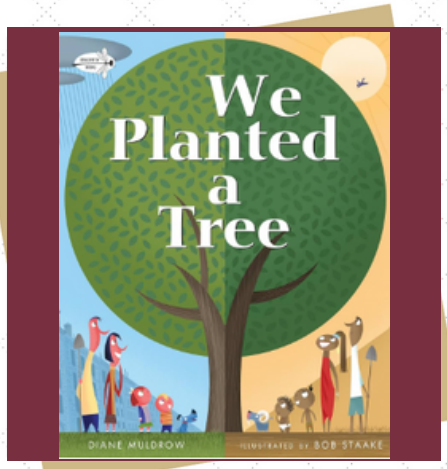


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

We Planted a Tree by Diane Muldrow

Book Summary

"We planted a tree and it grew up." Follow this story and travel around the world as we see how families all around plant trees to help make the Earth a better place.

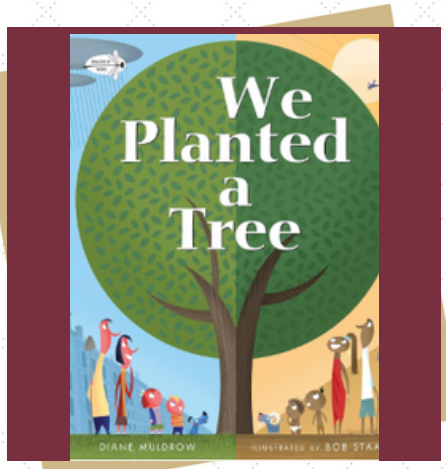
This story teaches us how planting one tree can make a big difference in our world. When we work together to help take care of nature, nature in turn helps everyone, everywhere.

Before Reading the Story

- Look at the cover of the story and make predictions about what the book will be about.
- Flip through the pages and focus on the pictures. Discuss what you see happening, the characters' emotions, and the setting.
- Have you ever planted a tree before? If so, what type of tree did you plant?
- Look outside, how many different trees do you see? What is special about each one?

Target Vocabulary

- **planted**: put something in the ground so it can grow.
- **buds**: small, baby parts of a plant or tree that grow into leaves, flowers, or fruit
- **burst**: something happening very quickly or suddenly
- **blossoms**: pretty flowers that grow on trees, bushes, or plants
- **shady**: something that is cool and protected from the sun
- **sap**: sticky, sugary liquid that comes from trees
- **soil**: dirt and stuff on the ground where plants grow
- **heal**: to get better after you've been hurt or sick



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.
- Flip through the book and look at all the different trees. What tree do you like the most? Which tree would you like to plant in your neighborhood or school? Why?
- How do trees help the earth? How do trees help people? Why do you think this is important?
- Fold a sheet of paper into four squares. In each square, draw the same tree in each season. How does the tree change across the four seasons?

Example Questions to Ask

- "We planted a tree and it _____."
- What happens to tree in springtime?
- What part of the tree has food inside for the tree?
- How do the green shiny leaves help the earth? How does it help people?
- What are somethings trees feed us? What is your favorite food that comes from a tree?
- How does the tree help the soil? How does that help people?
- What do the squirrels eat from trees?
- How do the trees help animals?