

Each Kindness

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Friendship, Community, Compassion

Book Brief: When a strange new girl comes to her school, Chloe learns an important lesson about the value of simple kindness.

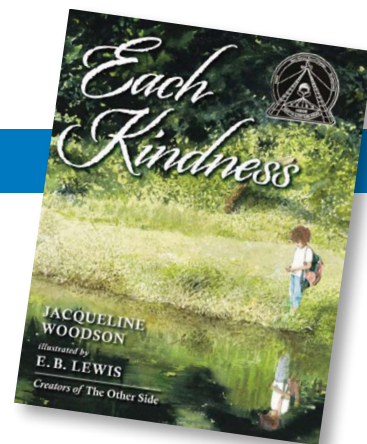
Author: Jacqueline Woodson

Illustrator:

E.B. Lewis

Content Connections:

Social Studies, Art,
Science



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the book based on the title and the cover illustration. Who is the girl on the cover? What is she doing? Does she look happy or sad?

The Pictures: Flip briefly through the pages. What can students tell about the story just from the pictures? Where and when is the book set? Who are the main characters?

Prior Knowledge: Ask students to think about a time when they've been teased or excluded for being different. How did that make them feel? Did anyone reach out to be kind to them? Then, ask students to think about a time when they've teased or excluded someone else. As a group, brainstorm the following question: Is it easier to be kind or to be mean and selfish?

Vocabulary: ragged, tattered, ripple

Purpose for Reading: As you read, think about how *you* would have treated Maya if you had been in Chloe's position. Would you have had the courage to be kind?

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION:

- ◆ What's different about Maya?
- ◆ Why doesn't Chloe smile back at her?
- ◆ Why don't the other girls like Maya's pretty dress?

- ◆ What does Chloe do when Ms. Albert gives her the stone?
- ◆ Why does Maya leave?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: What would you have done if you were Chloe? Would you have been friends with Maya? What could you have said to your other friends to stop them from teasing Maya?

Extending Our Thinking: "Each little thing we do goes out, like a ripple, into the world." What does this mean? How can a simple act like helping a teacher carry books change the world? Can you think of a time a stranger or someone you don't know very well did something kind for you? How did it make you feel? Did it change your day for the better? Do you think the mean or selfish things we do also ripple out into the world? Why or why not? In your mind, make a list of all the kind things you've done today and a list of all the mean things. Which list is longer?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffold also available.



Reading Is
Fundamental