

HH-A-0005 — Educator and Librarian Notes

Reading Guidance

Publisher-positioned for ages **3–8** and **Preschool–Grade 2**. Verify age and grade recommendations before publication.

Story Structure

An emotional-tool arc emphasizing:

- Newcomer agency
- Practical access

Vocabulary Focus

- welcome
- space
- access
- communication
- rhythm
- belong

Discussion Guidance

Use hypothetical examples during discussion and protect children's privacy. Encourage discussion about different ways people communicate and participate without asking children to share personal experiences unless they choose to do so.

Library Use

Recommended as a read-aloud paired with books about:

- Moving to a new place
- Friendship
- Communication
- Disability representation

Classroom Use

Suggested follow-up activities include:

- A brief prediction before reading
- Story sequencing
- Noticing different communication methods used in the story
- Observing features that make an environment more accessible

Avoid disability simulation, forced greetings, public disclosure, or activities that require children to imitate another person's communication or mobility.