

Top 10 Books

Say “I Love You” to Everyone on Your List

These books are guaranteed to go straight to your heart! They’ve been specially selected by educator and Legacy Project Chair Susan V. Bosak. Young and old sharing a book together is a great way to build a loving connection and explore all the different kinds of love. Giving picture books as gifts to the people you love is also a special, unique way to say “I love you.” These books are perfect for giving in any direction – adult to child, child to adult, and adult to adult. For more tips, information, resources, and activities, visit www.legacyproject.org.

① **Parent & Child:** *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney, illustrated by Anita Jeram. In this exuberant story, every time Little Nutbrown Hare shows Big Nutbrown Hare how much he loves him, Big Nutbrown Hare returns the love even more.

② **Mother & Daughter:** *My Mama Had a Dancing Heart* by Libba Moore Gray, illustrated by Raul Colon. When a mother and daughter share a close, loving relationship, it carries forward to who the daughter becomes.

③ **Father & Son:** *My Dad* by Anthony Browne. An affectionate story about a father who can do anything, from vanquishing bad guys to giving heartfelt hugs.

④ **Grandmother & Grandchild:** *A Little Something* by Susan V. Bosak, illustrated by Laurie McGaw. In this heartwarming, true story about love and legacies across generations, a grandmother and granddaughter share special gifts through the years as it becomes clear that one gift – the gift of love – is the most precious of all.

⑤ **Grandfather & Grandchild:** *Grandfather’s Lovesong* by Reeve Lindbergh, illustrated by R. Isadora. A poetic description of a grandfather’s love for his grandson, using nature metaphors through the seasons.



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⑥ **Spouse:** *The Last Dance* by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Debrah Santini. From childhood through old age, Bessie and her husband Ninny express their lasting love for each other by dancing.

⑦ **Sister & Sister:** *Big Sister and Little Sister* by Charlotte Zolotow, illustrated by Martha Alexander. At first, big sister takes care of little sister, but soon they learn how much they need each other.

⑧ **Brother & Sister:** *Tell Me Something Happy Before I Go to Sleep* by Joyce Dunbar, illustrated by Debi Gliori. A little bunny gets some special reassurance, and a cuddle, from her brother as she falls asleep.

⑨ **Grandfriend & Young Friend:** *Miz Berlin Walks* by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Floyd Cooper. At first, Mary Louise is afraid of old Miz Berlin, until one day she realizes all the wonderful stories the woman has to tell. A tender tale about an intergenerational, interracial friendship.

⑩ **Young & Old:** *Some Things Go Together* by Charlotte Zolotow, illustrated by Ashley Wolff. Couplets throughout this book – “peace with dove, home with love, and you with me” – show that some things truly do go together, and are accompanied by loving portraits of adults and children.