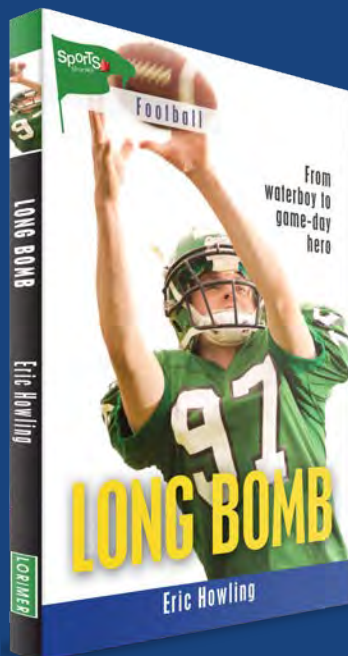
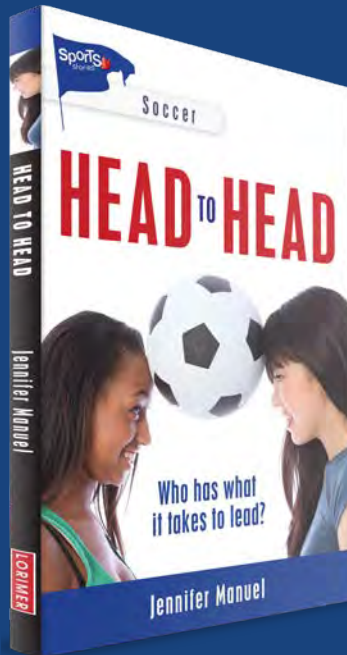
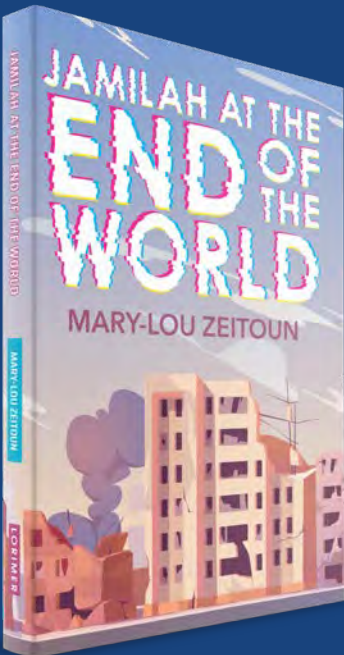
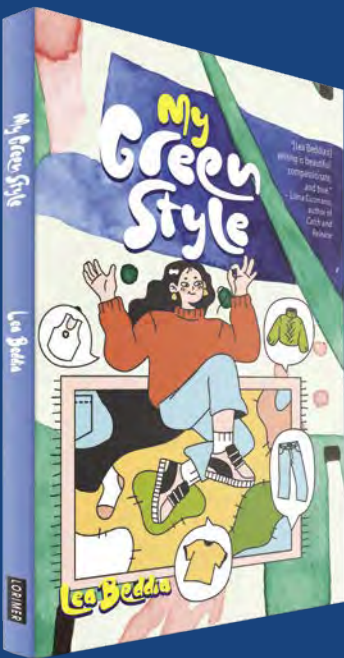


2026 Social Awareness in stories

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



Social Awareness in stories

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For more titles and information please visit
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Middle School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN:9781459414280

Imprint:Lorimer

Publication Date:2020-09-15

Social Emotional Skill:
Social Awareness

Head to Head

(by Jennifer Manuel)

A teen soccer captain must overcome rivalry with her co-captain, learning empathy and teamwork as they grow into leaders and guide their diverse girls' team in this energetic story about collaboration and growth.

More about the book:

Nominated for the Red Cedar Book Award

With characters who display diversity in ethnicity and leadership style, *Head to Head* is based in Victoria, British Columbia, and focuses on empowering girls to work together and develop leadership qualities. Readers will instantly recognize the struggle of dealing with someone they don't get along with as main character Emika struggles to connect with her co-captain on the soccer team named Maram. Rather than portraying others as inherently difficult and avoidable, *Head to Head* instead illuminates healthy relationships and teamwork, particularly for young girls.

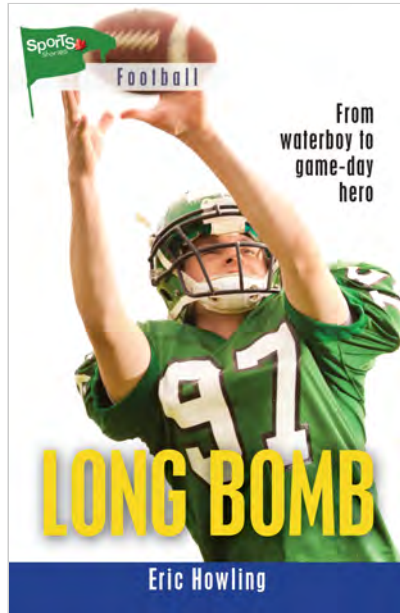


JENNIFER MANUEL was the 2017 winner of the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and was named "A Writer to Watch" by the CBC in 2016. Manuel teaches elementary and high school in the traditional territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth peoples where she coaches the youth basketball team. She lives in Duncan, British Columbia.

Praise

"Features a diverse cast of characters, including one with cerebral palsy, and the book celebrates confident girls in sports."

— School Library Journal



ISBN:9781459414846

Imprint:Lorimer

Publication Date:2020-02-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Social Awareness

Long Bomb

(by Eric Howling)

A shy Calgary teen who doubts his abilities steps onto the football field, finding courage as he stands up to bullying, overcomes self-doubt, and learns the value of teamwork and self-belief.

More about the book:

Ed Warnicki used to play football in the park with his dad and dream of being a great receiver. Now fourteen, he secretly hopes to play for the Calgary High Mustangs team, but instead settles for the job of waterboy.

The team's quarterback is constantly bullying Ed and one day at practice throws a ball right at Ed's head. Ed's instincts kick in and he makes a decent catch! So, when the team's top receiver gets injured, Ed joins the team as back-up receiver. Annoyed, Tyrone won't pass to Ed, and even calls a play he knows could get Ed hurt. But the big game against their rival team puts school pride and Ed's confidence on the line. Will Tyrone throw to Ed? Can Ed catch the crucial pass?



ERIC HOWLING is the author of ten books including *Head Hunter*, *Red Zone Rivals*, *Hoop Magic*, and *Run and Gun* in the Lorimer Sports Stories series. His books have been shortlisted for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award, named *Resource Link's* Year's Best and picked as CCBC Best Books selections. Eric lives and plays sports in Calgary, Alberta

Praise

"... the in-depth game play will attract sports fans."

— School Library Journal



ISBN:9781459420236

Imprint:Lorimer

Publication Date:2025-05-20

Social Emotional Skill:
Social Awareness

My Green Style

(by Lea Beddia)

A passionate Montreal teen channels her love of fashion into environmental activism, challenging fast fashion ideals and navigating friendship tensions as she promotes sustainability through upcycled style.

More about the book:

Montreal teen Pearl is passionate and dedicated both about fashion and the environment. She decides to make a point at her school's fashion event by up-cycling donated, used clothes in exciting styles. But not everyone, not even some of her friends, is on board with ditching fast fashion for thrift-store creativity.

While Pearl wants to showcase up-cycled and secondhand clothing, her best friend is drawn to the appeal of fast fashion. As they navigate these contrasting ideals, a strong desire to raise awareness about the fashion industry's environmental impact sparks a call to activism.

Balancing the excitement of activism with its challenges, the teens realize that change is harder than it seems. But the friends come together to embark on a journey that celebrates the potential of sustainable fashion.



LEA BEDDIA is an author, storyteller and educator. Born and raised in Montreal, she now teaches school in Joliette, Quebec where she lives with her husband and three children.

Praise

"...well-written and very realistic ... I can't say enough great things about this book. Highly recommended."

—CM: Canadian Review of Materials, on [Outta Here](#)



ISBN:9781459417540

Imprint:Lorimer

Publication Date:2023-09-26

Social Emotional Skill:
Social Awareness

School Statue Showdown

(by David Starr)

In a small BC town, a teen's search for the truth behind his grandfather's defaced statue leads to an emotional reckoning with Indigenous history, colonialism, and family legacy.

More about the book:

This mystery/adventure set in a small BC lumber town is a fictional account of an event that is similar to many across the country – a sudden conflict over a school name and the historic figure it recognizes.

In this book, the son of the owners of the town's lumber mill goes to a school named after his grandfather. When his grandfather's statue is splashed with paint as a protest, his best friend from the nearby reserve supports the protest. To defend his grandfather's reputation, he digs into town history to learn more about his family. What he learns about the experience of the nearby First Nation community leads to a whole new understanding of his family's legacy – and the town's troubling past.



DAVID STARR is an author and high school principal. David has authored multiple books, including Lorimer's Soccer United: Team Refugee titles *Golden Goal* and *Golden Game*. David lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

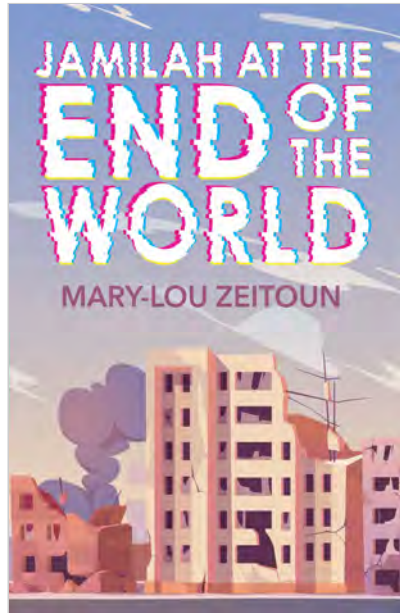
Praise

"A thought-provoking title that explores integrity in the era of truth and reconciliation."

— Kirkus Reviews

High School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN:9781459416482

Imprint:Lorimer

Publication Date:2021-08-24

Social Emotional Skill:
Social Awareness

Jamilah at the End of the World

(by Mary-Lou Zeitoun)

A passionate Toronto teen overwhelmed by climate anxiety clashes with her family, but through protest and activism she finds solidarity—and begins to reconcile her convictions with her family’s expectations.

More about the book:

Set against the backdrop of a brutal summer heatwave, seventeen-year-old Jamilah Monsour makes plans for what she’s certain is the beginning of the climate change catastrophe that will end the world. Luckily, Jamilah knows what has to be done to save her family: transform the back alley garage into a bunker.

When an electricity blackout strikes, Jamilah’s climate change anxiety kicks into high gear and she ends up staying out all night, infuriating her father. Tension at home erupts and Jamilah runs away and joins a climate change protest where she gains some hope for the future. When she returns home, her parents see just how deep Jamilah’s convictions run and the family discusses her attending university to study environmental science, a plan they can all agree on.



MARY-LOU ZEITOUN is a Palestinian-Canadian author, essayist, arts journalist and activist. Her novel *13* was the YA winner of the 2008 New England Book Festival award. She divides her time between Toronto and Ottawa, Ontario.

Praise

"An appealing title for environmentally minded reluctant readers."

— Kirkus Reviews

2026 Social Emotional Learning Catalogue

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