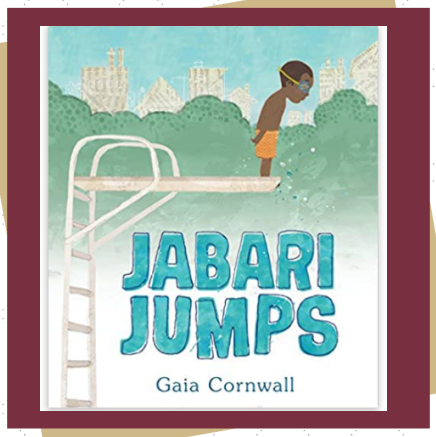


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall

Book Summary

Have you ever been nervous to do something? That's exactly how Jabari feels when he looks up at the diving board. Jabari has completed swim lessons and passed the big swim test. While he is a good jumper and he admires all of the big kids who are able to jump off of the diving board, Jabari can't help but to feel nervous as his turn approaches. Thankfully, his dad provides the encouragement needed for Jabari to finally take his big leap.

Before Reading the Story

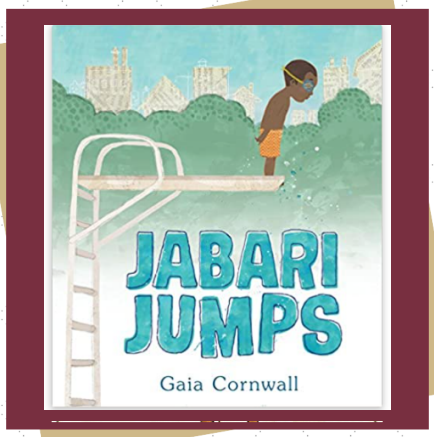
- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about based on the title.
- Discuss some things you or your child wanted to do, but felt scared to try.
- Has your family been to a pool before? If so, ask your child if they like to jump right in or go in slowly? Why?
- Ask your child how they would feel standing on a diving board for the first time.

Target Vocabulary

Diving board: a board above a pool that can be used to jump into the water
Sprang: to suddenly move/jump forward or upward
Dove: past tense of dive; to jump into water with your arms and head going in first
Special: different from what is normal or usual
Ladder: a piece of equipment used for climbing up and down
Stretching: to put your arms or legs in positions that make the muscles long and tight
Surprise: the feeling caused by something unexpected
Breath: air that is inhaled and exhaled
Edge: the line or part where an object begins or ends

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 re-read the book in their own words using the illustrations.
- With your child, create a list of at least 3 activities they want to try for the first time.
- When Jabari dove off of the diving board, he made a big splash as he went down deep into the water. Then, he rose back to the top. Have your child predict whether familiar items will float in water or sink to the bottom. Discuss what the items that float and those that sink have in common.

Example Questions to Ask

- Why did Jabari let the other kids in line go ahead of him?
- Why do you think Jabari was so scared to jump at first?
- How do you think the other children at the pool feel based on the pictures?
- Have you ever made an excuse so you wouldn't have to do something you thought was scary?
- What two things did Jabari's dad tell him to do to stop feeling scared?
- Why was Jabari's dad so proud of him at the end?
- Tell me about a time you felt scared when you had to try something new?