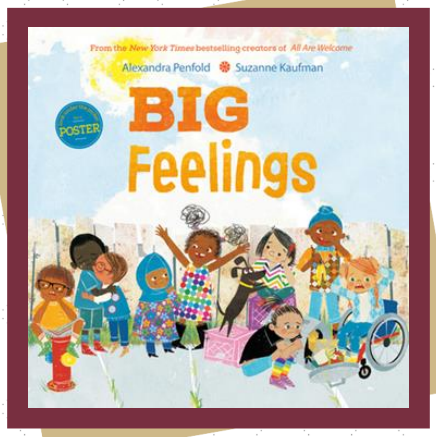


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

Big Feelings by Alexandra Penfold

Book Summary

A group of children get together to turn a patch of waste ground into a playground. But their big plans are knocked off course when big feelings get in the way. What are they to do? 'Talk it out, talk it through' of course. After some straight talking, and some 'sorrys', the smiles are back and the kids are working together again. This story is warm and inspiring, and allows children to talk about feelings of all kinds!

Before Reading the Story

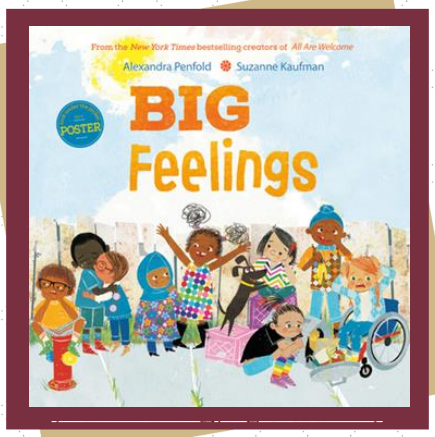
- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about.
- When you feel mad, frustrated or sad, what do you do to feel better?
- Have you ever planned to do something and the plans changed? What helped you feel better?
- What are some things that make you feel excited?

Target Vocabulary

- **bold**: brave or daring
- **frustrated**: feeling upset or angry because of being unable to do what one needs to do or being unable to solve a problem that one wants to solve
- **crew**: a group of people who work together
- **anew**: once more or again
- **prepared**: ready, fit, or equipped for something
- **quit**: to stop or give up
- **point of view**: a way of thinking about or looking at something

MAYA'S BOOK NOOK

The VILLAGE
FLORIDA CENTER for READING RESEARCH



BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

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.
- Using materials available (e.g. paper, pencils, markers, crayons), create a picture of different feelings that you can feel.
- Which part of the story is your favorite part and why?
- Let's turn to the page where the children feel excited. Tell me or show me some of the fun things you see them doing together?
- What fun things are they doing, that you have done before?

Example Questions to Ask

- The children create a plan to clean the waste ground, but then they become upset with each other. Fill in the blanks below to tell me how they solved the problem.
- How can I help? What can we do? We can _____ it out. _____ it through. I am _____ . I am, too!
- The children work together to move the large tire toward the tree. What do they do once they get the tire to the tree? Then what happens? What do they do next? Does it work? How does it make them feel?
- How does the weather change? What is the new activity that the children plan because of the weather change? What big feeling do you think they feel now?