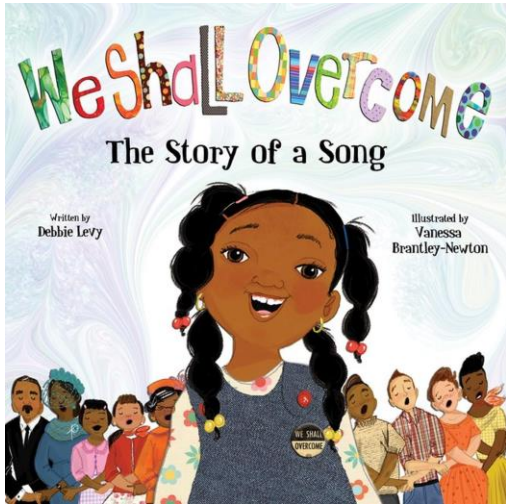


Discussion Guide for Families



We Shall Overcome: A Story of a Song

Author: Debbie Levy

Illustrator: Vanessa Brantley-Newton

Themes: Music, Resilience, Unity, Expression

Book Brief: An inspiring tale of a song that has brought hope and unity to people fighting for justice all around the world.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Model how to connect to the story by asking your child if they have ever felt strongly about something and if there's a song that makes them feel powerful or hopeful. Discuss the role of music in bringing people together and how it can express emotions and messages that words alone sometimes cannot.

While Reading: Make Connections

- As you progress through the story, engage your child by exploring the emotions and historical context behind the song. Ask questions like "Why do you think 'We Shall Overcome' became so important to people fighting for their rights?" Or "How do you think people felt when they sang this song together during protests?"

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Do you think music can change the world? Why or why not?
- How can a song help people feel brave or united?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Listening to other songs that have been important in social movements around the world. Discuss what makes these songs powerful and how they help people come together.