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## Character

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### K-2

Lechner, John. *The Clever Stick*. Candlewick Press, 2009. A stick is able to think of many clever things, but since he can't talk he isn't able to share his clever thoughts with the other creatures in the forest. Then he discovers that he has a special way to communicate.

Long, Loren. *Otis*. Philomel Books, 2009. Otis is a friendly little tractor who works hard on the farm. And only Otis can calm the new baby calf. Otis and the calf become great friends. But when the farmer brings home a large new yellow tractor, Otis is parked outside behind barn. But when the calf falls into the Mud Pond, only Otis is able to save him.

### 3-4

Hoberman, Mary Ann. *Strawberry Hill*. Little, Brown and Company, 2009. Allie is sorry to hear that her family will be moving away New Haven, but she likes the sound of their new street, Strawberry Hill. When she gets there she finds that she faces anti-Semitism and has some difficult choices to make about her new friends.

Mills, Claudia. *How Oliver Olson Changed the World*. Oliver's parents never let him do anything on his own. They help with his homework, fuss over him, and refuse to let him spend the night with a friend. So he knows that they won't let him go to the space sleepover at school.

### 5-6

DiCamillo, Kate. *The Magician's Elephant*. Peter's parents are gone and he believes that his younger sister has also died. But he learns from a fortuneteller that she is alive. When a magician accidentally conjures an elephant during a failed magic trick, Peter is convinced that the elephant will help him find his sister.

Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. Henry Holt and Co., 2009. Callie is the only girl in a family of seven children. She becomes interested in learning all she can about the natural world. She discovers that her stern and remote grandfather is a naturalist, and is willing to have her help him with his experiments.