



HUMAN
RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN
FOUNDATION

WELCOMING SCHOOLS
Book of the Month



All Are Welcome

By: Alexandra Penfold

Illustrated by: Suzanne Kaufman

Elementary Discussion Guide

Suggested Age Range: 3-8

About the Story

It's the start of a new school year! As children arrive with their families, they discover a school where everyone is welcomed and diversity is celebrated. The children learn about different families, cultures, and traditions. Everyone feels safe, seen, and valued. At the end of the day, the children head home excited to return the next day to a school where they know they belong.

About the Author

Alexandra Penfold is the author of several beloved children's books. She is a graduate of New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study. When she isn't writing, Alexandra loves food and enjoys developing recipes for companies and brands. She lives in New York with her family.

About the Illustrator

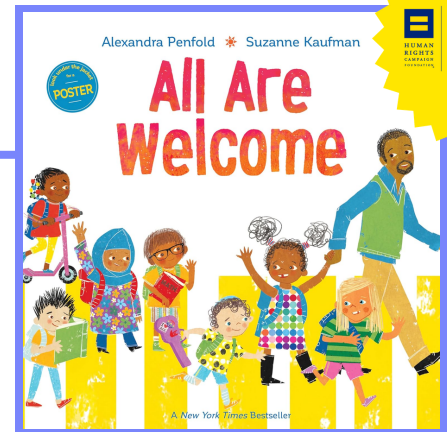
Suzanne Kaufman is a New York Times bestselling illustrator whose artwork has appeared in many children's books. In addition to illustrating books, she has worked as an animator for Universal and Discovery. Suzanne lives in Seattle with her husband and two creative daughters.

Discussion Questions

- ✳ What are some of the activities the children enjoy together at school?
- ✳ What are some differences you notice about the children and families as they arrive at school?
- ✳ What helps you feel welcome and included at school?
- ✳ What is one thing you could do to help someone else feel welcome?
- ✳ What is your favorite picture in the book? What makes it your favorite?

Activities

- ✳ Illustration Scavenger Hunt: Look closely at the pictures. Can you find different families, foods, clothing, musical instruments, games, and ways children help one another?
- ✳ Make a list of ways you can help others feel welcome.
- ✳ Share a favorite family tradition, celebration, meal, game, or activity. Explain why it is special to you.
- ✳ Create a welcome sign. Decorate it with pictures and words that help everyone feel welcome.
- ✳ Create a poster of things that make you special. Use pictures or drawings of some of your favorite foods, places and hobbies. You can include your family, pets, and celebrations.



Reading is one of the most powerful ways to model inclusion and nurture empathy. Welcoming Schools created the Book of the Month series to foster compassionate dialogue and elevate joyful stories of authentic LGBTQ+ lives, building monthly engagement and momentum leading up to our National Day of Reading each February.