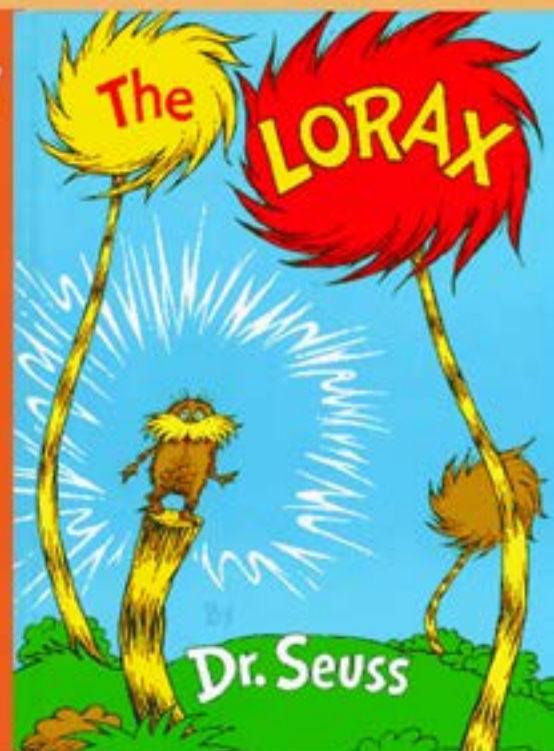
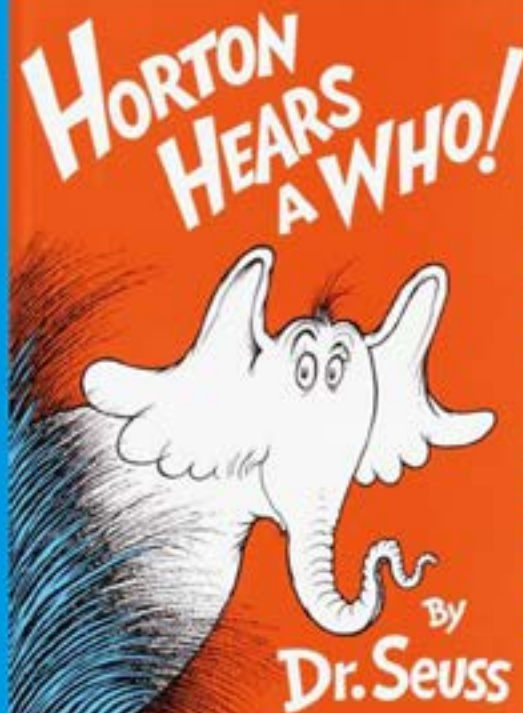
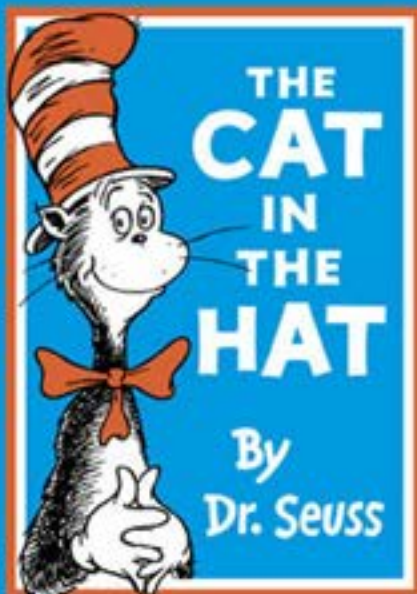


## Project Four: Picture Book

**Task:** to produce material intended for publication in a children's book, intended to deal with a contentious subject matter of your choosing.

**Ideas:** the different subject matters I have considered include divorce, disability, adoption, bullying or self esteem.

**Inspirations:** My initial thoughts for inspiration for this project was Dr. Seuss. I would like to be able to create a book with illustrations similar to Dr. Seuss' books in terms of the hand-drawn sketch look with black outlines and block colours to fill them in, which I presume is done digitally. As well as this I would like to create a story in the style of his books, too. Including rhyming and poem to give a catchy effect.



# Existing Books

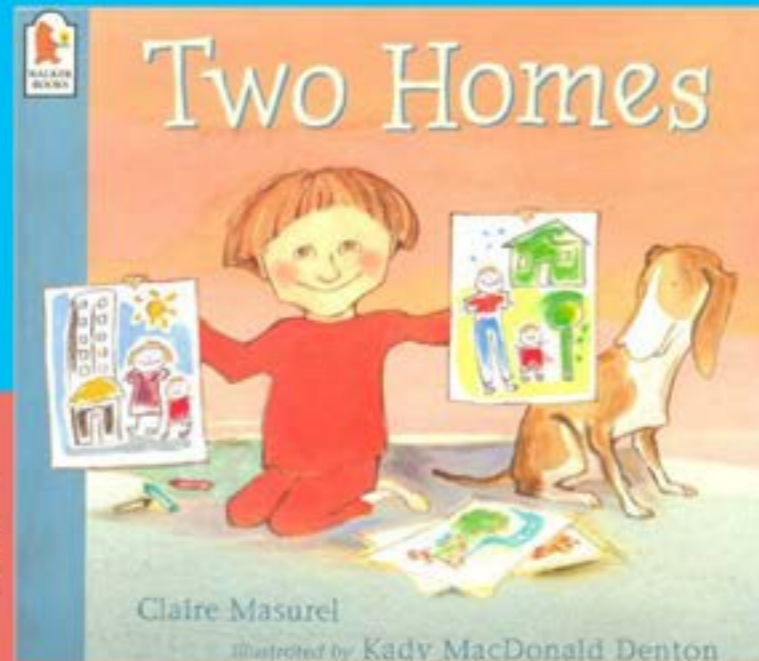
About Divorce...

## Mum and Dad Glue by Kes Gray



A little boy tries to find a pot of parent glue to stick his mum and dad back together. His parents have come undone and he wants to mend their marriage, stick their smiles back on and make them better. This rhyming story is brilliantly told with a powerful message that even though his parents may be broken, their love for him is not.

## Two Homes by Claire Masurel



In this award-winning picture book classic about divorce, Alex has two homes - a home where Daddy lives and a home where Mummy lives. Alex has two front doors, two bedrooms and two very different favourite chairs. He has a toothbrush at Mummy's and a toothbrush at Daddy's. But whether Alex is with Mummy or Daddy, one thing stays the same: Alex is loved by them both - always. This gently reassuring story focuses on what is gained rather than what is lost when parents divorce, while the sensitive illustrations, depicting two unique homes in all their small details, firmly establish Alex's place in both of them. Two Homes will help children - and parents - embrace even the most difficult of changes with an open and optimistic heart.

# Existing Books

About Disability...

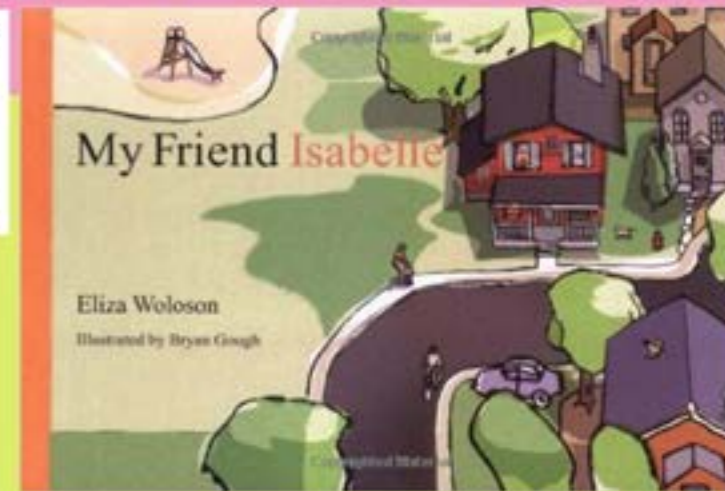
## We'll Paint the Octopus Red by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen



As six-year-old Emma anticipates the birth of her new baby brother or sister, she vividly imagines all of the things they can do together. Emma feels ready to be a big sister! Then when the baby is born, her dad tells her that it's a boy and he has something called Down syndrome. Finally she asks, "If Isaac has this Down thing, then what can't he do?". Her dad thinks about it, then tells her that as long as they are patient with him, and help him when he needs it, there probably isn't anything Isaac can't do. In this touching story, Emma helps her father as much as he helps her to realise that Isaac is the baby they dreamed of.

## My Friend Isabelle by Eliza Woloson

(2004 iParenting Media Award Winner) Isabelle and Charlie are friends. They both like to draw, dance, read, and play at the park. They both like to eat Cheerios. They both cry if their feelings are hurt. And, like most friends, they are also different from each other. Isabelle has Down syndrome. Charlie doesn't.



### Thoughts:

Again, these books are very literal in the message they are representing especially with using people within the stories. I find the designs less inviting but the illustrations good none-the-less. I feel now that maybe I don't have enough knowledge in the area of disability to create a book on it myself, but I might still have a go to find out. I would want to create, as previously mentioned, a book that appears to be a story about one thing but has a hidden message.

### Thoughts:

These books both seem to tell a story that is what it is: about a child whose parents has divorced and how it has effected them. If I were to tackle this subject, I would rather do it so that from first glance, it would not appear to be about divorce, but would have the a message relating to it inside. This is the same with any subject I choose. I may also not use people in the book but instead replace them with animals, objects, or whatever seems to fit with the choice I make. I like the illustrations for 'Mum and Dad Glue' - it shows it as modern and trendy.

# Existing Books

About Adoption...

## My New Mom & Me by Renata Galindo



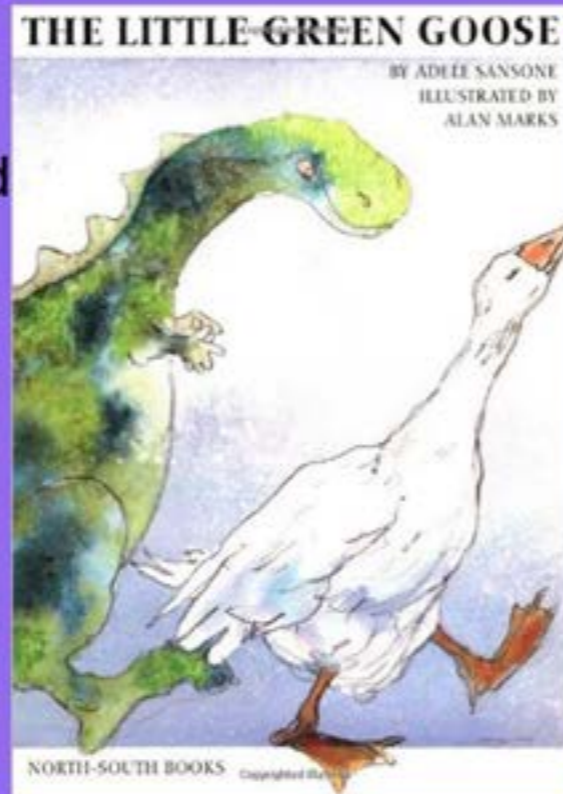
When the puppy comes to live with his new mom, he is nervous. After all, his mom has stripes and he doesn't. But his mom says she likes that they look different, and soon the puppy likes it, too. (And who cares what anyone else thinks!)

These two books are much more along the lines of what I would like to create myself. I may use animals as characters, too. I think this has a better effect for the child reading/listening.

I like the illustrations for 'My New Mom & Me' they are simple but effective and something that I would possibly be able to create myself, as someone who cannot draw.

I like the sound of 'The Little Green Goose' as a story but the illustration style seems a bit too old fashioned and I'd like to make something more modern. However, the drawings are basically just a black outline filled in with paints which could be something I would have a go at. Trying different styles will be useful to see which I'm best at.

## The Little Green Goose by Adele Sansone

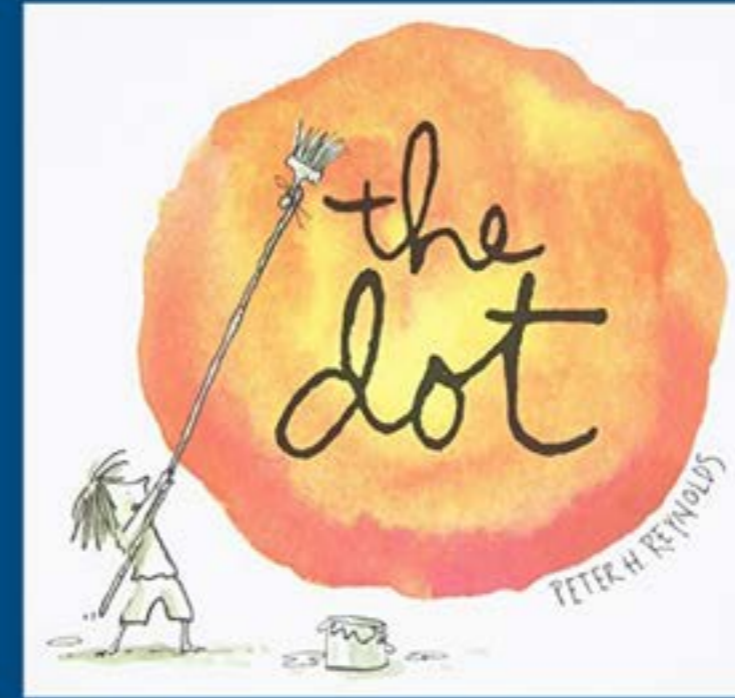


Mr Goose adores children, and he longs for a chick all of his own. But, since he has no wife and cannot have a child of his own, he adopts a most unusual egg and settles down to hatch it. Soon a strange green 'chick', with paws, a green skin and a tail emerges. Mr Goose is blissfully happy with a chick that calls him 'Daddy', and the little green goose loves to be tucked under Daddy's wing. But the other farm animals ruin everything by telling the little creature he is not a goose, and should go and find his real parents. Several lessons of life are simply shown in this charming story. Told with gentle humour, this story shows children that happy families are not all alike.

# Existing Books

About Self-Esteem

## The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds



Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw - she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. "There!" she says.

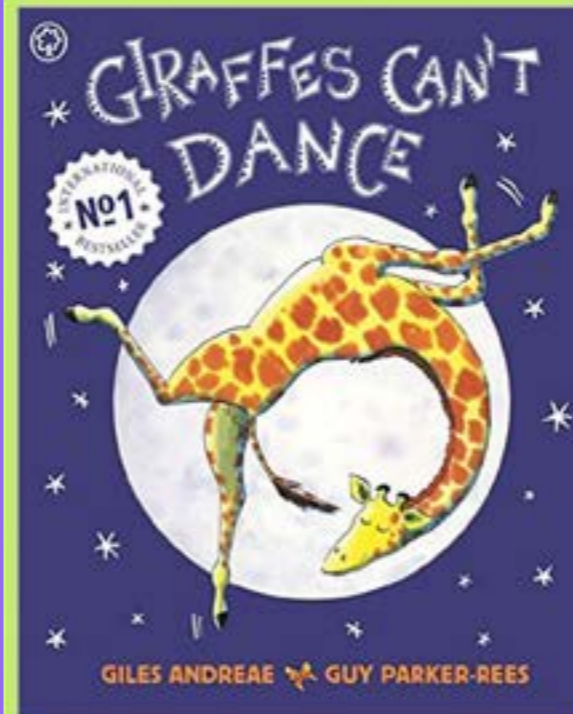
That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery. That special moment is the core of Peter H. Reynolds's delicate fable about the creative spirit in all of us.

The cover of this book catches my eye as I really like the style of the drawings and the typography. The girl is not drawn to detail and looks like a simple sketch, which I like.

## Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae

Number One bestseller *Giraffes Can't Dance* from author Giles Andreae has been delighting children for over 15 years. Gerald the tall giraffe would love to join in with the other animals at the Jungle Dance, but everyone knows that giraffes can't dance . . . or can they?

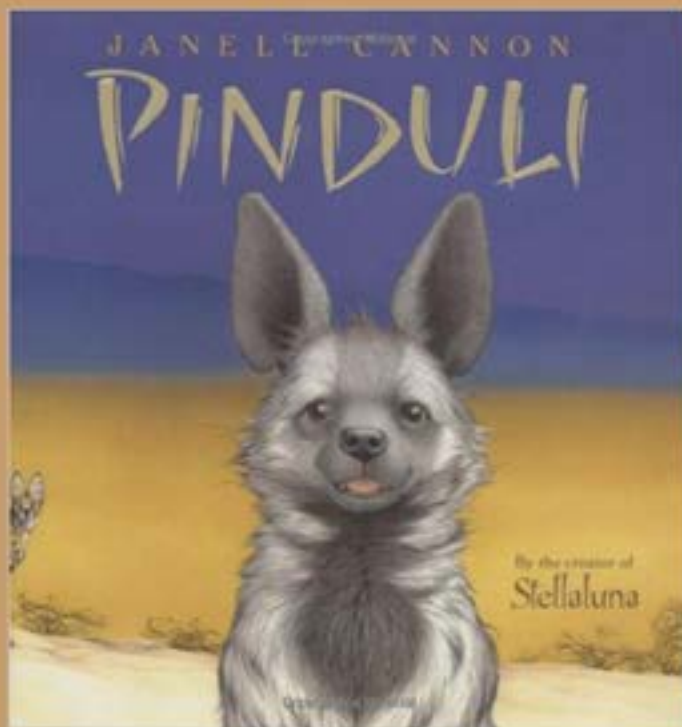
I like the style of this book and the story itself by the use of animals. The cover is attractive, bright and colourful and has a good effect. It seems from these two books that writing about self esteem gives the most fun story lines and it is the topic I am edging more towards as I feel I can relate to it more.



# Existing Books

## About Bullying...

### Pinduli by Janell Cannon



Pinduli's mama has always told her that she's the most beautiful hyena ever. But Dog, Lion, and Zebra don't think so. Why else would they make her feel so rotten about her big ears, her fuzzy mane, and her wiggly stripes? Poor Pinduli just wants to disappear--and she tries everything she can think of to make that happen. Yet nothing goes her way. Nothing, that is, until a case of mistaken identity lets her show the creatures of the African savanna how a few tiny words--bad or good--can create something enormous.

I couldn't find many books on bullying through a quick search on Google that I felt I wanted to add to my research. I like the sound and look of 'Pinduli' but the images are not something I would

have the ability to make myself. I feel bullying is another subject I would be able to relate to most and therefore this could cause the end result to be better than if I chose another subject. After doing this research I feel that bullying and self-esteem are my two options, I just need to come up with a story, which I am going to do before illustrating.

I still feel inspired to create a book like Dr. Seuss' but I will be doing more research into books by specific, popular authors to see what other inspirations I come across.

