

Catching Kindness

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Empathy, Emotional Awareness, Kindness, Mindfulness, Social Responsibility

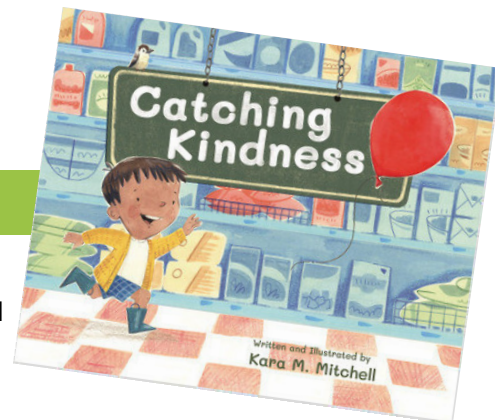
Book Brief: A small act of kindness can ripple through everyday moments and come back when it's needed most. Created by Magination Press of the American Psychological Association, it supports empathy and emotional awareness.

Authors:

Kara M. Mitchell

Illustrator:

Kara M. Mitchell



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [vocabulary guide](#).

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the boy.

Purpose for Reading: “Let’s read to find out how the boy is kind to others and the ripple effect that follows.”

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, “How can you be kind to others?”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Why was the boy cranky?
- How did the other boy help change the boy’s mood?
- What do you think the author meant by “Now you’re passing out kindness like parade candy?”
- How do the pictures show the kindness spreading?



Think Aloud: Point to the picture of the child pushing the shopping cart by the worker and say, “I notice the boy is not paying attention to pushing his cart. Look at the picture? What do you think is going to happen?”

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: The boy’s kindness spread after he was given the cart. Describe the ripple effect that occurred because of this action.

Extending Our Thinking: Using [RIF’s Main Idea and Graphic Organizer](#), have students identify the text’s main idea and the key details that support it.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more titles about being kind:
 - [Race to Kindness \(2024\)](#)
 - [Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler \(2007\)](#)
 - [Pim the Coolest Penguin](#)