

When We Gather

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Community, Family, Native American Culture

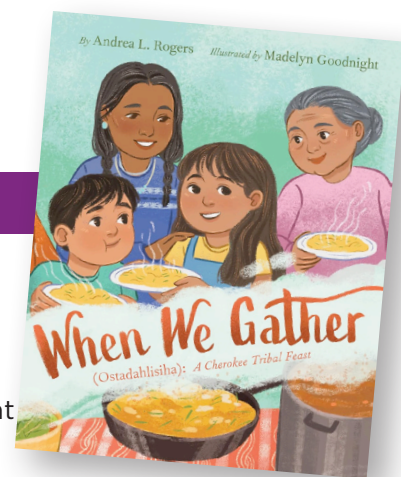
Book Brief: As the dirt warms and green sprouts poke up, a Cherokee girl joins her family in the hunt for green onions. Together, they pick enough to bring to a feast, which is cooked with love and shared by their community. Idalisdavhvga! Let's all eat!

Author:

Andrea L. Rogers

Illustrator:

Madelyn Goodnight



TIME TO READ!

The Cover: Look at the cover of the book with students and ask, "What do you see on the cover of this book?" Discuss student responses and keep them in mind for the picture walk.

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and ask students what they notice. Remind them of what they shared about the cover. Ask students if they still think the same things based on the pictures in the book, or if they have some new ideas about what will happen in the story. What makes them think that?

Vocabulary: This story will introduce words about food. Use Picture Cards: *spoon, pot, stir, cook, fry, dinner*. Ask students if they know of words in their home language(s) that mean the same thing as these words.

Purpose for Reading:

"As we read, pay attention to how each family member helps to prepare the meal."

WHILE WE READ

AS YOU READ, PAUSE AND ASK...

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** "Show me the wild onion. Point to it."
- **Level 2:** "Does the family gather the onions or grow them?"

- **Level 3:** "Why do you think they leave most of the onions?"
- **Level 4:** "What do you think will happen next spring?"

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, "The girl makes a wild onion dinner with her family. How does each family member help?"

Extending Our Thinking: The girl helps her family prepare a meal to celebrate their culture and community. How do you help your family to celebrate culture and community? (Optional: Pair-Share)

BOOK ACTIVITY: We're Going On A Picnic

In this story, each member of the family has an important role in preparing for the community dinner. Say to students, "A picnic is when people get together and eat food that they brought. Let's pretend that we are going on a picnic! What type of food or drink do you want to bring?" Have your students sit in a circle. Start with the letter A (e.g., A is for apple). Continue through the rest of the alphabet having each student come up with something they would bring that starts with the next letter.

