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We're All Wonders

Nicole Davis

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Book Review

Title: We're All Wonders
Author: R.J. Palacio
Reviewer: Nicole Davis
Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers
Year: 2017
ISBN: 9781524766498
Pages: 32
Interest Level: Toddler, Preschool, Primary
Rating: Excellent



Review

Auggie is a wonder, but not everyone can see it. He knows he looks different, but inside he doesn't feel different. Other people laugh at him and hurt his feelings. Auggie and his dog blast off into space. Looking down on the world, Auggie sees how big it is and knows it is full of all different types of people. He knows each of them is a wonder too. Auggie cannot change the way he looks, but he hopes everyone can change the way they look at the world and at each other. He knows that if we chose to be kind, we would see the wonder in each person on Earth.

We're All Wonders is based on the chapter book *Wonder*, also by R.J. Palacio, that gives more history and meaning to Auggie's story. The picture book version is a perfect introduction for small children to talk about the differences in the world and how important it is to choose to be kind. It helps children understand how their actions or inactions can hurt. The pictures are simple and colorful. Auggie is drawn with only one eye to depict his physical differences. Some of the depth and emotion of *Wonder* is missing in the simple version and could have been included, but would have changed the tone of the story. This is a simple, yet powerful story about how our words hurt others and how a little kindness can change perspectives.