

## **Habit 2 – Begin with the End in Mind**

***The Very Busy Spider***, By Eric Carle, Throughout the story, the determined spider spins her web. She has an end in mind- to finish her web and catch a fly for dinner.

***Roberto The Insect Architect***, Even when the other termites made fun of him, Roberto held to his dream of being an architect. Unsuccessful in the big city, he decides to help the homeless bugs in his community so he designs a housing development...and it's a huge hit! Laden's humorous, darling illustrations make this book a lot of fun. Considering the overall message of dreaming big, having high ambitions, and going for your goals, Roberto proves that even insects can be great goal setting examples for kids!

***Salt in His Shoes***, Here's a fun title about basketball giant Michael Jordan, written by his own mother and sister. In this true story, young Michael wants to be a better basketball player and thinks the key lies in being taller. He initially follows his mother's advice to put salt in his shoes to make him grow, but when that doesn't work, he listens to his father, who says "practice, determination, and giving your best" are the keys to being "a real winner." Of course, he was right and Jordan went on to be a basketball legend. Kadir Nelson's bold, handsome illustrations add a lot to this inspirational tale. Given the success of Michael Jordan and the popularity of this book with boys, this is one of our favorite titles featuring characters as goal setting examples

***My Name is Not Isabella***, In this simple story, little Isabella pretends she has many exciting careers like her female heroes (ie: Marie Curie, Sally Ride, Annie Oakley, her mommy). The message comes across loud and clear---that girls can do anything they set their minds to. Some of the heroes will undoubtedly be unfamiliar to young children, so a section at the back provides additional information on each one.

***Is There Really a Human Race***, by Jamie Lee Curtis, A boy asks his mother many worried questions about the human 'race', and his mother gives him bits of wisdom. The infectious, toe-tapping poetic text and whimsical cartoons go perfectly together. There are so many great messages in this book, including the importance of trying your best and the need to help others along the way. Our favorite messages is that while ambition is important, enjoying life along the way is important too! If you're reading lots of books featuring goal setting examples, this is a great title to balance the message and prevent kids from feeling pressured.

***Wilma Unlimited***, by Kathleen Krull, Wilma was a sick child but she didn't let it stop her. She set goals and pushed to overcome each obstacle, and in 1960 she became the first woman to win three Olympic gold medals. This is a beautifully illustrated, inspirational book about one of the best goal setting examples!

***The Man Who Walked Between the Towers***, by Mordical Gerstein, In 1974, a French man named Philippe Petit spent an entire hour walking across, dancing across, even performing tricks across a thin cable wire strung between the World Trade Center buildings at over a quarter of a mile above the ground. With impeccable pacing, lyrical

words, and vertiginous perspectives, Gerstein captures the drama of the event and the larger-than-life persona of Petit.

***Johnathan Livingston Seagull***, by Richard Bach, A seagull named Jonathan wanted to fly higher and faster and better than any seagull ever had, and wanted to live the best life he could. Includes a clear underlying message that we should be striving to be better and seeking a higher purpose, as Jonathan did, even though others may mock or disagree with us. Jonathan learns about love and kindness, too, in his journeys to transcendence. There are many powerful messages in this story, most notably to strive to be your very best and seek a higher purpose, just as Jonathan did.

***Dare to Dream! 25 Extraordinary Lives***, by Sandra McLeod Hunphrey, A collection of 25 short biographies about famous individuals who each made their dreams come true, each despite many obstacles in their way. Each profile is four pages long, covers the person's childhood, education, family life and adult life, and includes a small black-and-white photo. Profiled individuals include Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Eleanor Roosevelt, astronaut Ellen Ochoa, NBA star Michael Jordan, and more. If you are looking for goal setting examples for older kids, this is a great place to start!

***A Chair for My Mother***, by Vera B. Williams, is about a young African American girl who saves her money in hopes of one day purchasing a large, comfortable chair for the apartment in which she and her mother live. The young girl saved every penny, and when her financial goal was reached, together the girl, her mother and her grandmother went shopping for a new chair. This 1983 Caldecott Honor Book, written for five- to seven-year-olds, is about working hard to reach a financial goal.

***"Oh, the Places You'll Go!"***, by Dr. Seuss uses purple elephants, floating castles and humorous characters to capture a story of succeeding in life, despite the wide array of hurdles and frustrations, according to Random House Inc., the publishing company for Dr. Seuss books. In the book, Dr. Seuss tells readers that "all journeys face perils, whether from indecision, from loneliness, or worst of all, from too much waiting," according to Random House, Inc. Despite the dreaded "waiting place" and other issues, children learn that by setting goals and staying focused, they are likely to conquer life's "great balancing act."

***Being Teddy Roosevelt***, by Claudia Mills, a book about a boy who, after writing a school report on President Teddy Roosevelt, learns how the former American leader persevered by using his "bully" spirit to accomplish goals and solve problems.

***Beatrice's Goat***, by Page McBrier and Lori Lohstoeter, More than anything, Beatrice longs to be a schoolgirl. But in her small African village, only children who can afford uniforms and books can go to school. Beatrice knows that with six children to care for, her family is much too poor. But then Beatrice receives a wonderful gift from some people far away -- a goat! Fat and sleek as a ripe mango, Mugisa (which means "luck")

gives milk that Beatrice can sell. With Mugisa's help, it looks as if Beatrice's dream may come true after all.

*Jackson's Plan* by Linda Talley and Andra Chase

*Kid's Playing Business: Setting A Goal* by Ron Piscatelli

*Kylie's Concert*, by Patty Sheehan and Itoko Maeno

*Isabelle Lives a Dream*, by Peggy Sundberg

*Whistle for Willie* by Ezra Jack Keats

*Click, Clack, Cows that Moo* by Doreen Cronin

*Pancakes, Pancakes* by Eric Carle

*Galimoto* by Karen Lynn Williams

*Chicken Little*

*Wake Up Henry Rooster*

*The Great Serum Race* by Debbie Miller

*The Hundred Penny Box* by Sharon Bill Mathis

*How We Are Smart* by W. Nikola-Lia

*Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney

*How Full is Your Bucket* by McCloud

*The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss

*Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully



