## CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITIES

# **CELEBRATING ALL CULTURES**

#### TIPS FOR CAREGIVERS

Social and emotional learning (SEL) helps children manage emotions, learn how to feel empathy, create and achieve goals, and make good decisions. Strong lessons and support in SEL will help children establish positive habits in communication, cooperation, and decision-making. By incorporating SEL in early reading, children will learn the importance of accepting and celebrating all people in their communities.

#### **BEFORE READING**

Talk to the reader about culture. Explain that culture has to do with our ways of life. Give examples of different aspects of culture.

**Discuss:** Can you name some parts of your culture? How would you describe your culture? Can you name a part of someone else's culture?

#### **AFTER READING**

Talk to the reader about ways he or she can celebrate cultural differences with others.

**Discuss:** What is one way you can accept another person's culture? Why should we accept others? Why is it good for a community to celebrate all people?

#### **SEL GOAL**

Children may have a loose understanding of acceptance. Talk to readers about the importance of empathy in accepting and celebrating the differences of others, especially as they pertain to one's culture. Ask them to think about a time when they felt left out and a time when they felt included. Then ask readers to consider the feelings they had in both situations. Make a list of the feelings they had when they were accepted and included and the feelings they had when they were singled out for being different. Explain that our communities are better when everyone is accepted and included.

### GOALS AND TOOLS

#### **GROW WITH GOALS**

Accepting all people, no matter their culture, is important. You can help others learn more about your culture, too!

**Goal:** Can you name some things that are part of your culture? What are some things about your culture that you would like to share with someone else?

**Goal:** What do you want to know about another culture? How can you learn this?

**Goal:** Get to know someone you haven't spoken with much before. Try to find things you have in common or that you both like.

#### WRITING REFLECTION

Knowing about your own culture can help you accept other cultures.

- 1. What is your favorite part about your culture?
- 2. What is something from another culture you want to learn more about?
- **3.** What can you do to be more accepting of others?

