neighbor Nelly Gnu for the first time, he's not sure what they will both enjoy playing together. After a cautious start, the two slowly discover a shared interest in building blocks and it looks like the play date is going to be successful. But when Nelly starts to play with Llama Llama's beloved Fuzzy Llama doll, all bets are off as tears (the wet kind) and tears (the ripping kind) erupt between the new playmates. With parents to help guide the way, Llama Llama and Nelly find a path toward sharing that mends the moment and paves the way toward smoother shared play in the future for these new friends.



Bernice Gets Carried Away

By Hannah E. Harrison (Dial / Penguin)

Bernice is having a lousy time at her friend's party. She receives the only piece of cake without a frosting rose. The pinata is opened before she even has a chance to take a swing at it (and the only candy she finds from it is one stepped-on gumdrop). But when the balloons arrive, Bernice isn't taking any chances. She grabs the all the balloons – which quickly lift her up and away from the party! As Bernice floats away, she passes others who are having equally bad days. Sharing her bounty of balloons becomes the key to boosting the moods of others as well as getting Bernice back down to the party. Touching on the real feelings that can spark possessive reactions, Harrison's expressive illustrations relate the journey to generosity with warm humor that will delight both children and adult read-aloud partners.