



CONQUERING KINDERGARTEN STORYTIME SIDEKICK

Books are a great way to teach reading and social-emotional learning (SEL) skills.

Here is how you can support children as you read books together:

1. Ask open-ended questions about the SEL skill in the book.
2. Respond to children’s answers and build on them to start a conversation.
3. Connect the SEL skill in the book to real experiences in children’s lives.

Try the strategy above with the story *We Are All Alike... We Are All Different*. In this book, children see the value of the SEL skill Respects Rights, Diversity, Feelings, and Property of Others, as they hear about the similarities and differences that all people share. After reading the story, follow the steps below.

GUIDE	 ASK A QUESTION	 RESPOND AND EXTEND	 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE
	EXAMPLE	<p>You say:</p> <p><i>What is one way that all people are alike?</i></p>	<p>Child says:</p> <p><i>We all eat!</i></p> <p>You say:</p> <p><i>That’s exactly right. We all eat food. Different people like different foods but we all eat!</i></p>



Want more examples of this strategy?

	1 ASK A QUESTION	2 RESPOND AND EXTEND	3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE
EXAMPLE 1	You say: <i>What is one way that all people are different?</i>	Child says: <i>We look different.</i> You say: <i>That's a great example. Everybody looks different even though we are all people.</i>	You say: <i>What do you look like? Can you think of some ways that you look different than me? Can you think of some ways we look the same?</i>
EXAMPLE 2	You say: <i>Let's look at the page where the children are playing. Can you name some things about the children in the pictures that are alike and some things that are different?</i>	Child says: <i>The little girl is different because she has a headband. The other two are the same because they are outside.</i> You say: <i>Great! You noticed that the girl has a headband and no one else does. You also saw that the two kids are alike because they are playing outside and the others are playing inside.</i>	You say: <i>Can you name the ways that you and your friend or sibling are alike and some ways that you are different?</i>



What else can you do to teach the skill in this book?

Getting to know you. Children can learn about the perspectives of others by asking people questions about what they like and dislike. You can practice this with children by asking questions about what they like and dislike and sharing your opinion.

Want to learn more about this strategy?

Research shows that reading and talking with children about books helps them build both reading and SEL skills. To get the most out of each book, read it again to support children's understanding.

It is also helpful to make real-time connections between children's experiences and the books they know. Point out when you see something in your real life that reminds you of a book.

Conquering Kindergarten aims to help families and teachers support children's development of 14 key SEL skills through evidence-based tools. For more tips, book recommendations, and reading guides, **visit CKPhilly.org**.



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