

## Story Resources (Movies, Books, and Links)

This section provides ideas for additional storytelling resources along with some extra tools for exploring daily themes. Some of these are children’s storybooks or movies while others are recommended as tools for leaders. It is recommended that you read through the list and imagine how you might use any resource before making a purchase. InsideOut has no relationship with the publishers on this list other than the one Chalice Press book listed. These are simply recommendations from our writes and leadership team to help equip your camp. You will find age-specific recommendations from this list at the end of each day’s Daily Activities.

### Books and Resources for Staff:

***Jesus and Nonviolence: A Third Way*, by Walter Wink (Augsburg Fortress Press, 2003).** Powerful scriptural exploration of Jesus’ teachings on nonviolence and social change. Great tool for camp staff and highly recommended to those “keynoting” or “preaching” at camp.

***Pilgrim Prayer: The New Ecumenical Prayer Cycle*, by World Council of Churches (WCC Publications, 2018).** Information on faith communities around the world and prayers from Christians who live there.

***The Witness of Religion in an Age of Fear*, by Michael Kinnamon (WJK, 2017).** Significant reflection on the power of faith in the face of disproportional fears. Another great tool for all staff who want to better understand the challenge of peacemaking.

***The Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding*, by Lisa Schirch (Good Books, 2004).** Part of a series generated from Eastern Mennonite University. This is a great introduction to the tangible process of peacemaking.

***Ferguson and Faith*, by Leah Gunning Francis (Chalice Press, 2015).** Observations and reflections from clergy and young activist leaders who participated in the events that followed the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. Explores the role of faith leaders in times of crisis and social justice movements.

## DAY 1

***The Peace Book*, by Todd Parr (Hachette Book Group, 2010).** A wonderful introduction to the many themes *Peace Works* will explore.

***The Little Kids’ Table*, by Mary Ann McCabe Riehle (Sleeping Bear Press, 2015).** A children’s book telling the tale of a group of young kids at the “Little Kids’ Table.” Wonderful illustrations and amusing rhymes make this book fun for campers of all ages. Sharing a story like this can help kids think about connections between their own table experiences and God’s table.

***Aloha Is*, by Tammy Paikai (Island Heritage Publishing, 2006).** Talks about the different meanings of the word *aloha*. Beautiful illustrations and simple text make this a good book for young children to learn about *aloha* and Hawaiian culture.

***Baby Honu’s Incredible Journey*, by Tammy Yee (Island Heritage Publishing, 1997).** Story of a young turtle’s birth, growth, and discovery of the world around him.

***Parable of the Great Banquet*. (KidsHubTV)**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4f7DZZgAPpY> . Two-minute animated version of the parable with a blend of biblical and modern imagery.

***The Children’s Bible in 365 Stories*, by Mary Batchelor (David C. Cook, 1995) “The Big Dinner Party” #273.** Illustrated and simplified versions of stories provide another voice for storytelling.

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[Pocketcultures.com](http://pocketcultures.com) – How to Say Hello in 20 Languages.

“**Table of Friendship and Love**,” by Bryan Sirchio (Crosswind Music, 1995). Available on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). This is a story song that tells about two very different students who showed others what it means to share a table and welcome others. [HawaiiFloralLei.com](http://HawaiiFloralLei.com) – [www.hawaiiflowerlei.com/leitradition.aspx](http://www.hawaiiflowerlei.com/leitradition.aspx)

**The Big Brag**, by Dr. Seuss (Random House, 1998). Story of some animals who feel they have to one-up each other in a bragging contest and the worm who humbled them.

**Les Miserables** (Universal Pictures, 2012). The scene in which the bishop welcomes Jean Valjean into his home brilliantly illustrates the radical hospitality of today’s theme.

**Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas** (Universal Pictures, 2000). Cindy Lou Who wants the Grinch included in Christmas, even though he’s smelly and mean.

**Ratatouille** (Pixar Animated Studios with Walt Disney Pictures, 2007). Remy the rat dreams of becoming a great chef, even though his family doesn’t approve. With his brother at his side, Remy finds himself in the kitchen of his chef hero in Paris. His adventures and antics in the kitchen remind audiences of all ages that food brings people together. Clips from this can help young children to connect with the story of the Great Banquet or provide a backup rain/weather option!

## DAY 2

**Zandi Finds Ubuntu**, by Tereria Trent (Halo Publishing, 2016). Zandi guides readers through the African countryside around her home, making connections about the natural world around her. This story can help campers put the word *ubuntu* into context as an African term, while also exploring how to achieve *ubuntu* in life.

**Red: A Crayon’s Story**, by Michael Hall (Greenwillow, 2015). A blue crayon is mislabeled as red, leading to funny and insightful struggles with the crayon’s teacher, friends, and family. With the help of Scissors, Blue discovers what readers have always known—they are Red! Use this book with campers to help them recognize their value, even if others don’t see it.

**The Invisible Boy**, by Trudy Ludwig (Knopf Books, 2013). Brian feels invisible, like no one ever notices him. When Justin moves to his school, they are paired on a class project that helps them both grow, and Brian finally feels known.

The “**Allegory of the Long Spoons**”, YouTube (<https://youtu.be/7mGVOekKMRs>). Based on an ancient story about hunger and sharing, this animated video is part of Caritas’s “One Human Family, Food for All” campaign. This one-minute short provides a great visual representation of *ubuntu*. Campers could even try to replicate the parable!

**Are You My Neighbor? /The Gourds Must Be Crazy** (Big Idea Entertainment, 1984). A short VeggieTales video that talks about the different gifts people possess. Junior Asparagus must help the USS Applepies when they lose power. It ends up that two of the “new guys” have the skill needed to save the ship. This is one of two episodes on this video. The other one would be applicable to the Good Samaritan story.

**It Takes a Village**, by Jane Cowen-Fletcher (Scholastic Press, 1994). Set in a west African village, this is a story of family and connection based on an African proverb.

**Aesop’s Fables: “The Bundle of Sticks.”** Old wisdom about the strength of being connected and the vulnerability of anyone on their own.

**Anthropologist’s story**, credited to Lia Diskin. Many versions of this story are found in blogs. An anthropologist offered a food prize to children for winning a race only to watch them all go together as a group. Upon questioning

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the children about the behavior, he is confronted with *ubuntu* as one child responds, “How can one of us be happy if the others are sad?”

***Maybe God Is Like That Too*, by Jennifer Grant (Sparkhouse Family, 2017).** A picture book describing how a camper sees the Body of Christ throughout their everyday life. The book is set in the city. It helps young campers connect ideas with concrete examples.

***When God Made You*, by Matthew Paul Turner (WaterBrook, 2017).** Beautiful pictures and rhymes assure children that God made them unique and beautiful. Doesn’t take the next step to connectedness but is a great reminder about how special each child is.

***Stone Soup*, by Marcia Brown (Aladdin Books, 1997).** Story of a community coming together to create what none could on their own.

***All Our Relatives*, by Paul Goble (World Wisdom, 2005).** Collections of stories and traditions from Native American communities

***Voltron: Legendary Defender* (Dreamworks Animation, 2016).** Voltron is a cartoon adapted from a Japanese anime story with a 1980s version and a new Netflix version. Voltron is created from the combining of five spaceships that look like giant lions. Each lion has a personality of its own and is piloted by a young hero. The story is familiar to many campers, and always proves the importance of cooperation and coming together to face problems.

***The Jungle Book* (Disney, 2016).** In this CGI version of the story, we hear this poem about community, “Now this is the law of the jungle, as old and as true as the sky, and the wolf that shall keep it may prosper, but the wolf that shall break it must die. As the creeper that girdles the tree trunk, the law runneth forward and back; For the strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack.”

***Black Panther* (Disney / Marvel, 2018).** Story of a king whose nation wrestles with how to share its giftedness and its fear of losing its identity. Kings of the past guide the new king (who is also a superhero) as he leads his people into the future.

***Invictus* (Warner Bros., 2009).** Intertwined stories from South Africa of Nelson Mandela forming a new government administration and the national rugby team’s evolution into a unifying force. Powerful story of peacemaking and interconnection.

***Cool Runnings* (Walt Disney Pictures, 1993).** Story of the Jamaican bobsled team overcoming their own individual limitations, discovering their strength through the eyes of each other.

***A Bug’s Life* (Walt Disney Pictures, 1998).** A colony of ants find their strength together, while also making room for misfit outsiders. They become more together than they could have separately, while individually discovering their personal strength.

### DAY 3

**Shalom Sesame Series (Sesame Street and Rechov Sumsum, 1986).** A series of videos that explore Hebrew letters and provide a window into Jewish culture and Israel.

***Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom, Salaam*, by Fawzia Gilani-Williams, Chiara Fedele (Kar-Ben Pub, 2015).** A children’s storybook about two young girls: Yaffa, who is Jewish, and Fatima, who is Muslim. A beautiful retelling of how different cultures can help each other and the importance of friendship.

***Everybody Says Shalom*, by Leslie A. Kimmelman (Random House, 2015).** A children’s storybook with examples of how in Israel *shalom* is used to say hello, goodbye, and most importantly, peace.

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**God’s Story, “Jacob and Esau,” Crossroads Kids’ Club** (<https://youtu.be/hGs1WfRKIoM>). Short video that tells the story of Jacob and Esau from the beginning, and tells about them later reconciling, just not in detail.

**The Holy Tales: Bible, “Jacob Makes Amends,”** (<https://youtu.be/sl6lrTPo5LY>). Animated story about Jacob’s life after leaving home. Good overview but animation of Bible characters is very Eurocentric.

**Alice Through the Looking Glass (Disney, 2016).** Story centers around the events that made the Queen of Hearts so mean. Sibling rivalry and family conflict are part of many characters’ stories, and healing is the hope of all.

**Carpenter Story, by David Wilcox,** <https://youtu.be/wvJur79mJDk> . Story of a traveling handyman who is hired to build a fence between two feuding farmers, but instead builds a bridge between their farms.

**11 Birthdays, by Wendy Mass (Scholastic, 2010).** Short novel about two friends who share a birthday and for the first time will celebrate apart due to an argument. Like the movie, “Ground Hog Day,” One of the girls wakes up the next day to discover she is reliving the same day. As she tries different options with each do-over, she learns about herself and the power we each have to impact the world.

**Tikki Tickki Tembo (Square Fish 2007)** – Story of a boy with a really long name who falls down a well. The “honor” of being firstborn and having a long name becomes a burden as his younger brother goes for help but is hindered by having to repeat the long name each time he asks. Honor, pride and playing favorites are revealed to be sources of conflict that are less important than being a family.

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat (Rice/Weber, 1982).** This musical version of the Genesis story brings the characters to life and

helps youth understand what happens after the birthright is stolen.

**The Lion King (Disney, 1994).** Scar’s killing of Mufasa and manipulation of Simba provide a parallel to the Jacob and Esau story—the desire for power leads to bad behavior and brokenness.

**Coco (Disney Pixar, 2017).** Story of Miguel and his journey into the past hurts of his family. As a young child who is always in conflict with his family and their expectations for his future, Miguel seeks someone who will understand him. Looking to his ancestors, he unravels a mystery at the heart of his family’s conflict and learns the importance of forgiveness.

**Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, by J.K. Rowling (Arthur A. Levine Books, 2009).** [www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzQE\\_6Gvg\\_U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzQE_6Gvg_U) -Ron and Harry function like brothers but the weight of the horcrux makes the anger between them explode and their friendship is broken. We see the importance of relationship and reconciliation even when seemingly larger problems loom.

**The Zax, by Dr. Seuss (Random House, 1953).** Story of two stubborn people who refuse to give way to each other. The whole world goes on around them while they pout and refuse to budge.

**Peace Prayer, sung by Sarah McLachlan.** (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agPnMxp5Occ>): The Peace Prayer sung by Sarah McLachlan and her students.

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**The Original Warm Fuzzy Tale, by Claude Steiner (Jalmar 1983).** The children and families don't know what to think after a mean witch convinces them there might not be enough warm fuzzies for everyone to be happy. Cold pricklies may look the same, but they are not! Use this classic book to explore with campers of all ages the idea of giving love without the fear that there may not be enough for everyone.

**Jesús lava los pies a sus discípulos/Jesus Washes Peter's Feet (Multilingual Edition) by Glynis Belec (Concordia, 2013).** Spanish/English children's book retelling the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet through poems and beautiful illustrations.

**The Family Story Bible, "Washing Feet," by Ralph Milton Westminster (John Knox Press, 1997).**

**The Tower, by Richard Paul Evans (Aladdin, 2014).** Story of a man who wants to be great and things that happen when he looks down on others. Along the way, he learns that humility, and lifting up others, is the path to true greatness.

**Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories, by Dr. Seuss (Random House, 1958).** This story of a self-aggrandizing leader shows the rise and fall of a turtle king who is opposed by a humble turtle. The book also contains the stories of "The Big Brag" and "Gertrude McFuzz." Both extra stories are about vanity and bragging. Gertrude learns humility, while "The Big Brag" leaves us wondering if anyone learned anything.

**God Gave Us Love, by Lisa T. Bergren (WaterBrook 2011).** Lessons on love from one generation of polar bears to the next. Focuses on loving others we struggle to love, and how God's love sets the example for us all.

**God Wants Me to Forgive Them? (Big Idea, 2004).** VeggieTales videos that talk about forgiveness and God's love. Videos address the idea that God forgave us, so we should forgive and love others.

**You are Special, by Max Lucado (Crossway, 1997).** A story about being different from everyone else but being loved all the same. Also available in a video on YouTube.

**Julia's House for Lost Creatures, by Ben Hatke (First Second, 2015).** A young girl moves into a new place, but it is too quiet, so she invites everyone to be a part of her new home.

**Under the Overpass, by Mike Yankoski (Multnomah, 2005).** Mike and his friend Sam put their Christian faith to the test by living alongside the homeless in six U.S. cities.

**The Velveteen Rabbit, by Margery Williams (Doubleday, 2014).** This nearly 100-year-old story follows a stuffed toy's journey toward being real because of the love of its owner.

**Miracle Worker (Playfilm Productions, 1962).** Film biography about the blind and deaf Hellen Keller and her teacher, Annie Sullivan.

**Keep Changing the World, Mikeschair (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEmYhD90Lp0>).** A shout out to the people who are trying to change the world for the better, over footage of a mission trip to Peru.

**Places in the Heart (TriStar Pictures, 1984).** Set in 1935 rural South, showing racial tensions along with the injustice of economics. The movie ends with everyone in pews at church, receiving communion. Those receiving include those who have hurt each other, betrayed each other, and even those who have killed each other (the dead and those still alive)—all sitting together in God's house.

**The Wizard of Oz (1939, MGM).** The Lion wanted to be King of the Forest, but he needed courage. The Wizard of Oz ran things behind the curtain but was actually not a wizard. Both wanted something they did not have: to be a leader.

**The Shack (Summit Entertainment, 2017), PG-13.** Mackenzie Phillips and his family suffer a devastating family tragedy. As Mac struggles to make sense of it all, he encounters God and God's love in a very different way. A great option for a parents/grandparents movie night

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after young campers are in bed/out with camp staff.

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**Sadako and the 1,000 Paper Cranes, by Eleanor Coerr (Puffin, 1987).** Story of a Japanese girl who had leukemia, known as the “atom bomb disease.” She begins folding cranes, remembering an old legend that the one who can do so will be granted a wish, and even wellness. The story includes her death, but also shares the hope she inspired in others and how others rallied around her and found strength in her story.

**Tao Te Ching, by Lao Tzu (Creative Space Independent Publishing Platform, 2015).** Writings credited to sixth century BCE teacher Lao Tzu that speak of harmony and balance in all things. This is the primary religious text for Taoism, and has influenced many other religious traditions, artists, and cultures. These short verses and poems are beautiful and strongly reflect the principles of peace we celebrate in *heiwa*.

**Jewish Prayerbook Heb Israel Sidor “Shema Kollenu” children’s Electronic Siddur (Holyland Souvenir, 2014).** Jewish prayer book for children with the press and say buttons on the side. As you share the Jewish concept of Shammah, as well as peace from a multicultural perspective, this resource can help expose campers to foundational Jewish prayers.

**Hoot Owl Hoot, boardgame by Peaceable Kingdom.** Players work together to get all the owls back in their nest before the sun comes up. Fantastic noncompetitive game for the whole family. Other games—Friends and Neighbors and Count Your Chickens 2-4 players, ages 4 and up.

**I Am Peace, by Susan Verde (Harry Abrams Inc., 2017).** Simple book with beautiful art that

expresses the concepts of mindfulness and empathy.

**A Little Peace, by Barbara Kerley (National Geographic Children’s Book, 2007).** Photo and essay reflection on peace that invites readers to reflect on examples from around the world. Each photo and reflection show how every person can contribute to peacemaking in big and little ways.

**Listening with My Heart: A Story of Kindness and Self-compassion, by Gabi Garcia (Take Heart Press, 2017).** A story about the importance of being kind to yourself while having compassion for others.

**Score One for the Sloths, by Helen Lester (HMH, 2015).** A new sloth moves into town and no one quite knows what to make of her. But soon she shows her gifts combined with theirs will save their school.

**Tiny and Hercules, by Amy Schwartz (Roaring Brook Press, 2009).** Sometimes our neighbors don’t look like us, but we can find lots of love in the differences. This is the story of a mouse and an elephant that show love to each other.

**Are You My Neighbor? (Big Idea, 2006).** Two stories about loving your neighbor. One deals with new people in town, and the other with a retelling of the Good Samaritan (day 6) .

**My Mouth Is a Volcano, by Julia Cook (National Center for Youth Issues, 2006).** Story of a child who cannot keep from saying all the things they are thinking, even when it is not the appropriate time. Louis eventually learns to make space for others while sorting his own thoughts.

**Mr. Rogers, a True Neighbor, CBS Sunday morning, May 28, 2017 (<https://youtu.be/TNpa352mVQk>).** Television tribute to the late children’s TV show host, the ultimate good neighbor.

[Projecthappiness.com](http://Projecthappiness.com) . Where the science of happiness meets the art of living. Blog,

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programs, and quotes such as “When you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a higher fence.”

**Would You Rather? Free Edition.** Downloadable game or write your own questions. Opportunity for youth to answer questions about how they would treat others in various scenarios and to discuss ways to put others first.

**To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee (Harper, 2002).** Atticus Finch demonstrates love of neighbor by defending a man accused of rape. He guides his children, Jem and Scout, to see others’ lives from a different perspective.

## DAY 6

**Dolores Huerta: A Hero to Migrant Workers, by Sarah Warren (Two Lions 2012).** Story of a teacher who wants to understand why her students struggle and is inspired to challenge the injustices her young learners face every day.

**Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez, by Kathleen Krull (HMH 2003).** Chavez is known for being a civil rights leader, and this story tells his rise from child to leader with poetic language and beautiful art.

**He Named Me Malala (Image Nation, 2014).** Story of Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani born girl who has spoken out for women’s rights, especially the right to education, since she was very young.

**One Good Deed, by Terri Fields (Kar-Ben, 2015).** A ripple affect of giving that starts with one child. Repetition in the storytelling makes this a great worship book or one for children to join in on familiar lines.

**Heal the Earth, by Julian Lennon and Bart Davis (Sky Pony Press, 2018).** Children are invited to imagine flying all over the earth to save the environment and help others in need. This could be used for rest time, or another story time.

**Counting on Community, by Innosanta Nagara (Triangle Square, 2015).** A young children’s board book (ages 1-5) highlighting ways that communities work together. This is a great resource for campers with small children.

**The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander and Cornel West (The New Press, 2012).** Consider having this book in a small library for older campers. This is a great read for adults who are seeking to work for peace by addressing the racial injustice of the American justice system.

**The King of Little Things, by Bill Lepp (Peachtree Publishers, 2002).** Fun and funny story about how little things make a big difference. It is hard for campers to imagine that they can affect change in the world.

**Seeds of Change: Wangari’s Gift to the World, by Jen Cullerton Johnson (Lee and Low books, 2010).** True story of Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai, whose tree planting in Kenya shows the power of working together to create change.

**The Name Jar, by Yangsook Choi (Random House Children’s, 2003).** Unhei is the new kid at school, having moved from Korea to the United States. She decides to ask the class for suggestions for her new “American” name, only to find a new friend who encourages her to claim her own name and teach the class about her culture. They learn that friendship and solidarity are powerful tools.

**Are You My Neighbor? (Big Idea, 1998).** VeggieTales version of the Good Samaritan story. First episode is set in space, and the second is the tale of the Good Samaritan retold in a fun and creative way

**A House for Hermit Crab, by Eric Carle (Simon Schuster, 1991).** The hermit crab must find a new shell, but it is very bare. Along the way he finds new friends and each time a new community is created.

**Beatrice’s Goat, by Page McBrier (Aladdin, 2004).** The story of how Beatrice was helped by people

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she didn't know, and how the gift of a goat helps her to go to school.

**Three Samurai Cats, by Eric Kimmel (Holiday House, 2004).** This is the story of how the old cat defeats the heartless rats when the young cats fail. It's a story about being wise, and patient, and not resorting to violence. It's a funny story, helping campers to see a new way.

**What Do You Stand For?, by Barbara Lewis (Free Spirit, 1983).** Lessons and stories about building positive character traits.

[Boyslife.org](http://Boyslife.org) Test your skills in 10 emergency scenarios. Boy Scout merit badge training.

**Cesar Chavez: Embrace the legacy (UFW, 2008).** from [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com)  
<https://youtu.be/e7GCCBIgFaQ>

**Selma (20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox, 2014).** Story of the Selma, Alabama, march and how the civil rights movement gained power through diversity and community.

**As Good as It Gets (Gracie Films, 1997).** Grumpy old man becomes the good Samaritan who takes in a neighbor who has been beaten and provides medical care for a poor family with an ill child.

**Moana (Disney, 2016).** Story of a young girl seeking change for herself and to save her people. Moana learns that she cannot change the world on her own, and that the path to peace is filled with individual stories of redemption and discovery. The courage of one can inspire the transformation of a community as we stand and grow together.

## DAY 7

**Green Eggs and Ham, by Dr. Seuss (Random House, 1960).** Classic Dr. Seuss story invites us to imagine what we could do, if we just tried. This is a great message for the journey back to "home" as campers imagine what they might do differently.

**Sun Kisses, Moon Hugs, by Susan Schaefer Bernardo (Inner Flower Child Books, 2017).**

A beautifully illustrated children's book about saying goodbye. This is a great book to read with campers who have made good friendships at camp and are emotional about leaving.

**A Pen Pal for Max, by Gloria Rand (Henry Holt and Company, 2005).** A sweet book about a young boy who becomes a pen pal with a friend far away. This story provides inspiration to children and families to stay in touch with one another after camp as well as reach out to other families around the world building bridges and creating peace.

**The Quiltmaker's Gift, by Jeff Brumbeau (Scholastic Inc, 2001).** A wise and generous quiltmaker, with magic in her fingers and love for humanity in her heart, sews beautiful quilts and gives them away. She becomes mentor to a greedy king, who learns the most valuable lesson of his life. Under the quiltmaker's guidance, the king gives away his extravagant possessions, and learns the true meaning of happiness by bringing joy to the lives of others.

**50 Community Service Opportunities for Teen Volunteers (<https://www.teenlife.com/blogs/50-community-service-ideas-teen-volunteers>).** A list of ways youth can contribute to their communities, broken down by how much time they have available.

**Popsicle Stick Bridge, by Ron Cherchuk (Self-published 2016).** This eBook shows how-to and gives scientific details such as load limit, capacity, etc.

**E.T. (Universal Pictures, 1982).** Great farewell scene when the alien returns to his home planet. A reminder that those who have touched us continue to live on in our memories.