Whoever You Are

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

**Themes:** Diversity, Differences, Multiculturalism

**Grade Level:** Pre-K to 2nd grade

**Book Brief:** This story is a celebration of all the different kinds of children all over the world, whoever and wherever they are.

**Author:** Mem Fox

**Illustrator:** Leslie Staub

**Content Connections:** Social Studies

**TIME TO READ!**

**BEFORE WE READ, LET’S LOOK AT...**

**The Cover:** Have students make predictions about the text based on the front cover illustration. Who is the man in the blue hat? Who are the children he’s carrying? Ask students what they notice about the children on the cover.

**The Pictures:** Take a brief picture walk through the book. What kinds of kids do students see? Do they see anyone who looks like them? Where do these children live? What can we tell about them from the pictures?

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask students to think about all the things that make them special. What makes them different from everyone else in the class? Why are they unique and interesting?

**Vocabulary:** whoever, wherever, lands, wide

**Purpose for Reading:** Guide the story by setting the following purpose: “As we read today, I want you to think about what makes all these children different and what makes them the same.”

**WHILE WE READ**

**MONITORING COMPREHENSION**

- Who do you think the man in the blue hat is? To whom is he talking?
- What kinds of different houses do these children live in?
- What are the long white things the students in the school are holding? What kind of writing is that?
- What’s that animal sitting on the boy’s head? Where do you think that boy lives?
- Why do you think the little kid is crying?
- What does “love is the same” mean?

**LET’S THINK ABOUT**

**Our Purpose:** Revisit the purpose: “What makes all these children different and what makes them the same?” Encourage students to think about the ways they’re similar to and different than their classmates.

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students to think about how different they all are and how boring the world would be if everyone were exactly the same. How would the world be different if we all looked the same, acted the same way and liked the same things?

**NOTE TO EDUCATORS**

- Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.