



Sample Lesson Plan for World Read Aloud Day

Text: Whoever You Are by Mem Fox

Children all over the world are reading aloud today for World Read Aloud Day and I am so happy to be celebrating the power of words with you now! Here is a book to share, all about peace and friendship. Every book has a title and author. This title is Whoever You Are and this book is by the author Mem Fox. We are going to read this together and have fun with this book! I am going to do some hand motions to go with the words and you can help us by joining in!

Read along in your copy of the book and tap out the hand motions in time to the rhythm of the poem. Bring in the whole group for each refrain.

Little one, whoever you are, *[Clap]*
wherever you are, *[Clap]*
there are little ones just like you, all over the world. *[Sweep arms in large circle]*
Their skin may be different from yours, *[Tap arm 3 times]*
and their homes may be different from yours. *[Put hands together with fingertips touching and rotate your touching hands]*
Their schools may be different from yours, *[Slap hand to other palm 3 times]*
and their lands may be different from yours. *[Put palm of one hand down in front of you and make a circular motion]*
Their lives may be different from yours, and their words may be very different from yours. *[Point your finger to each child with a smile]*
But inside, their hearts just like yours, *[Tap hand to heart 3 times]*

[Say together and stomp or clap together] whoever they are, wherever they are
all over the world. *[Sweep arms in large circle]*

Their smiles are like yours, and they laugh like you too. *[Motion belly laugh]*
Their hurts are like yours, and they cry like you too. *[Put finger on each cheek and make tear motion down]*

[Say together and stomp or clap together] whoever they are, wherever they are,
all over the world. *[Sweep arms in large circle]*

Little one, when you are older and when you are grown, *[Put palm down to the ground and pull upwards to show growth]*
you may be different, and they may be different,

wherever you are, *[Clap]*
wherever they are, *[Clap]*
in this big wide world. *[Sweep arms in large circle]*

But remember this: Joys are the same, and love is the same. *[Put your hands into fists and cross your arms across your chest]*

Pain is the same, and blood is the same. *[Put both hands in front of face with fingers open and draw down as if making face sad]*

Smiles are the same, and hearts are just the same –

[Say together and stomp or clap together] wherever they are, wherever you are, wherever we are,
all over the world. *[Sweep arms in large circle]*

[Repeat the refrain if the children like it, having them stomp or clap it again]