Summer Jackson: Grown Up
by Teresa E. Harris
Summer Jackson wants to be grown up NOW, so she dons her mother’s blazer, reads the newspaper at the breakfast table, and meets with her second-grade clients during recess, but Summer rethinks her plan when she wants to go out and play.

Please, Puppy, Please
by Spike Lee
Two toddlers take on the responsibility of caring for their first pet and soon have their hands full as they chase after the energetic new family member.

One Word from Sophia
by Jim Averbeck
Wanting a pet giraffe for her birthday, exuberant little Sophia uses presentations and pie charts to negotiate with her reluctant family.

A Pocket for Corduroy
by Don Freeman
A toy bear searches for a pocket in a laundromat.

Princess Hair
by Sharee Miller
Little girls pretending to be princesses celebrate the different shapes, textures, and styles of their black hair.

When Grandmama Sings
by Margaree King Mitchell
A girl joins her grandmother on a singing tour of the segregated South, knowing songs can bring people together.

Summer Sun Rise
by W. Nikola-Lisa
An African American boy enjoys a summer day on his family’s farm, milking the cows, fishing, and having fun.

Come on, Rain
by Karen Hesse
Tess, her friends, and their Mamas join in a joyous rain dance when their prayers are answered and the skies let loose after a long drought has parched the land.

Twenty Yawns
by Jane Smiley
A lyrical bedtime tale evokes the splashy fun of the beach and the quietude of a moonlit night through the story of a little girl who wakes up in the dark and wonders how she will get back to sleep.

Characters of Color
Recommended Picture Books

Hot Day on Abbott Avenue
by Karen English
When two best friends get into a fight and stand fast on their front porch in anticipation of an apology, the only thing that gets them to budge is the sound of an exciting game of double-dutch, in a touching story about being and having a best friend.

Ada Twist, Scientist
by Andrea Beaty
The story of a little girl who, in the spirit of such visionaries as Marie Curie and Ada Lovelace, diligently applies her fledgling scientific prowess to advance her understanding of the world.

Grace for President
by Kelly S. DiPucchio
Excited by the idea of becoming the country's first female president, Grace joins the school's presidential campaign to get her career on track, and must use all her campaigning skills to win over the student body.

Hank’s Big Day: The Story of a Bug
by Evan Kuhlman
A very busy pill bug embarks on a daily routine of nibbling leaves, climbing sticks, avoiding skateboarders, and playing with a human best friend in the backyard before returning home to his cozy rock.
**The Big Bed**
by Bunmi Laditan
A loving family navigates the laugh-out-loud efforts of a little girl to sneak her way into her parents' big bed.

**Alfie: (The Turtle That Disappeared)**
by Thyra Heder
Told from the perspective of both the girl, Nia, and her pet turtle, Alfie, and describes what happens when he disappears on the eve of her seventh birthday to find her a special present.

**My Cold Plum Lemon Pie Bluesy Mood**
by Tameka Fryer Brown
Jamie describes his mood throughout the day as he changes from an “easy green mood” while drawing a picture for his sister to a “brooding black mood” when he is teased for doing so.

**Full, Full, Full of Love**
by Trish Cooke
For young Jay Jay, Sunday dinner at Gran’s house is full of hugs and kisses, tasty dishes, all kinds of fishes, happy faces, and love.

**Flower Garden**
by Eve Bunting
A little girl and her father purchase a birthday garden for her mother—pansies, tulips, daffodils, geraniums, and daisies—and hurry home to prepare their birthday surprise.

**Busy-Eyed Day**
by Anne Marie Pace
Two siblings, along with their grandmother and mother, spend a day taking in the sights at the park.

**My Brother Charlie**
by Holly Robinson Peete
A young girl proudly describes her relationship with her autistic brother, evaluating the ways in which he is like other children, the behaviors that mark his disorder, and the qualities that make him unique.

**I Got the Rhythm**
by Connie Schofield-Morrison
An exuberant little girl hears music in the sounds all around her that inspires her to sniff, snap, and shake before bursting into an impromptu dance.

**Max and the Tag-Along Moon**
by Floyd Cooper
Saying good-bye after a visit with his grandfather who reminds him that they both live under the same moon, young Max is astonished to observe the moon following him home.

**Jabari Jumps**
by Gaia Cornwall
Ready to try jumping off the diving board, little Jabari stretches his muscles and squeezes his dad’s hand when the big moment arrives, in a story that celebrates finding one’s courage.

**I Am Famous**
by Tara Luebbe
Kiely knows she is famous! The paparazzi (her parents) follow her every move, documenting it all with cameras. It’s exhausting being famous, but someone has to do it!

**A Night Out with Mama**
by Quvenzhané Wallis
Glitz, glamour, and family in the story of a little girl who prepares for a special night by dressing up and riding in the biggest car she has ever seen so that she can, among other things, share ice cream with her mama.

**Monster Trouble**
by Lane Fredrickson
Unafraid of the monsters who interfere with her bedtime, Winifred Schnitzel tries to find a way to scare them away.