BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

Every Little Thing by Cedella Marley

Book Summary

Every Little Thing is based off of the famous Bob Marley song "Three Little Birds" and is written by his daughter Cedella Marley. This book addresses the emotions and feelings young children have on a daily basis and teaches them that with love and positivity, everything will be alright. While we all may make mistakes, Every Little Thing is a reminder that we can always try again.

Before Reading the Story

- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about.
- Listen to Bob Marley's song "Three Little Birds" before reading in order to make connections to the song and the story.
- Flip through the pages of the book and look at the pictures. Ask your child to spot the three birds in each illustration. Name the color of each bird.

Target Vocabulary

- **rise:** to move upward
- **worry:** to think about problems or fears; to feel or show fear
- **perch:** to sit on or be on something high or on something it is easy to fall from
- **delicious:** very pleasant to taste
- **settle:** to put yourself into a comfortable position
- **melody:** musical notes that form the main part of a song
- **remind:** to make someone think about or remember something
- **mistake:** something that is not correct; an error

MAYA'S BOOK NOOK

The VILLAGE
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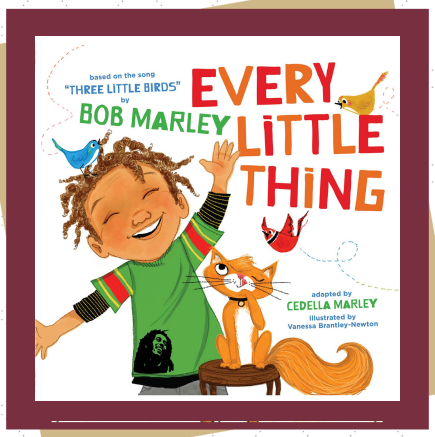

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During the Story

- 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

- Listen again to Bob Marley sing "Three Little Birds". Try to sing the words from the book using the same beat.
- Have your child re-read the book in their own words using the illustrations.
- Go on a walk outside and count how many birds you see.
- Using any available material (e.g., a piece of paper, a note card, a sticky note, construction paper), write your child a note that says "Every little thing is gonna be alright." Your child can decorate the note using coloring supplies. Put the note somewhere you can see it regularly (e.g., fridge, bedroom door) as a daily reminder.

Example Questions to Ask

- A pet followed the boy throughout the story. Can you spot the pet on each page?
- How did the boy feel when he splashed in the rain puddles?
- Was there ever a time where you felt worried?
- What is something that always makes you feel better when you feel worried?
- Finish the song, "Every little thing _____."
- The boy asked a child who looked lonely to play soccer with his friends. What is one way you can show a friend or family member you care about them?
- What type of dessert was the boy making when they were in the kitchen? Tell me about your favorite dessert.
- What's one of your favorite songs? Let's sing it together!