**Sulwe**
**Reader's Guide**

Author: Lupita Nyong’o
Illustrator: Vashti Harrison
Grade Levels: 2-4th Grades

**Objective:** Students recognize why accepting yourself is important.

**EBR Core Action Support - Text, Task, Talk**
- 1 - High Quality Text & Supports Foundational Skills
- 2 - Employ questions and tasks that are text dependent and text specific.
- 3 - Provide all students with the opportunity to engage in the work of the lesson.

**Before Reading:**
- Preview the front cover of the book.
- Ask students what they think this book will be about, explain that is called making predictions.
- **Student Spark:** How would you describe your skin tone?

**After Reading:**
1. **Reactions**
   - What did you think about the book, do you have a favorite part?
   - How do you think the art was made?
   - What happened at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?

2. **Question/Discussion.**
   - Why does Sulwe feel different from her family members?
   - How does Sulwe try to change the way she looks?
   - What does her mother do when she realizes Sulwe is upset?
   - What does Sulwe realize after her dream?
   - Acceptance and belonging are key themes in the story. What does acceptance mean to you?
   - Why do you think it is important to love and accept yourself?
   - How are you different from everyone else? In what ways is that hard, and in what ways is that good? How do your differences make you feel?
   - Show the students the picture of the author on the back cover. They may recognize Lupita Nyong’o from the movie Black Panther. Ask students why they think she chose to write this book. Students should make the connection that Sulwe’s skin color is similar to Nyong’o’s. Then read the Author’s Note at the end of the book.

3. **Draw or Write:**
   - Draw a picture of yourself showing how you are unique and write a word or sentence describing your feelings.

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