



Here We Are

Written & Illustrated by Oliver Jeffers

An Earthling's guide on how to respect and show kindness to the Earth and the people who share it.

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, what do you think this story is about? Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder where we are on that planet and how many other people share it with us?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- planet—a round object that moves around the sun
- Earth—a planet
- globe—an object that is shaped like a large ball
- floating—suspended in water or air
- iceberg—a large floating mass of ice
- atmosphere—the whole mass of air that surrounds the Earth
- constellation—a group of stars that form a pattern
- The Milky Way—a broad band of light that can be seen in the night sky, caused by large number of faint stars

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What planet do we live on? How many people do you think live here too?
- What two parts make up our planet?
- What do you know about land?
- What do you know about the sea and who lives there?
- There is a lot going on above our planet Earth. Name some of the things above us.
- What are the important things for people to remember to do to take care of themselves?
- What things do you do when the sun is out?
- What things do you do when the moon is out?
- What are some things you can do while living here on Earth to make it a better place? Share your ideas and work together for all of us on here.



DO

Journey Stick

Materials:

- Cardboard
- Double-sided tape

A journey stick is a memento of a nature walk, made up of items collected while on the walk. These can include flowers, leaves, sticks, tiny rocks, pinecones, feathers or anything else natural that is found along your journey.

You can use a piece of cardboard (stick) with double-sided tape to secure the found items to the stick. Roll the liner side of the tape down as items are added to expose more of the adhesive area. With older students you can make a journey stick using a found stick and string or yarn to attach the items.

