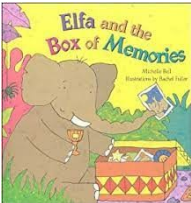
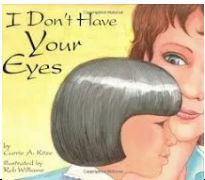
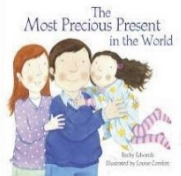
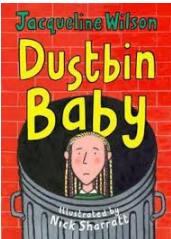

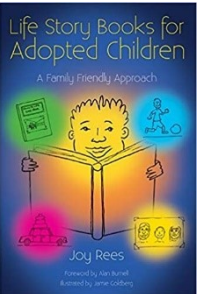


# Identity and Life Story

Title and Author	For Parents	For Children	Age	Description
<p>Elfa and the box of Memories Michelle Bell</p>  <p>Identity</p>	✓	✓	4-7	<p>Elfa the elephant was in a bad mood. It was a hot day, and she was carrying a box on her back. It was really heavy and felt very uncomfortable. Elfa carried it on her back everywhere she went. She never took it off because she was scared of losing it. But even though it was a beautiful, shiny box, none of the other animals ever seemed to notice or ask what was inside... They didn't know that in it Elfa kept her most precious things - her memories. This is a beautifully illustrated picture book for young children on the importance of memories, sharing them, and finding ways of keeping them alive.</p>
<p>I Don't Have Your Eyes Carrie A. Kitze</p>  <p>Identity</p>	✓	✓	4-8	<p>Family connections are important to children as they begin to find their place in the world. For adopted children and children in foster care or kinship placements, celebrating the differences within their families as well as the similarities that connect them is the foundation for belonging.</p>
<p>The most precious present in the world Becky Edwards</p>  <p>Identity</p>	✓	✓	4-9	<p>This simply written, engaging story focuses on the universal idea of looking like (or not looking like) your family. This is used to give adopted children the reassuring messages that not only are they very special to their adoptive parents, but that it is alright for them to have mixed feelings about their adoption. Mia's eyes are dark brown and her dad's are bright blue. She has masses of curly brown hair, but her mum's is straight and blonde. Why doesn't Mia look like her parents? It's because she is adopted. Her adoptive mum tells her that she looks different because her curly hair and dark eyes are presents from the birth parents</p>

				<p>who were unable to look after her. Taking the form of a dialogue between a little girl and her adoptive mother, the book explores questions that might preoccupy an adopted child. Mia wants to know why she looks different to her adoptive parents; why her birth parents didn't want to keep her and whether her curly hair, dark eyes and dimple really are goodbye presents from her birth parents. Although young children might sometimes worry about looking physically different to their family members, this charming, illustrated book will help adopted children to understand that physical difference is not a barrier to finding love and security within an adoptive family.</p>
<p>Dustbin Baby Jacqueline Wilson</p> <p>Identity</p>		✓	✓	<p>9-11</p> <p>April knows she was abandoned in a rubbish bin as a newborn baby, fourteen years ago. Now she's happily settled with her foster mother, Marion - but there's a part of April that's desperate to know where she really came from, and who she really is. If only she could remember her real mother - or even find her . . . An engrossing, engaging and highly moving novel from the acclaimed bestseller Jacqueline Wilson.</p>

<p>Am I supposed to feel this way? A seven-year-old birth child's experience of adoption</p> <p>Elizabeth Archer</p>  <p>Life Story</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>6+</p>	<p>This is the story of seven-year-old Oliver, a birth child, whose parents adopt a little baby called Max. For Oliver this initially seemed to be everything he always wanted, but he soon discovers not everything was as he first imagined! More often than not, we realise birth children can suffer secondary trauma with having an adopted sibling. This book enables parents to sit with their children to discuss the possible issues that may arise when having an adopted sibling placed. It can also help children who already have an adopted sibling to understand what might be going on for them, and that they are not alone in feeling the way they do. This book has been written specifically for children to write and draw in, and to personalise as their own.</p>
<p>Life Story Books for Adopted Children: A Family Friendly Approach</p> <p>Joy Rees</p>  <p>Life Story</p>	<p>✓</p>			<p>Through words, pictures, photographs, certificates and other 'little treasures', a Life Story Book provides a detailed account of the child's early history and a chronology of their life.</p> <p>This clear and concise book shows a new family-friendly way to compile a Life Story Book that promotes a sense of permanency for the child and encourages attachments within the adoptive family. Joy Rees' improved model works chronologically backwards rather than forwards, aiming to reinforce the child's sense of belonging and security within the adoptive family before addressing the child's past and early trauma. The book contains simple explanations of complex concepts, practical examples and helpful suggestions.</p>