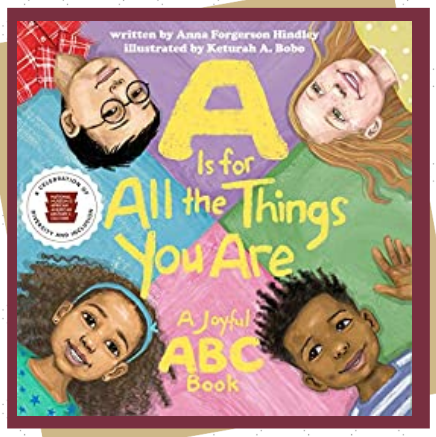


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

A is for All the Things You Are by Anna Forgerson Hindley

Book Summary

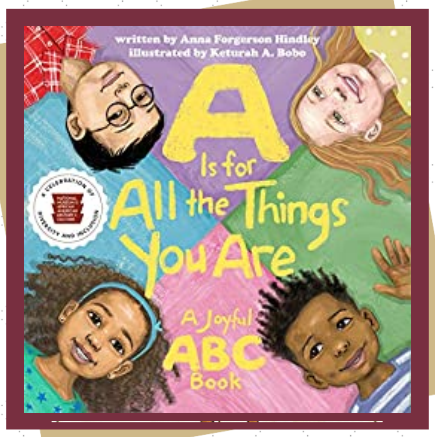
A fun alphabet board book developed by the National Museum of African American History and Culture that celebrates what makes us unique as individuals and connects us as humans. Each letter offers a description of a trait, a question inviting the reader to examine how he or she experiences it in daily life. The book promotes understanding and development of each child's healthy racial identity, the joy of human diversity and inclusion, a sense of justice, and children's capacity to act for their own and others' fair treatment.

Before Reading the Story

- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about.
- There are 26 letters in the alphabet. Let's count to 26 together.
- Let's find the page with the letter that your name begins with. What is the letter and trait?
- Let's sing the ABC's together, before we read the story!

Target Vocabulary

- **traits**: a quality that makes one person or thing different from another
- **challenge**: something that is hard to do
- **creative**: having or showing an ability to make new things or think of new ideas
- **opinion**: what someone thinks about a particular thing
- **perspective**: a way of thinking about and understanding something
- **persistent**: continuing to do or try something even though it is difficult
- **obstacle**: something that makes it difficult to do something
- **injustice**: when the rights of a person or a group of people are ignored
- **xenial (zee-nee-ul) (zeen-yul)**: friendly



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During the Story

- Read the book aloud with the pictures facing your child.
- Make predictions about the story based on the pictures.
- Provide definitions and connections for any of the target vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar.
- Have your child repeat the words that they do not know.
- Relate the details in the story to events and experiences in your everyday life.
- Ask questions throughout the story to help your child understand what's being read.

After Reading the Story

- Have your child retell the story in their own words using the pictures.
- What are 3 words to describe you? Use words from the book or come up with new ones! Write them down and put them somewhere you can see them daily.
- Pick 3 questions from the book to discuss with each other.

Example Questions to Ask

- Sometimes it is scary to go somewhere new or try new things. Talk about a time when have you been "B for Brave".
- Why do you think there is a girl jumping in the pool for "D is for Daring?"
- What emotions do the book talk about for "E is for Emotional?"
- What are the children doing on the page "F is for Fair?"
- Complete the word from the book: "L is for _____."
- The boy in the book is "T for Talented" because he can balance on one foot. What is one thing you are talented at?