



Lovely

Written and Illustrated by Jess Hong

This is a happy little book about diversity and reminds us that “we are all beautiful even though we are different”.

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *what do you think this story is about?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder why those people all look different?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- lovely – attractive or beautiful; very good or likable
- sleek – straight and smooth in design or shape
- different – not of the same kind; unlike

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What is lovely?
- Who is lovely?
- Can two people who are different both be lovely?
- Who decides what is lovely? Is fluffy more lovely than sleek?
- Do you agree that lovely is different, weird and wonderful?



DO

Appreciating our differences

Ask students to find a partner for this activity, encourage them to pair off with someone that they don't usually hang out with. Have the students face each other and ask them to spend a moment in silence studying their partner from the top of their head to their shoes. Have students ask each other these questions to get them thinking about how they are similar and how they are different. Some examples are:

Where were you born? If you no longer live there, when did you move from that place?

Where were your parents born?

Where were your grandparents born?

Do you have siblings? How old are they?

What kind of foods does your family enjoy making?

What holidays do your family celebrate?

What is your favorite thing to do when you aren't at school?

What is something you would like to invent?

If you could travel anywhere in the universe, where would you go, and what would you like to do there?

Next, ask students to discuss with their partner the ways they are similar and different - physically, the way they are raised, their family traditions and their dreams.

If time permits, have each student share with the class what they learned about their partner's similarities and differences.