



# All Are Welcome

Written by Alexandra Penfold Illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman

*All Are Welcome* highlights a diverse group of kids and parents on the first day of school and shows us that school is a place where all are welcome.

## 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 where they are all going?

**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 everyday conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words

- welcome - a greeting to say that you are happy to have someone come to and stay in a place
- hope - to want something to happen or be true and think that it could happen or be true
- community - a group of people who live in the same area (such as a school, city, town or neighborhood)
- diversity - the state of having people who are different races or who have different cultures in a group or organization

**After:** Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Where are all those people on the cover going?
- Who is welcome at the school?
- What do students find at the school?
- What activities did the students do together?
- How many types of food did the children bring for their lunch?
- What makes the students differ from each other?
- What makes the students the same?
- What can we learn from people that are different from us?



## Have a “Great Classroom” meeting!

Materials:  
whiteboard or flip chart  
markers

Meet with your class in person or virtually and talk with them about what you need to make a great classroom.

Title a whiteboard or flip chart “Great Classroom” and create sections for Look, Feel and sound. Ask your students what a great classroom would look like, sound like or feel like to them. Add stars to suggestions made by multiple students. Here are some examples!

A GREAT CLASSROOM	
<p>LOOKS:</p> <p>smiles ** busy fun friends*** working hard tidy* playing happy</p>	<p>FEELS:</p> <p>good** honest open** kind**** warm accepting*** thoughtful joyful*</p>
<p>SOUNDS:</p> <p>asking for turns*** questions**** conversations* kind words**</p>	