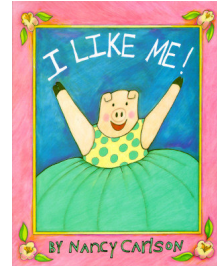


I Like Me

by Nancy Carlson



- **Things to get ready:**

Get together as many of the following items as you can.
(Props, or “stuff”, make the story come to life.)

1. stuffed pig, or pig puppet
2. several hand mirrors, preferably unbreakable (or just one will work fine)
3. Paper, crayons, and/or colored pencils.
4. Draw a picture of yourself to use as a model during the art activity.

- **Getting the children ready to listen:**

Tell the children that each one of them is special. You are special too. Using the hand mirror on yourself, say the poem:

Look in the mirror.
Whom do you see?
It's someone special.
Look, it's me!

If you think the children can handle a mirror, and you have the time, pass a mirror around to each child, repeating the poem each time and encouraging all the children to say it with you.

- **Read-Aloud Guide**

BEFORE you read the book:

1. Tell the children you are going to read a book about a pig who has a best friend. Show them the cover and read the Title, author, and illustrator. Ask them who they think is the pig's best friend. Ask them why.
2. Encourage them to listen and see if they are right.

DURING reading:

1. Stop after the "I read good books with me" page.
Ask the children what "fun things" the pig likes to do with herself.
(Responses: draw pictures, ride fast, read good books)
2. Stop after the "I eat good food" page.
Ask the children to tell a few ways the pig takes care of herself.
(Responses: brushes her teeth, keeps clean, eats good food)

AFTER reading:

1. Ask the children who was the pig's best friend? (herself)
2. How was she special to herself?
(encourage several to share)
3. "Now we're going to talk about how WE are special and do a drawing of ourselves." (Introduce art activity)

- **Extension Activity:**

Using your own self portrait tell the children how you are special. Mention a few features they can **see** such as “I remembered to put freckles on my face and that makes me special.” Mention one or two things about yourself that you **cannot see** such as “I am special because I play the piano, or I make great tortillas.” Encourage each student to tell one thing about him/herself that is special. Explain that they will draw pictures of themselves. Pass out the mirrors so that they can look at themselves as they work.

Encourage the children to take their pictures home and tell their family why they are special.

- **Related Books**

Another Important Book
by Margaret Wise Brown

All By Myself
by Mercer Mayer

Stephanie’s Ponytail
by Robert Munsch

Things I Like
by Anthony Browne

I Like Books
by Anthony Browne

I Like To Be Little
by Charlotte Zolotow

I Like the Music
by Leah Komaiko