

*Living Sunlight:*  
*How Plants Bring the Earth to Life*  
**Discussion Guide**  
Grades PK – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.**

- Preview the title, cover, and illustrations throughout the book to predict the topics of the book.
- Review some vocabulary/terms for the story: sunlight, plants, photosynthesis, chlorophyll, oxygen, carbon dioxide, inhale, exhale, Earth, golden star

**During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.**

- How are plants at the center of providing life to humans, to animals, for our food sources...life on Earth?
- “It all begins with the sun.” Explain that sentence in terms of life on Earth, especially through plants.
- Explain why/how sugar is the final product of photosynthesis.

**After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

- Ask: In pairs or small groups, use a large piece of drawing paper to illustrate the process of photosynthesis...from the sun to humans breathing and having a meal. Label and/or write a description to explain each part of your illustration.
- **Extension:** Explain how the “sugar” portion explained in the book is different from the sugar we find in many of our foods & drinks.

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 about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, or content.