

Cooperation

I can work with others.

Books

**A Big Guy Took My Ball!* by Mo Willems

Piggie finds a huge ball and is having a great time, until a big guy takes it away. Gerald promises to help, but there is more to the story than Piggie and Gerald first think. Can they cooperate with the big guy so everyone can play?

**It's Mine* by Leo Lionni

Three frogs fight over everything, until a big storm comes and they learn that there is comfort and joy in sharing and working together.

**Swimmy* by Leo Lionni

Little fish get eaten up quickly in the big ocean, but if they work together, they can find a way to outsmart the bigger fish.

**Little Blue Truck* by Alice Shertle

The Little Blue Truck is friendly to all of the animals as he drives along. Dump Truck is too busy and important to pause and say hello. When Dump Truck gets stuck, Little Blue stops to help and gets stuck too. All of his friends will have to work together to help him and Dump Truck out!

Duck in the Truck by Jez Alborough (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plCm8MigUQI>)

Duck's truck gets stuck in the muck. As more friends join together to try to get it out, will it finally work?

**Pumpkin Soup* by Helen Cooper

Cat, Duck, and Squirrel live together and have special jobs to make delicious pumpkin soup. But eventually they get sick of their jobs and try to change it up, chaos ensues and they fight. Can they find a way to cooperate and still make delicious soup?

**Armadilly Chili* by Helen Ketteman

In this desert version of The Little Red Hen, Billy Armadilly wants help gathering the ingredients for her famous chili. When none of her friends will help, she refuses to share the chili. Sitting down to eat alone, she realizes that some things are better shared with friends and her friends come to her with apologies and peace offerings.

* indicates a book in our library

**The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)* by Philemon Sturges

In this retelling of The Little Red Hen, no one will help Hen make the pizza. When Hen takes the pizza out of the oven, it is too big for just her so she invites her friends to eat and they happily agree and offer to do the cleaning.

The Crayon Box that Talked by Shane DeRolf (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqiWQUUw0jE>)

The crayons just can't get along. They are always arguing! The little girl decided to take them home and make a beautiful picture to show they how their colors are best when they work together.

**That Apple is Mine* by Katya Arnold

Three animals accidentally work together to get the last apple from a tree. But who will get to eat it?

**The Turnip* by Pierr Morgan

A farmer plants a turnip that grows so large he can't pull it! More and more people come to help him pull until finally a field mouse gives the last little bit of help out out it comes.

Digital Resources

"Let's Cooperate!" Song (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AA9MD2ceOBI>)

A song (about 7 minutes) with accompanying illustrations about cooperation.

"That's Cooperation" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kihZUsADQTQ>)

Big Bird sings a song on Sesame Street about cooperation.

"Street Garden Cooperation" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gR34PJOI3K8>)

A song about cooperating to make a community garden. The catchy refrain is "Cooperation makes it happen!"

"Tuba and Drum - Elmo and Telly Cooperate" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQjXhnlOdg0>)

Telly wants to practice his tuba and Elmo wants to play the drum. They work together to play a song!

Articles for Adults

"Common Ground: Teaching Kids the Benefits of Working Together" (<https://www.edutopia.org/common-ground>)

A quick refresher on the long and short term benefits of teaching children to cooperate.

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“Building Cooperation Skills In and Out of the Early Childhood Classroom” (<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/connecting-families-1/>)

Suggestion for parents of how to build cooperation skills at home.

“Turn-Taking and Choosing Who Goes First: Play Fair” (<http://character.org/lessons/lesson-plans/elementary/col-john-robinson-school-3/>)

A lesson play for teaching students about the importance of taking turns and suggestions of ways to choose who goes first.