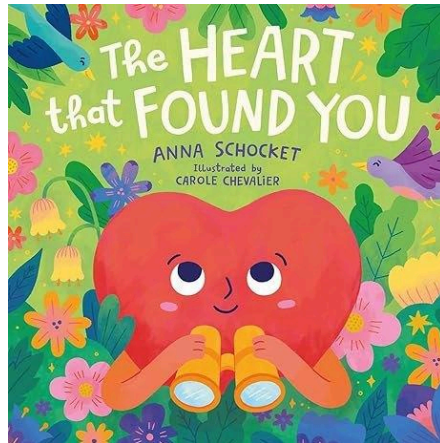


# ***The Heart That found You***

## **Discussion / Activity Guide for Teachers and Librarians**

**Written by Anna Schocket | Illustrated by Carole Chevalier**

**Suggested Grade Levels: Pre-K – 2nd**



---

### **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

This guide is designed to enrich classroom and library experiences through interactive read-aloud sessions and discussion. Activities are aligned with Common Core Standards and help young learners explore themes of love, family, identity, and belonging.

---

### **SYNOPSIS**

*The Heart That Found You* is a beautifully illustrated picture book that follows Heart—a curious, kind character—on a whimsical journey in search of love and connection. Through valleys, mountains, oceans, and even inside a macaroon, Heart continues the search until love arrives in the form of another heart. The story celebrates adoptive and diverse families with warmth, compassion, and emotional depth.

---

# ***The Heart That found You***

## **Discussion / Activity Guide for Teachers and Librarians**

### **THEMES**

- Adoption and Found Families
  - Love and Belonging
  - Identity and Self-Discovery
  - Empathy and Compassion
  - Hope and Persistence
- 

### **BEFORE READING**

**Standards:** CCSS.SL.K.1, SL.1.1, SL.2.1

**Objective:** Activate background knowledge and build anticipation.

**Discussion Prompts:**

1. What makes a family?
  2. Have you ever felt like you were searching for something important?
  3. Look at the cover. What do you think the story will be about?
- 

### **DURING READING**

**Standards:** CCSS.SL.K.2, SL.1.2, SL.2.2

**Objective:** Strengthen listening comprehension and emotional literacy.

**Tips:**

- Pause to examine illustrations—what emotions do you notice in Heart's expressions?
  - Ask prediction questions: "Where do you think Heart will look next?"
  - Focus on the rhythm and rhyme—encourage children to echo or repeat phrases.
-

# ***The Heart That found You***

## **Discussion / Activity Guide for Teachers and Librarians**

### **AFTER READING**

#### **READING RESPONSE**

**Standards:** CCSS.RL.K.1; RL.1.1; RL.2.1

**Prompt:** How does Heart feel at the beginning of the story? How does that change by the end?

**Extension:** Draw Heart before and after finding Little Heart. What's different?

---

#### **WRITING ACTIVITY: “My Heart Story”**

**Standards:** CCSS.W.K.3; W.1.3; W.2.3

**Objective:** Students write or dictate a story about a time they felt truly loved or found.

**Materials:** Paper, pencils, crayons

**Instructions:**

1. Talk about how love can come from different people—family, friends, teachers, pets.
  2. Invite students to write about a time they felt special or “found.”
  3. Illustrate what fills their heart and share in a class book or wall display.
- 

#### **ART ACTIVITY: Design Your Own Heart Character**

**Objective:** Explore individuality and creativity.

**Materials:** Construction paper, markers, googly eyes, stickers, glue

**Instructions:**

1. Provide heart-shaped templates or let students cut their own.
  2. Decorate the hearts to reflect each child's personality (shy, curious, funny, etc.).
  3. Display with name tags: “This is ME as a Heart!”
-

# ***The Heart That found You***

## **Discussion / Activity Guide for Teachers and Librarians**

### **VOCABULARY & LANGUAGE**

Words to Discuss:

- Belonging
- Adoption
- Quest
- Thrive

**Activity:** Create a word wall with illustrations or use words in simple poems.

---

### **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL EXTENSION**

**Prompt:** What does it mean to belong? Who helps *you* feel like you belong?

Use this conversation to build empathy and encourage children to be welcoming to others.

---

### **CROSS-CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS**

#### **TECHNOLOGY:**

Students can use a digital drawing app to create a background for Heart's journey (mountain, ocean, city, etc.).

#### **SCIENCE:**

Planting activity to parallel Heart's gardening attempt. Talk about how love—like plants—needs time and care to grow.

---

# ***The Heart That found You***

## **Discussion / Activity Guide for Teachers and Librarians**

### **EXTENSION FOR LIBRARIANS**

#### **Library Discussion Prompt:**

“What kinds of families do you see in books? How are they similar or different from yours?”

#### **Book Pairings:**

- *A Family Is a Family Is a Family* by Sara O'Leary
  - *The Family Book* by Todd Parr
  - *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson
- 

### **CLOSING ACTIVITY**

#### **Prompt:**

If your heart could go anywhere in the world to find love, where would it go?  
Draw or describe what it would find.

---

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Anna Schocket is a single adoptive mother and senior talent development executive who believes in the power of storytelling to help children understand the world around them—and their place in it.