Music Class Today!

Loretta Farnsworth

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Children gather together for music class, but a new classmate is reluctant to participate. The reluctant boy ultimately chooses to take part in the music class through watching his happy peers, through the support by his mother in the background, and through the friendly encouragement of his teacher. The repetitive “chorus” assists young readers in learning to read. The words also have an element of “I spy” as some sentences ask the readers to look at the brightly colored pictures to find certain characters and events.

The book touches on lessons of patience and encouragement and particularly allows readers to experience the growth of the main character. The illustrator, meanwhile, makes an effort to depict diversity in many aspects of the book: the children are ethnically diverse, the classroom has mothers and fathers with their children, and a scene in particular shows two mothers sitting beside each other, one bottle feeding and the other breastfeeding. The breast feeding does show a portion of exposed breast, and some parents may not approve of this illustration. However, many parents and children from a variety of backgrounds will still enjoy reading this book.