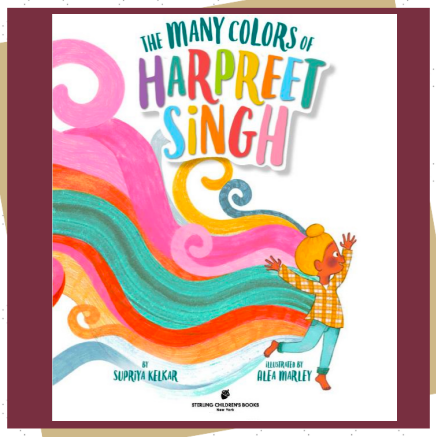


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

The Many Colors of Harpeet Singh by Supriya Kelkar

Book Summary

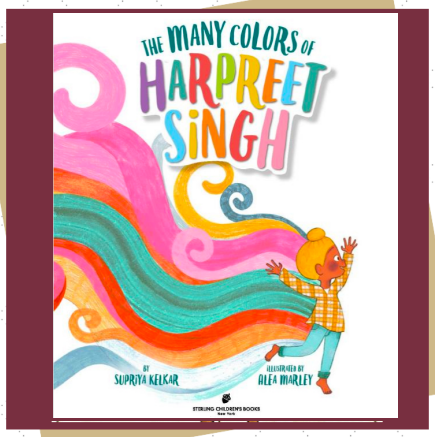
Harpreet Singh wears a different hue for each emotion and event, ranging from pink for dancing to bhangra sounds to crimson for bravery. He takes careful care of his patka, or turban, straightening it up and making sure it always matches his clothing. But when Harpreet's mother gets a new job in a frigid city and the family is forced to relocate, all he wants is to remain invisible.

Before Reading the Story

- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about.
- What different emotions can you think of?
- Before reading this book, flip through all of the pages. Notice all of the colors and talk about what colors make you feel certain emotions.

Target Vocabulary

- **Kindness:** the quality or state of being kind
- **Compassion:** a feeling of wanting to help someone who is sick, hungry, in trouble, etc.
- **Empathy:** the feeling that you understand and share another person's experiences and emotions
- **Inclusion:** to have (someone or something) as part of a group or total : to contain (someone or something) in a group or as a part of something
- **Diversity (appreciation of):** the quality or state of having many different forms, types, ideas, etc.
- **Exclusion:** to prevent (someone) from doing something or being a part of a group



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.
- Was there a time that you went through a big change? How did that make you feel? Discuss with each other.
- What were some things that helped you feel better when you went through this change?
- Talk about an example of how Harpreet used colors to express his emotions. What color describes your emotion right now?

Example Questions to Ask

- What color did Harpreet wear when he felt happy and sunny?
- Harpreet had to have a lot of courage when his family and him...?
- Why do you think it takes a lot of courage to move somewhere?
- What are ways we can welcome new friends to school?
- What color did Harpreet wear when he was trying to feel invisible?
- Let's talk about people who are kind to you, who support you, and who bring you joy. These can be your family, your friends, or anyone who is special to you.
- Harpreet likes to spread cheer everywhere he goes. How can we be kind and try to be a good friend?