

How We Say I Love You



A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Cooking, Family, Love

Book Brief: An Asian-American girl shares how her family expresses love for one another through actions rather than words.

Author:
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Illustrator:
Larry Wen

TIME TO READ!



Before: Say, “This story is about a family that does lots of different things to show they love each other. What kinds of things do you think they might do to show love?” Also, you can share that there is a heart hidden in the picture on every page! How many do you think you can find?

During: As you read about the different things the girl’s family does, ask, “What are the things the family does to show that they love each other? Are they some of the same things we do in our family? What are some things that we do differently?”

After, ask questions:

- What are some other things the family might do to show that they love each other?
- How do you like to show people that you love them?
- How would you like other people to show you they love you?

INTENTIONAL TALK

Print Awareness is a critical are for learning to read. Print awareness includes learning that letters make up words in print, and written words represent spoken words. The word “love” is repeated many times in the story. After you have read the book a few times, look at the cover and point out the word “love.” Point to each letter individually and identify its name. Then, walk through the text in the book and see if you can find the word “love” again.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

HEART HUNT

Materials: paper, writing utensil

Each illustration spread in the book has a hidden heart to find. Where else do you see hearts? Go on a “heart hunt” through your house, neighborhood, or on a drive. How many hearts can you find? Keep a tally on paper by making marks, or even drawing hearts to represent each one you find!



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



“I LOVE YOU” BOOKS

- [I Love You Because I Love You \(2022\)](#)
- [I Love You When You’re Angry \(2021\)](#)
- [Love you Forever \(1995\)](#)