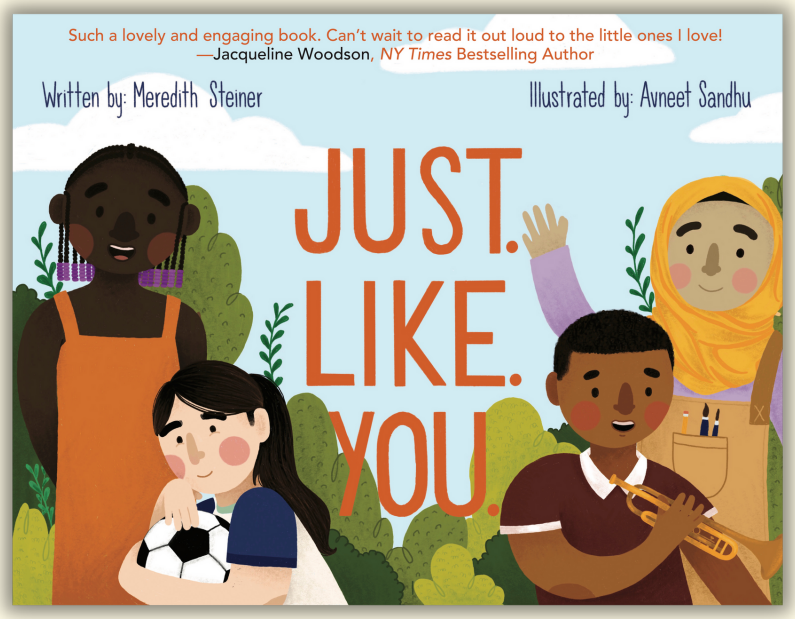
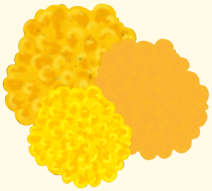


Educator Guide

Just. Like. You. invites each child to discover reflections of themselves and delight in the diversity around them. We hope that all children will find affirmation in the representations of themselves and enjoy the chance to meet children with qualities or interests that are new to them.

Read Aloud Activity

Do a picture book walk with your class, look at the pictures, but don't read the text yet. See what the children notice. Think about what themes you want to pull out as you read along, for example:



- Did you notice what Tomas is doing? He's putting flowers on an altar as part of his family's Day of the Dead celebration. Do you know anyone who celebrates Day of the Dead?
- Aaron's t-shirt says 'Frybread Power,' has anyone here ever had frybread?
- I see that Ro uses crutches to get around. Do you know anyone who uses crutches?

Post Read Aloud Discussion Questions

- Which children in the story do you share qualities with?
- There might be some kids in the story who do things or have qualities that you've never seen before, is there anything in this story that's brand new to you?
- In this story, kids have different skin color, they do different things, what are some of the other ways kids are different from each other in this story?

Activities

- Draw a picture of yourself and include all different parts of you. What color will you make your skin? Your hair? Your eyes? (If possible, invite children to look at themselves in a mirror before or while drawing.) What do you want to draw yourself doing? You can pick something you love to do or something you want to try.
- A nice way to celebrate differences is to give ourselves and each other compliments. *I love my singing voice*. What's something you like and appreciate about yourself? *I appreciate that Ms. Z speaks two different languages*. Turn to your neighbor, tell them something you like and appreciate about them.
- Make a card for someone you care about. Think about some things that make them special. Write or draw about that in the card. (For example: It's cool that you can talk with your hands! You are a fast runner! I like your brown, curly hair!)

About the Author

Meredith Steiner is an activist and advocate, committed to a more just, more joyful world. She loves playing board games that go on too long, making miniature books, and singing show tunes (when she's sure no one is around). She is a children's librarian and lives in San Francisco with her two sons. Find Meredith online at meredithsteiner.com.

About the Illustrator

Avneet Sandhu is an illustrator and graphic designer from Ontario, Canada. She studied Global Business and Digital Arts at the University of Waterloo. Through her illustrations, she hopes to present a bold and colourful world where everyone finds joy in who they are. You can visit Avneet online at avneato.com.

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This guide was created by educator and writer Tanya E. Friedman, Ed.D., educator and child development specialist Karen Keesling, and the author, Meredith Steiner.