



# Pim the Coolest Penguin

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Acceptance, Kindness, Being Different

**Book Brief:** A heartwarming story about Pim, a penguin who loses his feathers and learns that what makes him different can actually make him special!

**Author:**  
Storytime

**Illustrator:**  
Alena Tkach

## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

**The Pictures:** Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask, "Have you ever felt different from others? How did it make you feel?" (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read, think about the message or lesson of this story. What can we learn from what happens to Pim?"



**Think Aloud:** "I'm thinking about what this story is teaching us. At first, everyone makes fun of Pim for being different. But when his aunt makes him a special sweater, suddenly everyone wants to be like him! The message seems to be that being different isn't bad—sometimes what makes us different can become something others admire."

## DURING READING

**Check for understanding & make connections:**

- What happens to Pim's feathers?
- Why do the other penguins make fun of Pim?
- How does Pim's aunt help him feel better?
- How do the other penguins feel about Pim's sweater?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** "What is the message or lesson of this story? What did Pim and the other penguins learn?"

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students, "What makes you special or different? How can we be kind to people who look or seem different from us?" Encourage students to design their own special sweater or outfit for Pim (or for themselves) using paper, crayons, and craft materials like buttons, yarn, or fabric scraps. Students can decorate their paper sweaters and share what makes their design special and unique, celebrating how everyone has different and wonderful ideas.

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- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.