

BOOK SUMMARY

Do your students feel a genuine sense of belonging at school?

Whatever our age, we all want to feel as though we are a part of something bigger than ourselves. We all want to feel a deep sense of belonging to someone or some group.

In *All of Us*, the author Kathryn Erskine writes about unique and valuable individuality that supports a collective contribution. Use this book and our resource as a tool to help your class think about their unique identity and how they can impact their school in a positive way.

BOOKMARK

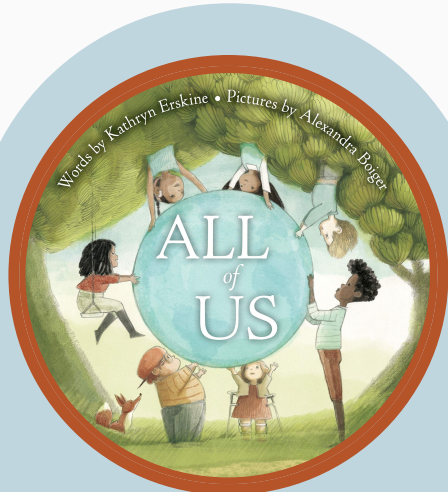
Our featured book resources include collectible bookmarks with easy access to our discussion questions (front) and personal reflection (back).

Print it out for yourself or print enough copies on card stock for your class. Let them cut out and write their own personal reflection. Choose one discussion question each day, week, or quarter to reflect on after reading, *All of Us* aloud to them.

ACTIVITIES

- * Create a space on a wall in your classroom with the Title "We". Collaborate with the art teacher or give students class time to create a piece entitled, "Me". This could be an art project, story, poem, etc. Value each persons individuality by showcasing it on your gallery wall, while also reminding yourselves you are a collective unit.
- * Label one jar *Remarkable Sounds* and one jar *Breathtaking Sights*. During morning meeting or closing circle ask students if they have an example of either to share. Write it down and put it in the jar. Reflect on the contents of the jar as a practice of gratitude weekly, monthly, or quarterly.
- * As part of a closing circle activity have students share an example of one of the following criteria they witnessed at school that day:
 - building things up
 - creating art
 - helping earth
 - healing heart

BELONGING



BOOK INFO

Author

Kathryn Erskine

Illustrator

Alexandra Boiger

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Can you have "we" without "me"?

Who are "all of us" in the book?
Who are "all of us" in your life?

How can hands "set free"?
How can your hands "set free"?

What does *breathtaking* mean?
What are your breathtaking sights?

What are your remarkable sounds?

How can you help (OR) where do you see someone helping to:

- build(ing) things up
- create(ing) art
- help(ing) earth
- heal(ing) heart

What does it mean to belong?

Who is "me" for them?



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PERSONAL REFLECTION

At any age we can struggle to understand who we are and how we can make a difference.

In the space below write out four positive "I am..." statements and four "I can..." statements.

I am

I am

I am

I am

I can

I can

I can

I can

An increased sense of belonging occurs when children know and can safely share their authentic self with others.