



Celebrate You!

by Sherri Duskey Rinker
illustrated by A. N. Kang

About the Book

Loudly and proudly, let's celebrate YOU!

This charming new picture book celebrates all the small but important milestones on the way to growing up, from the first wobbly baby steps to the time when he or she is ready to leave the nest.

With irresistible illustrations and an inspiring message, *Celebrate You!* will cheer and encourage readers of any age.

Storytime Activities

WHAT'S YOUR TIMELINE?: Ask the children to bring in 4–6 photographs of important milestones in their life. For example, they can bring photos of when they were a newborn, when they took their first steps, when they started school, and when a sibling was born. Have the children mount their photos on separate pieces of paper and add a caption describing what is happening in the picture. Then connect the photos in chronological order (punch holes in the pages and link them with yarn or paperclips). Display the timelines and provide an opportunity for children to share them with the group.

IT'S ALL ABOUT ME: Discuss what an autobiography is and tell the children they will be writing their own autobiography. As a prewriting activity, have the children brainstorm ideas with a partner. What should they include about themselves? Why would this be important? Take photographs of the children to put on the cover of their autobiographies.



PRIDE AND JOY: Discuss why the parents are very proud of their child in this story. Encourage the children to articulate how the penguin works hard and never gives up even when faced with challenges, how the character remains humble, and how the penguin is caring and kind. Then ask the children to think about what makes them feel most proud of themselves. Have them design a page depicting this with words and pictures. Older children can use a digital presentation program (e.g., Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Slides) to create their page. Then the individual pages can be merged into a single presentation to share with the whole group.

DREAM ON: The parents in this story are proud that their child is chasing his dreams. Ask the children to think about their own goals and dreams for their future. Have them create a collage or poster depicting their dreams. For example, do they want to travel? Become the president? Climb a mountain? Play professional tennis? Have the children draw and cut out pictures to glue onto their collage, as well as find images from magazines or the Internet. Display the collages when completed.

CELEBRATE YOU!: Have a celebration! This is an opportunity to share the previous activities with the group (the digital presentation, timelines, autobiographies, and collages) and celebrate how each child is important, different, and special.