



Read Aloud Guide

Title: *When Aidan Became A Brother*, by Kyle Lukoff, Illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Best for: K - 5

Summary: This book celebrates the changes in a transgender boy's life, from his initial coming-out to becoming a big brother. When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl. After he realized he was a trans boy and told his parents, Aidan and his parents fixed the parts of his life that didn't fit anymore, and he settled happily into his new life. Then, his mom and dad announce that they are having another baby, and Aidan wants to do everything he can to make things go right for his new sibling.

Why we chose this book: We love that this book celebrates gender diversity and that the story of Aidan can resonate with transgender children. This book also reassures children worried about becoming an older sibling and recognizes the many transitions a family can experience. *When Aidan Became a Brother* is a heartfelt story about being recognized and loved.

Central themes: Breaking Gender Barriers, Diversity, LGBTQ, Identity, Self Esteem, Empathy, Caring, Families, Siblings

Introducing the book: You can begin by showing the cover, reading the title and author, and then saying something like this:

"What do you think the book might be about? Make a guess based on the title and the cover picture." (Allow students to make a prediction about the book.)

"This book is about a boy named Aidan who everyone thought was a girl at first until he tells his parents he is a boy. Aidan is also about to become an older brother and because he knows what it feels like to not quite belong, he gets worried about making mistakes"

"Does anyone here have a sibling? Do you help them? Do they help you?"

"Do you ever feel worried about making mistakes?"

After Reading: Debrief with students

"Why was Aidan upset at the beginning of the book?"

"Has anyone ever felt like they did not fit in? How did you feel? How did the feelings change over time?"

"What did Aidan teach us about making mistakes?"

"What did Aidan realize was the most important thing about being a sibling?"