

Same, Same but Different



A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Multiculturalism, Indian Culture, Comparisons

Grade Level: Pre-K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: Two pen pals realize that their lives are more alike than they thought.

Author/Illustrator:

Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build background: Has your child ever been to, or were they born in, another country?

Another state? Talk about how people do things differently in different parts of the world.

While reading, look at the pictures: The pictures tell us about the two boys' lives. How is your child's life like each of the boys'? How is it different?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ How are Elliot and Kailash different?
- ◆ How are they the same?
- ◆ Why doesn't everybody live in the same kind of house or have the same kind of family?
- ◆ Do you think it would be boring if we were all the same?
- ◆ What about you and your family makes you special?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

DELICIOUS DIFFERENCES

Ingredients: 2 or 3 kinds of apples, 2 or 3 kinds of cheese

You can learn about differences just by eating! Give your child slices from 2 or 3 different kinds of apples and cubes of 2 or 3 kinds of cheese. While they eat, ask them to think about how the apples and cheese are alike and different. . .and how they're all delicious!

OUT AND ABOUT

How diverse is your city or town? The next time you go out, point out all the signs or symbols of different cultures you see. While you're out, ask your child to think about how boring the world be if we were all the same.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Pen pals don't have to be strangers! Do you have any relatives or close friends in a different country or state? Help your child write them a letter, postcard or e-mail. If you write a letter, have your child draw a picture of their "world," like Elliot and Kailash drew. You can also include actual photos. This could be a good chance to help your child learn about other places and get to know a relative or family friend.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER INTERNATIONAL BOOKS

One World, One Day, Barbara Kerley (2009),
Book Fiesta, Pat Mora (2009),
Throw Your Tooth on the Roof, Salby Beeler (2001),
Whoever You Are, Mem Fox (2006).



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