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Growing Up and Growing Older: Books for Young Readers

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Abstract

Early children's literature plays a major role in attitude formation. The attitudes children form about aging will play an important role in how successfully they age. This annotated booklist strives to promote positive attitudes about aging and counteract ageism. It is a compilation of carefully selected early children's literature (Preschool-Third Grade) that contains meaningful portrayals of older adults, promotes positive aging, and promotes aging with optimism. Books on the booklist portray aging as a natural and lifelong process of growing and developing, present similarities between young and old, show young and old enjoying each other and learning from each other, and view older adults as valuable and contributing members of society. They help prepare children to live a long life in an aging world. They assist children to see aging as an opportunity, think in terms of "lifespan activities"--things they do now and can continue to do as an older adult, and explore the older adult they would like to be. The booklist includes a listing of the author's favorite books, over 80 topical listings (e.g., intergenerational learning, intergenerational friendships, family history, lifelong learning, exercise, work, retirement, volunteering, centenarians, special messages, music, art) and a multicultural listing of books that illustrate racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious diversity. The booklist, with additional resources, can also be located at <http://library.lmunet.edu/booklist> and at the Old School Anti-Ageism Clearinghouse <https://oldschool.info> under "Tools". Read to children! Read books from the booklist. In the words of Dr. Seuss "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild to pick up a book and read to a child."

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"I shall grow old, and horrible, and dreadful," he complains. "But this picture will remain always young.... If it were only the other way! If it were I who was to be always young, and the picture that was to grow old!" He gets his wish, and ho boy, learns to regret it. 2. Everything about this memoir—which is about the annoyances of growing old and being able to do less than you have grown accustomed—is funnier than you might expect from the subject. Yes, it's about getting sick and losing control and requiring the care of others. But it approaches this inevitable part of life with tremendous humor. And for more amazing reads, stock up on the 40 Books Every Woman Over 40 Should Have on Her Bookshelf. 19. The Catcher in the Rye by JD Salinger. Books for Young Readers. Childhood Education, 79, 145-149. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00094056.2003.10522214>. has been cited by the following article Today's children will be the older adults of tomorrow. A resource that can help to educate them about aging and prepare them for the long life ahead is early children's literature (Preschool-Primary). This literature can provide children with a holistic view of aging, teach them about aging and the aging process, promote positive attitudes about aging, and promote positive aging. Selecting early children's literature for aging content, resources for finding early children's literature to promote positive aging, and examples of early children's literature to promote positive aging are presented Older workers and volunteers are rarely found, nor do many books center on themes of companionship, famous older people, older leaders, intergenerational activities, similarities between young and old, lifespan activities, and planning for old age. Few books actually portray the real lives of older people. In general, children's literature provides few role models for aging and few elder heroes, and gives children little to look forward to in relation to growing old. Selecting Children's Literature for Content on Aging. Reading is a process of constructing meaning (Tompkins, 2001). Indeed, young adult books have stepped up onto the literary stage as a powerful genre in its own right, creating role models for all of us and leading important conversations about personhood, gender, sexuality, and race. So whether you're seeking new favorites or simply want to revisit old gems, we've got it all for you in this masterpost. It can certainly be frustrating, especially for young readers, to see them thwarted at every turn. Still, this series is more than worth it for the intrigue, excitement, and thought-provoking ideas about morality and "good vs. evil," especially as the books progress into more sophisticated territory. 4. A Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K. Le Guin. Growing up is turbulent. It's not a coincidence that so many bildungsroman novels have become bestselling classics. Growing Up, Growing Old is a thematic literature anthology that interweaves texts raising the theme of initiation into adulthood and transition into old age, and interrelationships between the young and the old. Selections include short stories, essays, poems, and newspaper articles. Reading them will make advanced learners more effective in using the second language in conversation, critical thinking about texts, and creative writing.