

Shelley MOORE PH.D.



@tweetsomemoore



@fivemooreminutes



@fivemooreminutes

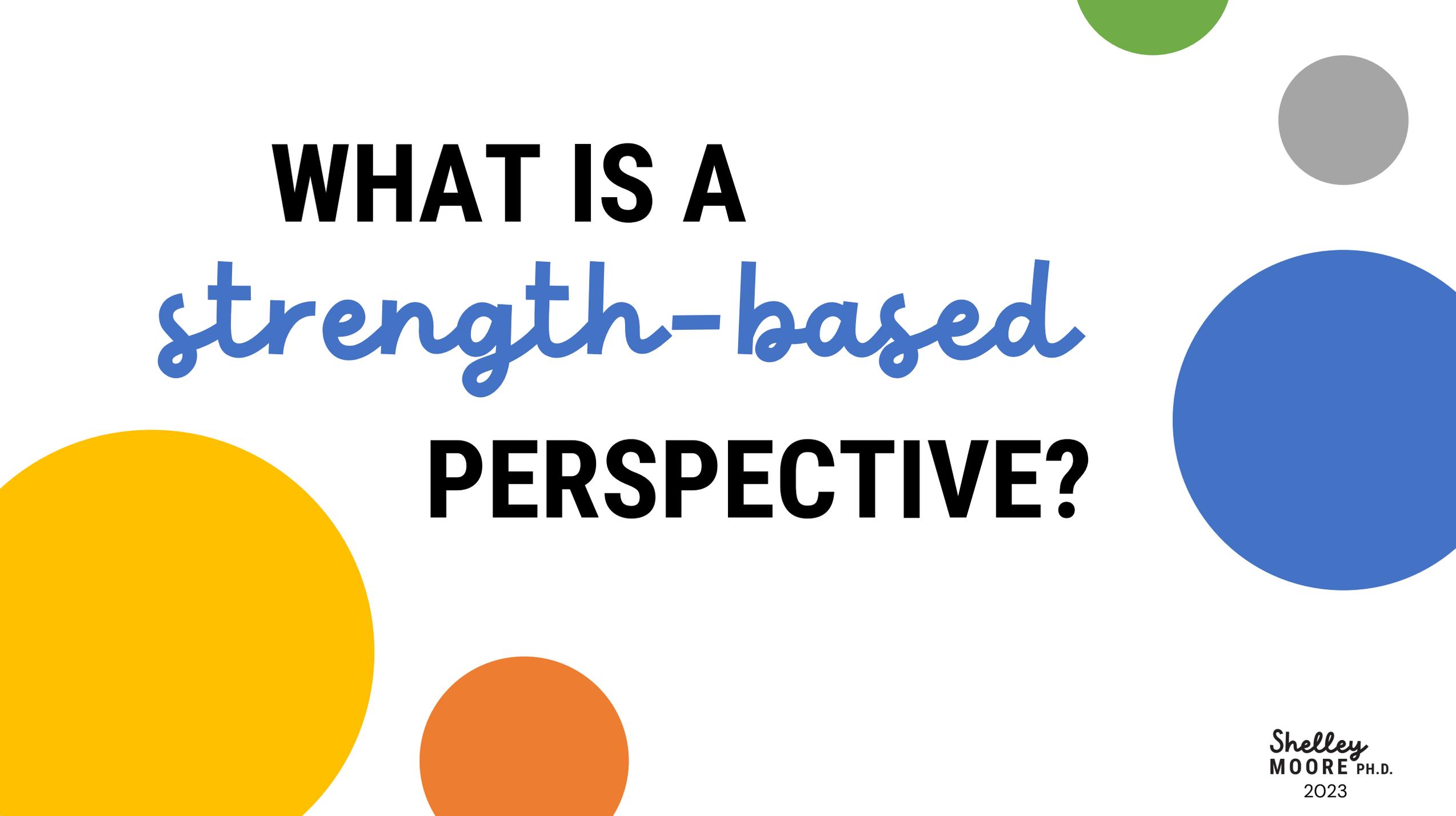


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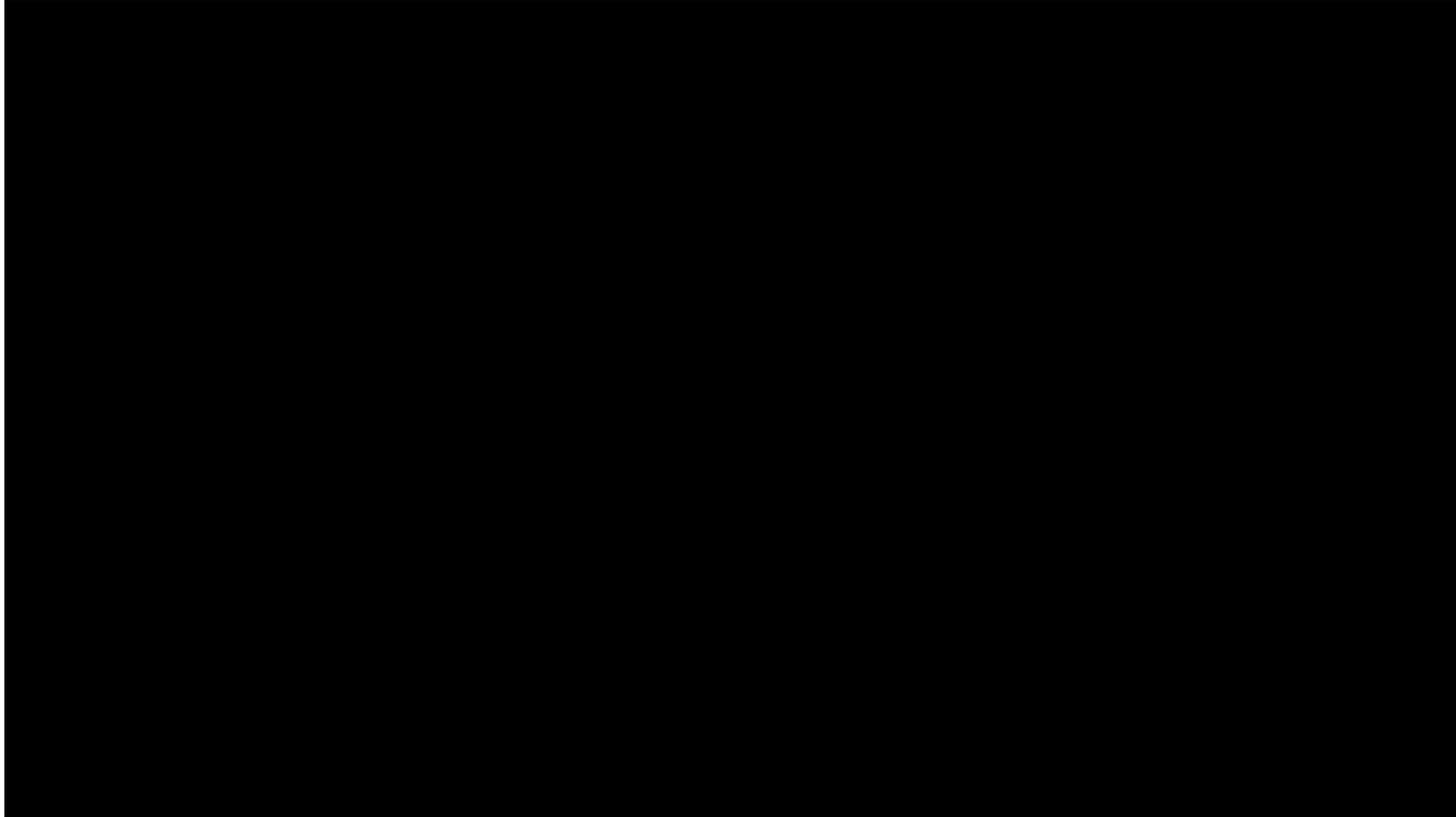


Strength-Based **Perspectives**



WHAT IS A
strength-based
PERSPECTIVE?

WHAT IS A *strength-based* PERSPECTIVE?

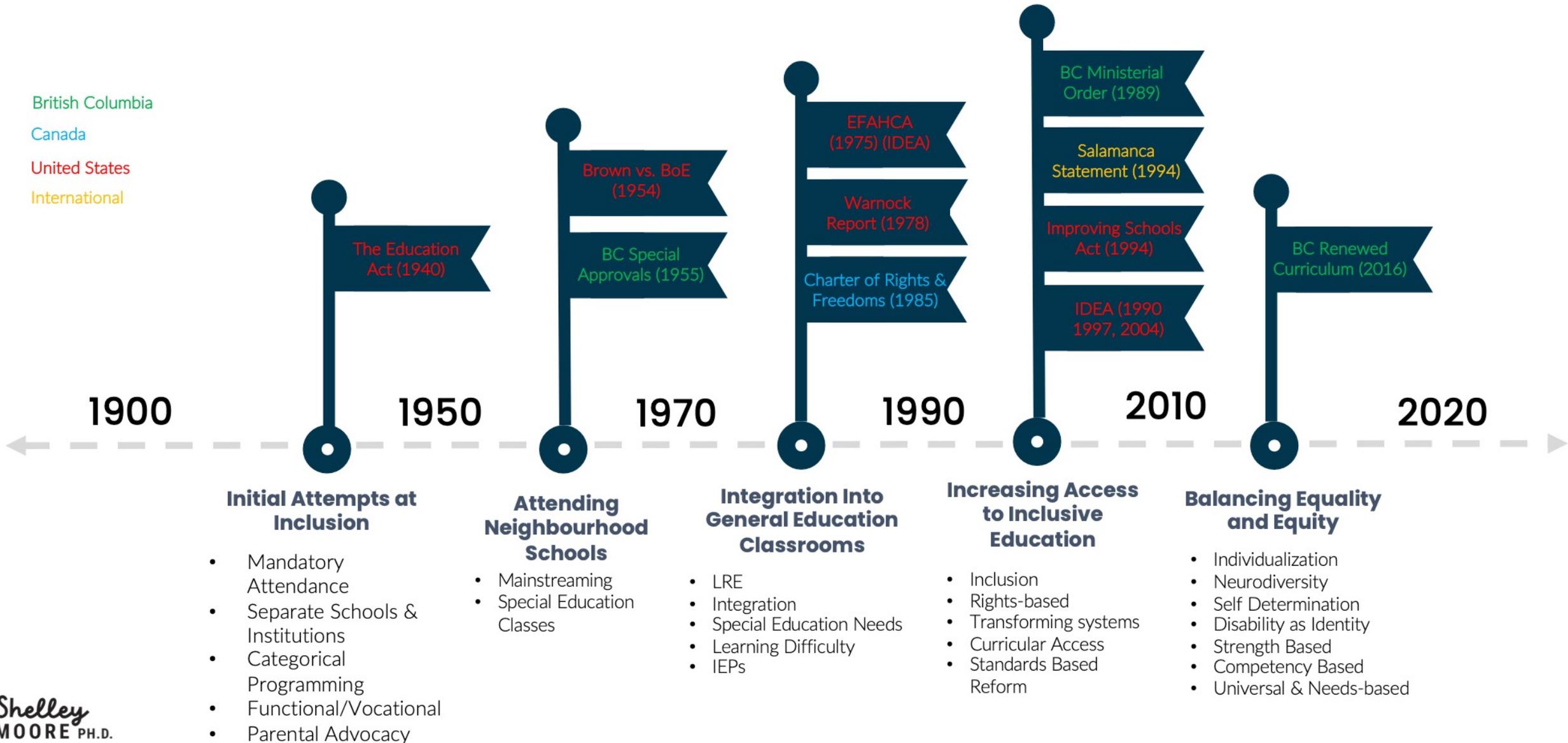


Why a

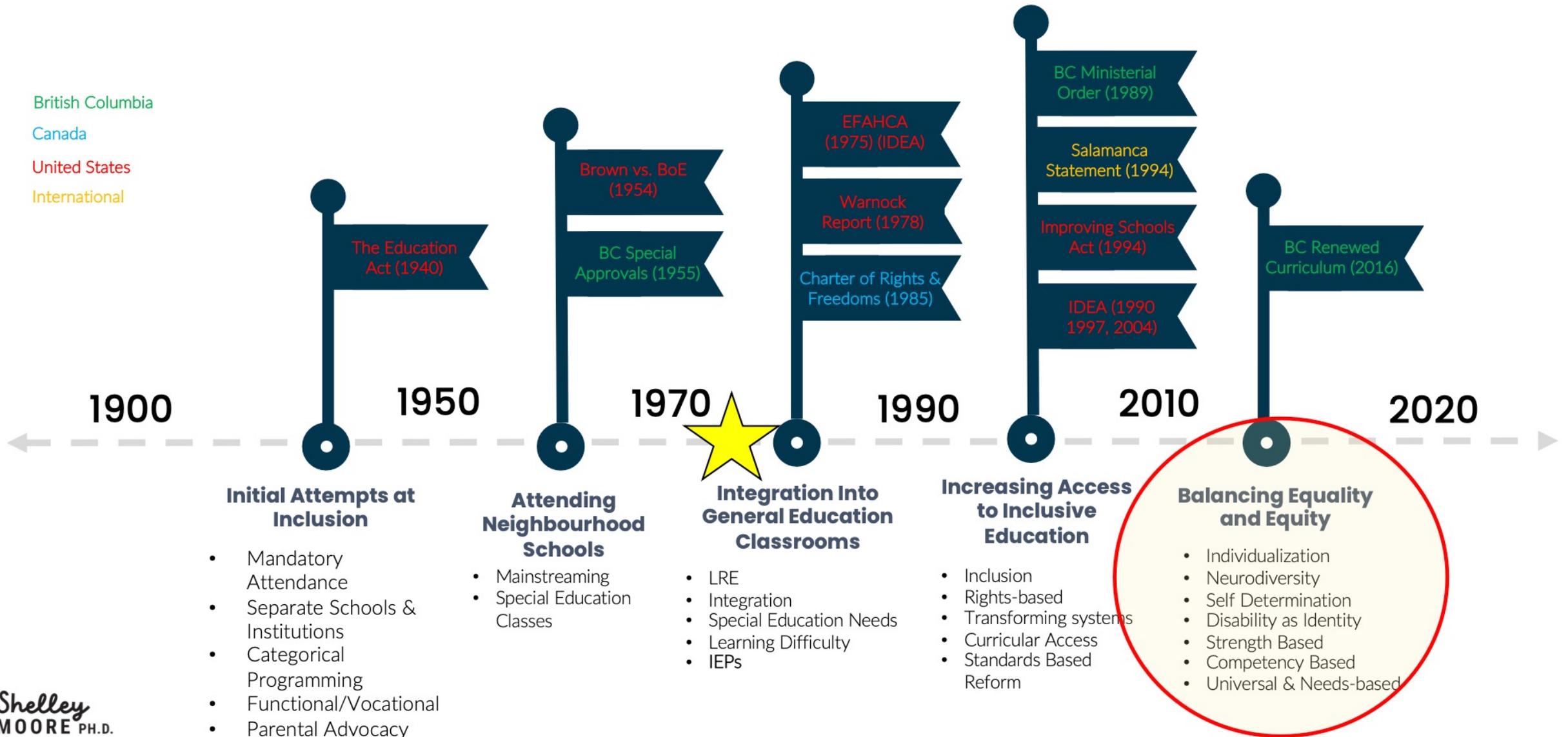
strength-based

PERSPECTIVE?

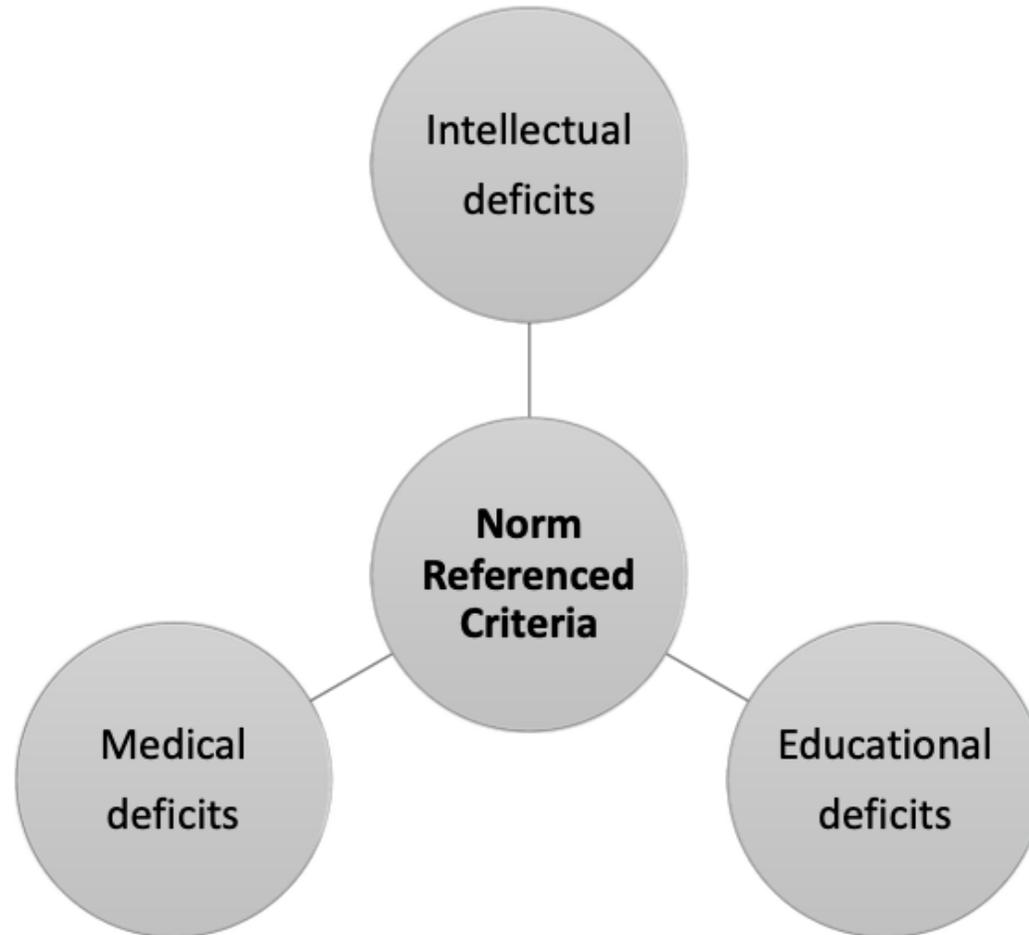
History & Evolution of Inclusion for Students Intellectual Disabilities



History & Evolution of Inclusion for Students Intellectual Disabilities



Why are students not often viewed through a **strength-based perspective**?



A *strength-based* PERSPECTIVE IS...

- Believing that **ANY and ALL** students can learn in **ANY and ALL** contexts because accessing learning **does not rely on pre-requisites**
- Focusing on what students **CAN do** and where they **COULD be**, instead of what they **CAN'T** do and where they **SHOULD** be
- Build on the strengths of students to **contribute to their communities, teach others** and facilitate a **sense of belonging**
- **Harness the strengths** of students to **build on their stretches**, or get better at things that are hard

WHY A *strength-based* PERSPECTIVE?

Looking at students through a **strength-based lens**

leads to **presuming student competence**

leads to decisions based on **high expectations**

leads to **greater access** to grade level curriculum and peers

Results in increases in **student learning, achievement and quality of life** after school

"Even if **we are wrong** about a student's **capabilities** to access and learn grade level curriculum with their peers, **the consequences** of that presumption **being wrong** are **not as dangerous** as not holding high expectations."

-Cheryl Jorgenson



HOW CAN WE
shift our practice
TOWARDS A
strength-based
PERSPECTIVE?



"When a flower doesn't bloom,
you **fix the environment** in
which it grows, not the
flower."

-Alexander den Heijer

Why Student Voice?



Needs more
light



Needs more
moisture



Needs more
space

The plant **TELLS** and **SHOWS** us what it needs

Why is Student Agency Important?

- Student agency is playing a central role in curricular reform movements worldwide for all students, and emphasizes putting students in control of their learning
- Student agency is connected to skills needed for society today and tomorrow and focuses on supporting students to:
 - Make choices
 - Make decisions
 - Solve problems
 - Set goals
 - Self-regulate
 - Self advocate
 - Be self aware

- Ghobary, 2007 Wehmeyer, 2006

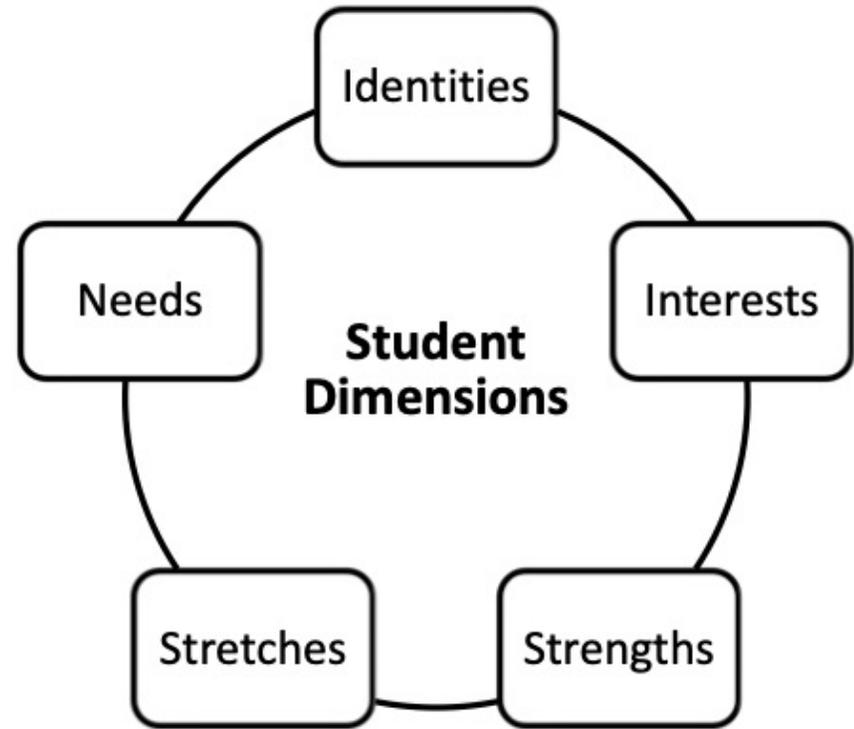
How do we support Student Agency?

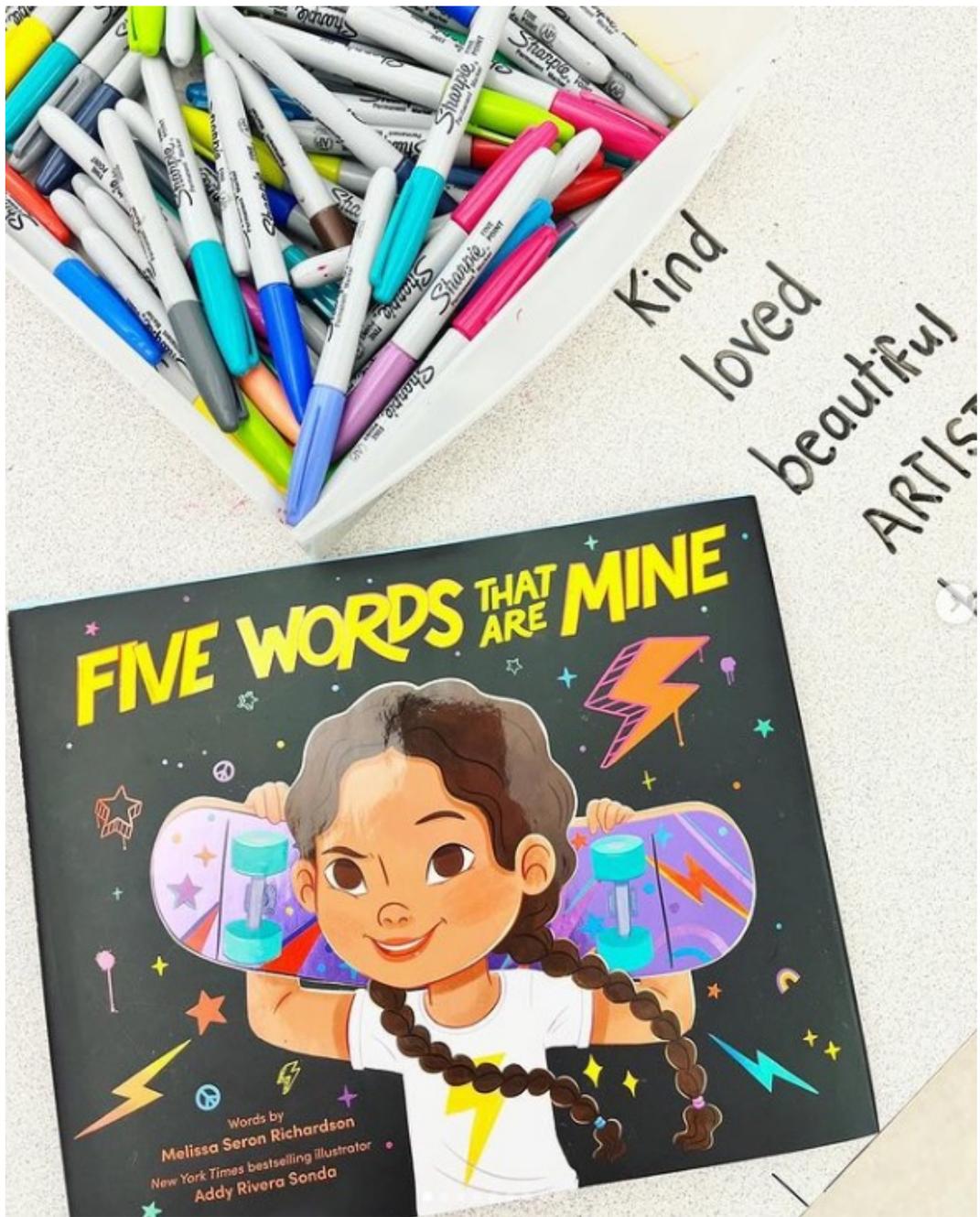
All students need to:

- Know **who they are** as a person and a learner
- Know their **strengths & interests**
- Know their **stretches & needs**
- Be **included in goal setting** and/or understand why a goal is **important to their learning and life**
- Know and choose what **supports** and **strategies** they need to meet a goal
- Know when **they have met a goal** or how to **adjust a goal** if needed
- Be able to **show** how they have **met a goal**
- Know what **a next step in learning** could be

Getting to know who the students are

What **dimensions** can we capture so that we **reduce and eliminate barriers** AND **design better** for student variability?







Putting on my sweater is hard but I am figuring it out!



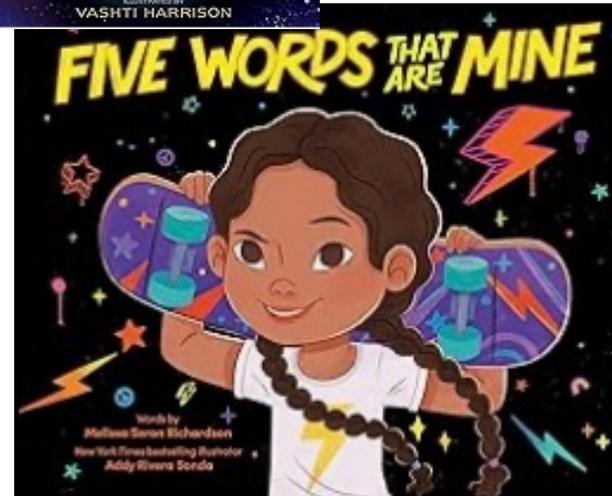
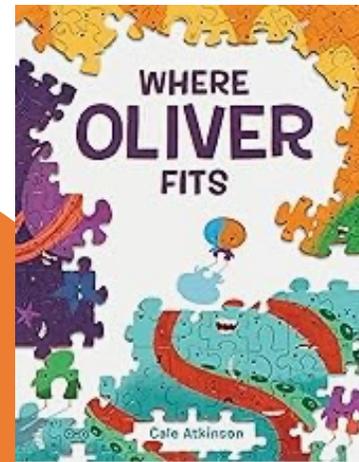
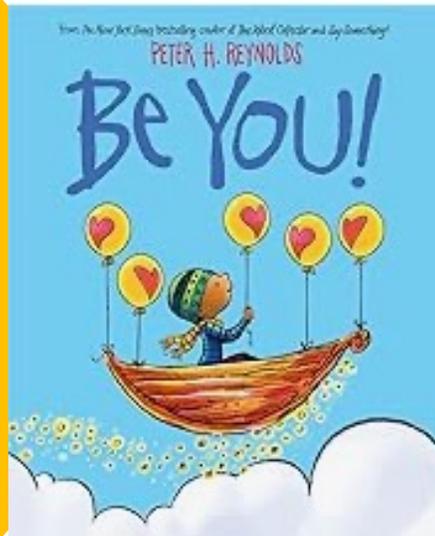
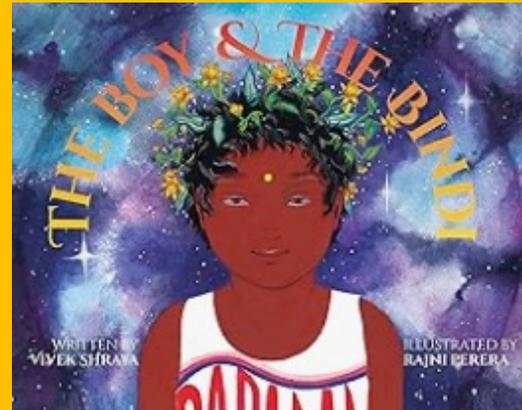
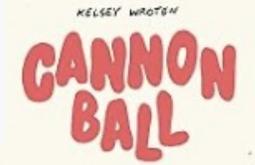
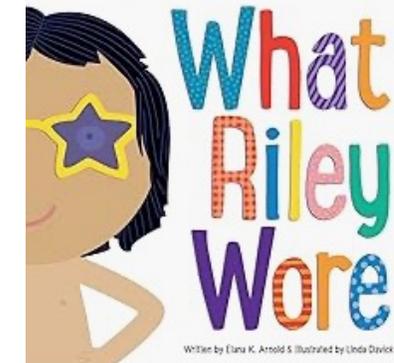
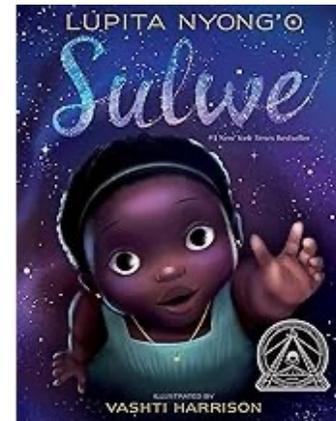
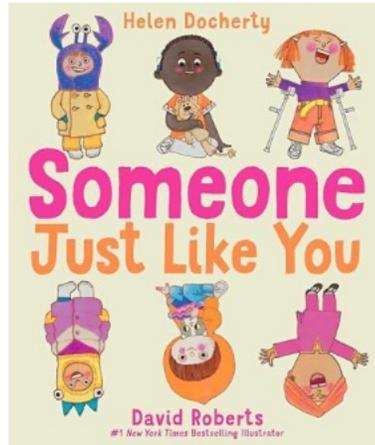
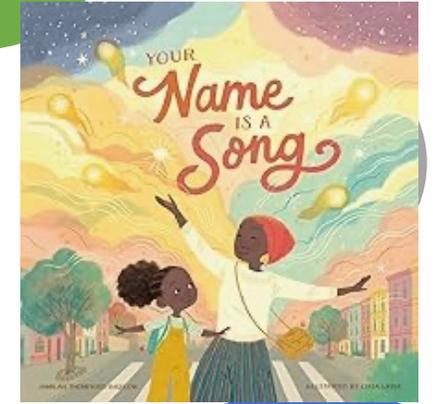
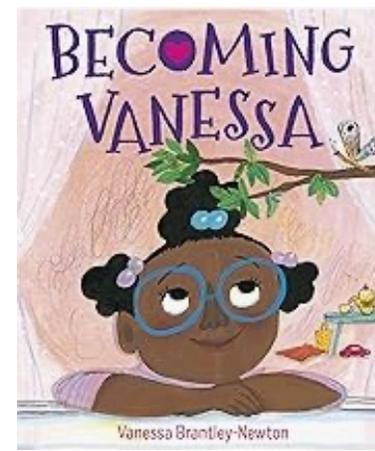
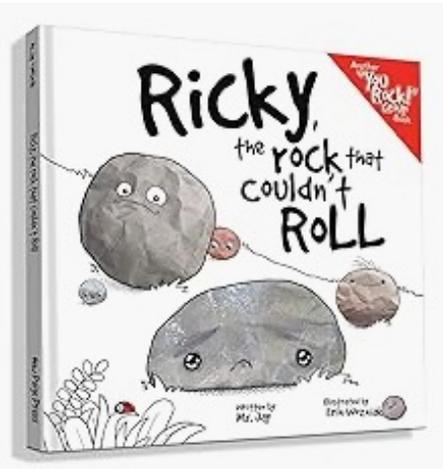
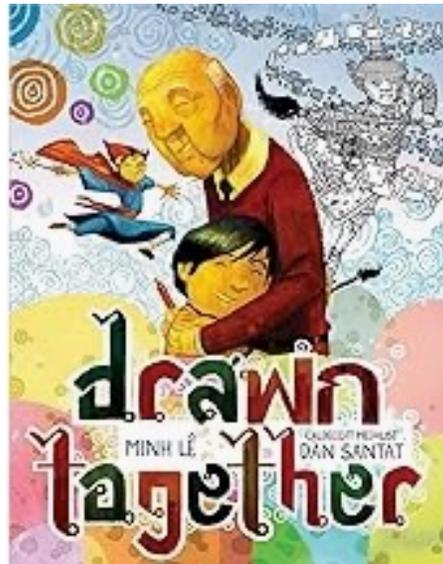
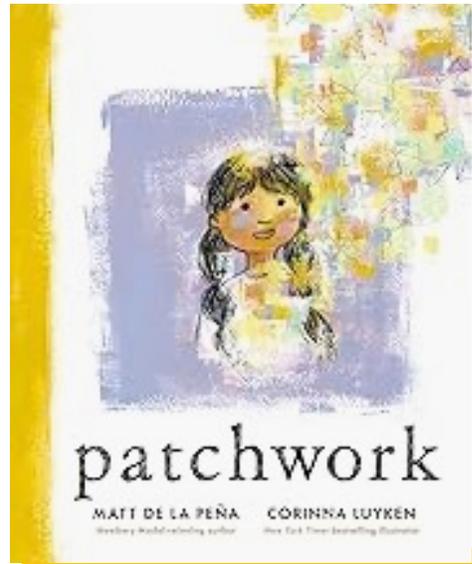
singing is hard but I am figuring it out!



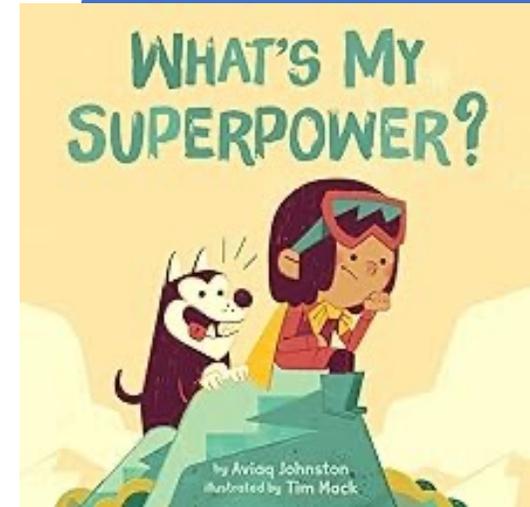
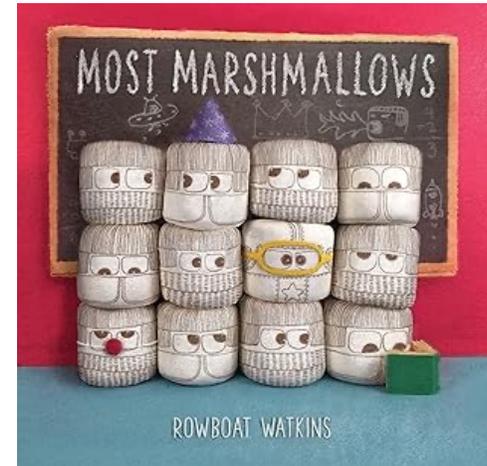
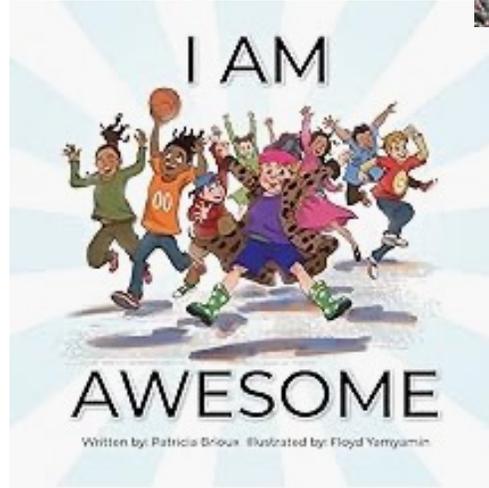
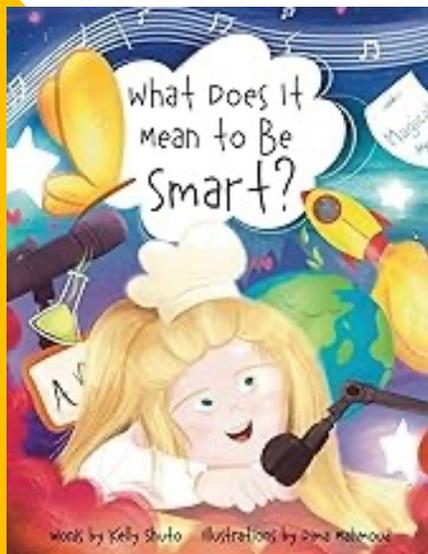
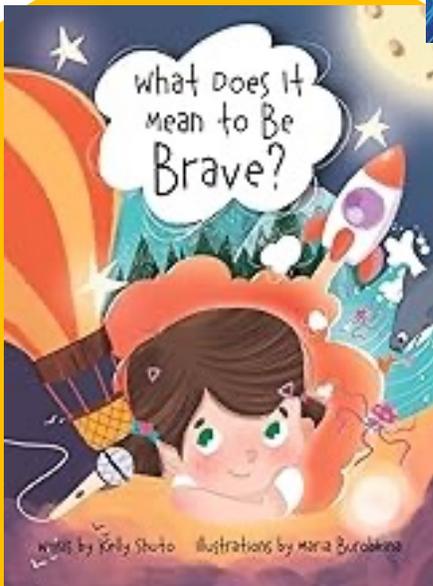
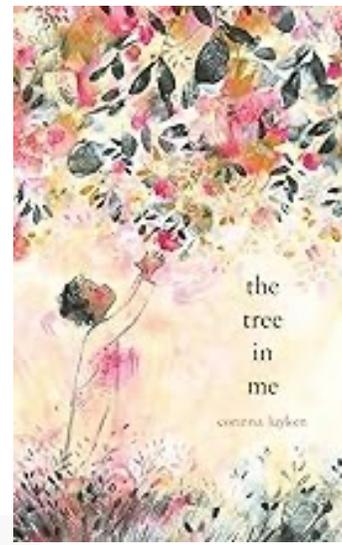
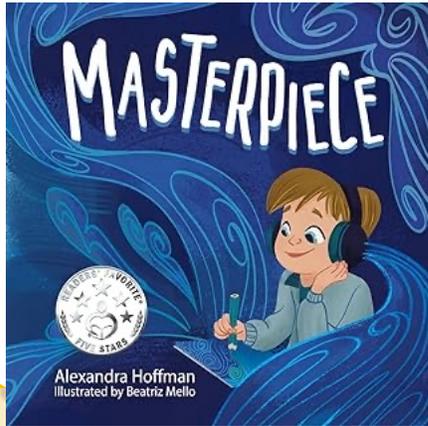
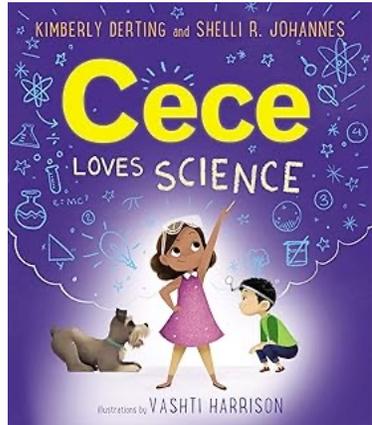
Being away from my family is hard but I am figuring it out!

Identity

@mrsmacskinders



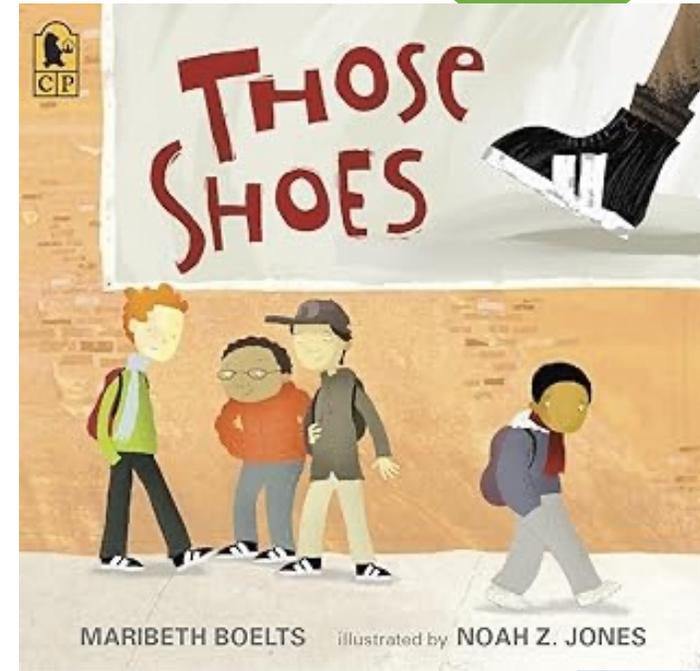
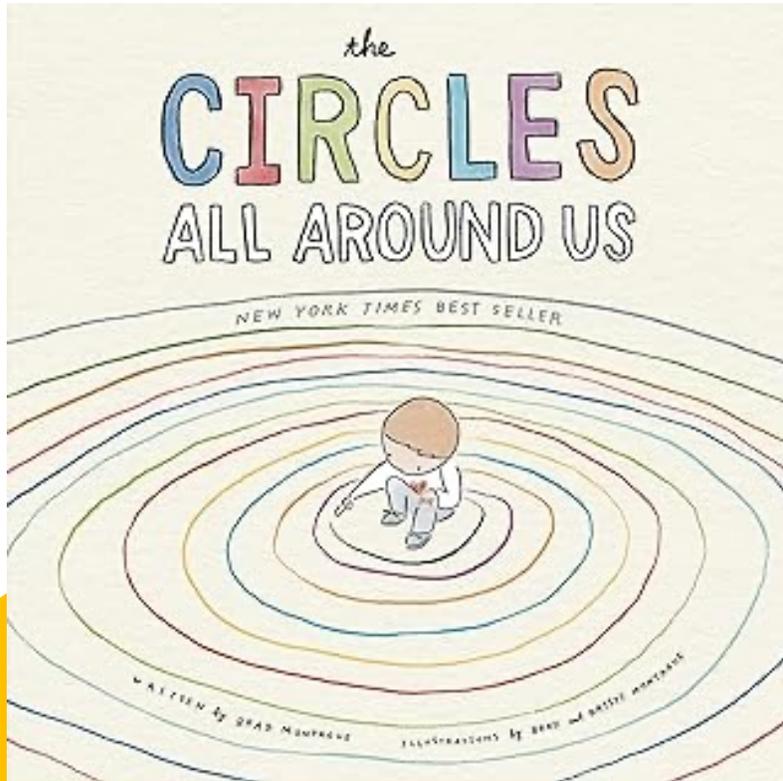
Strengths



@mrsmacskinders

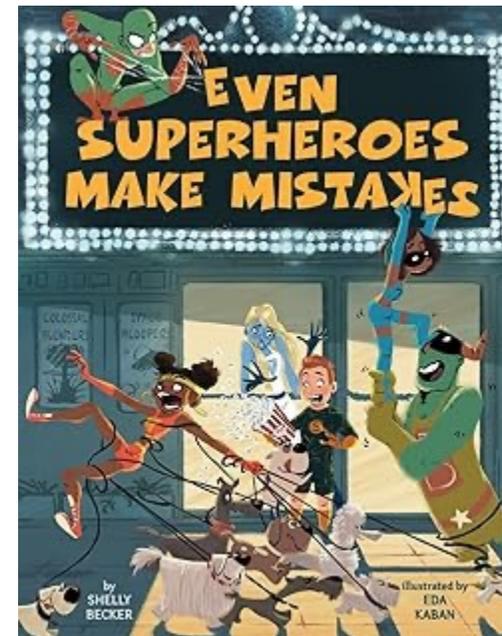
Interests

Needs

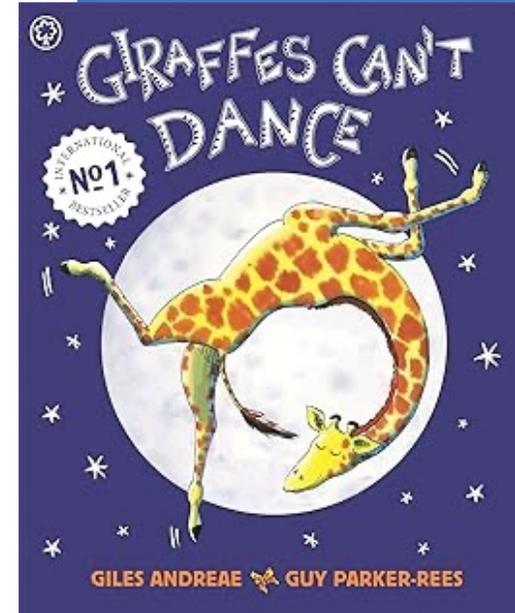
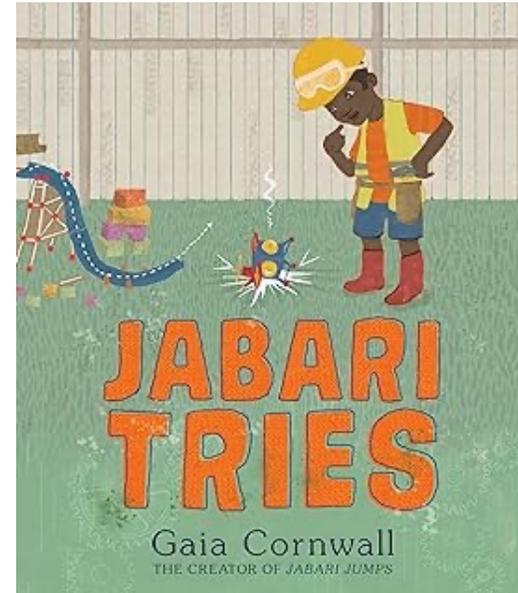
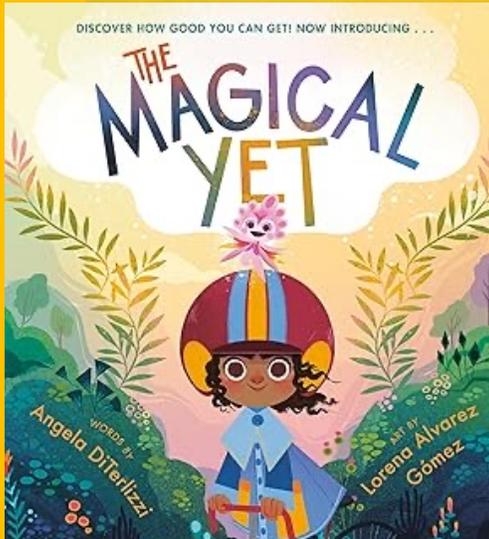
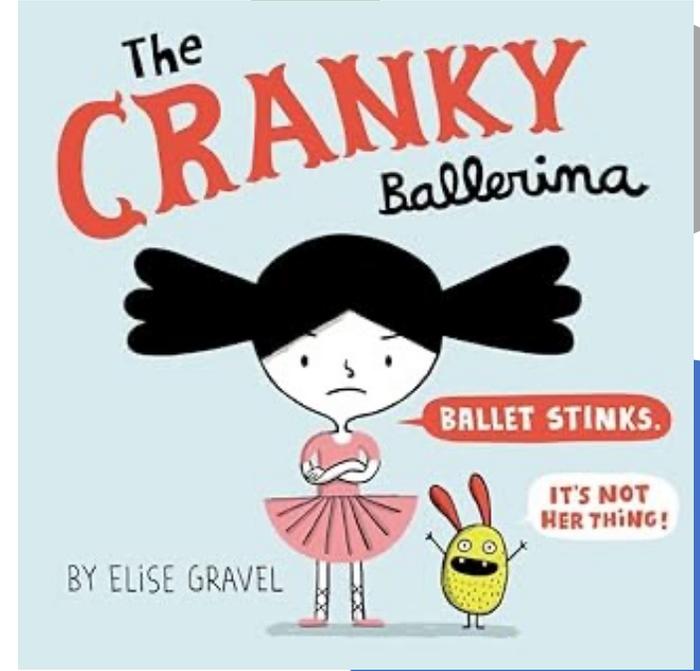
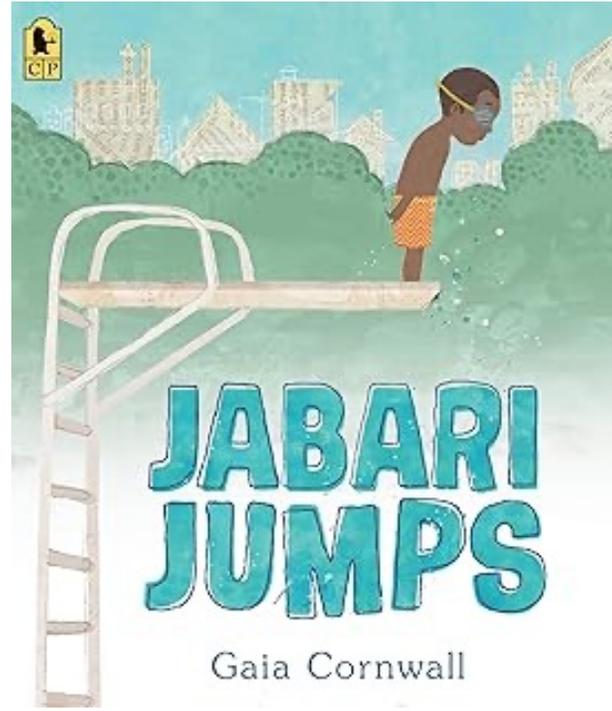
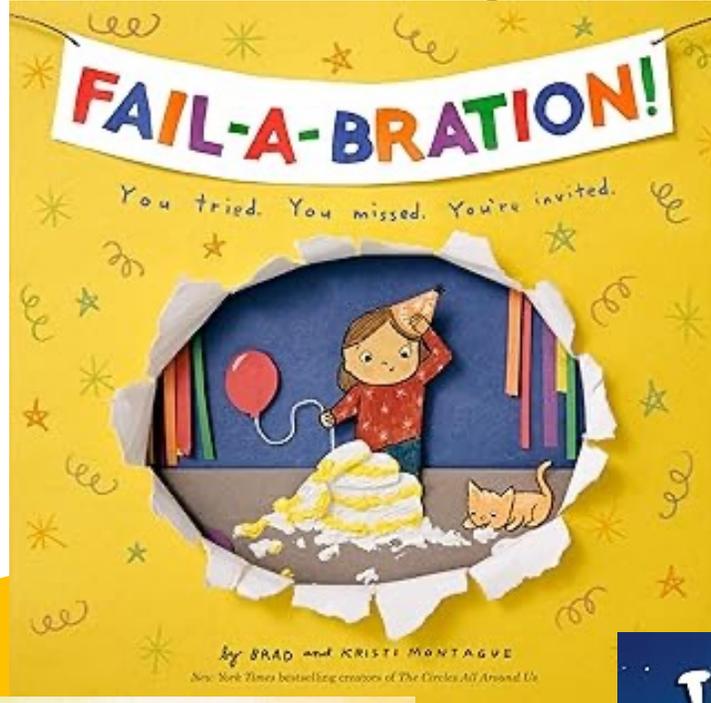


EVERYBODY!

ELISE GRAVEL



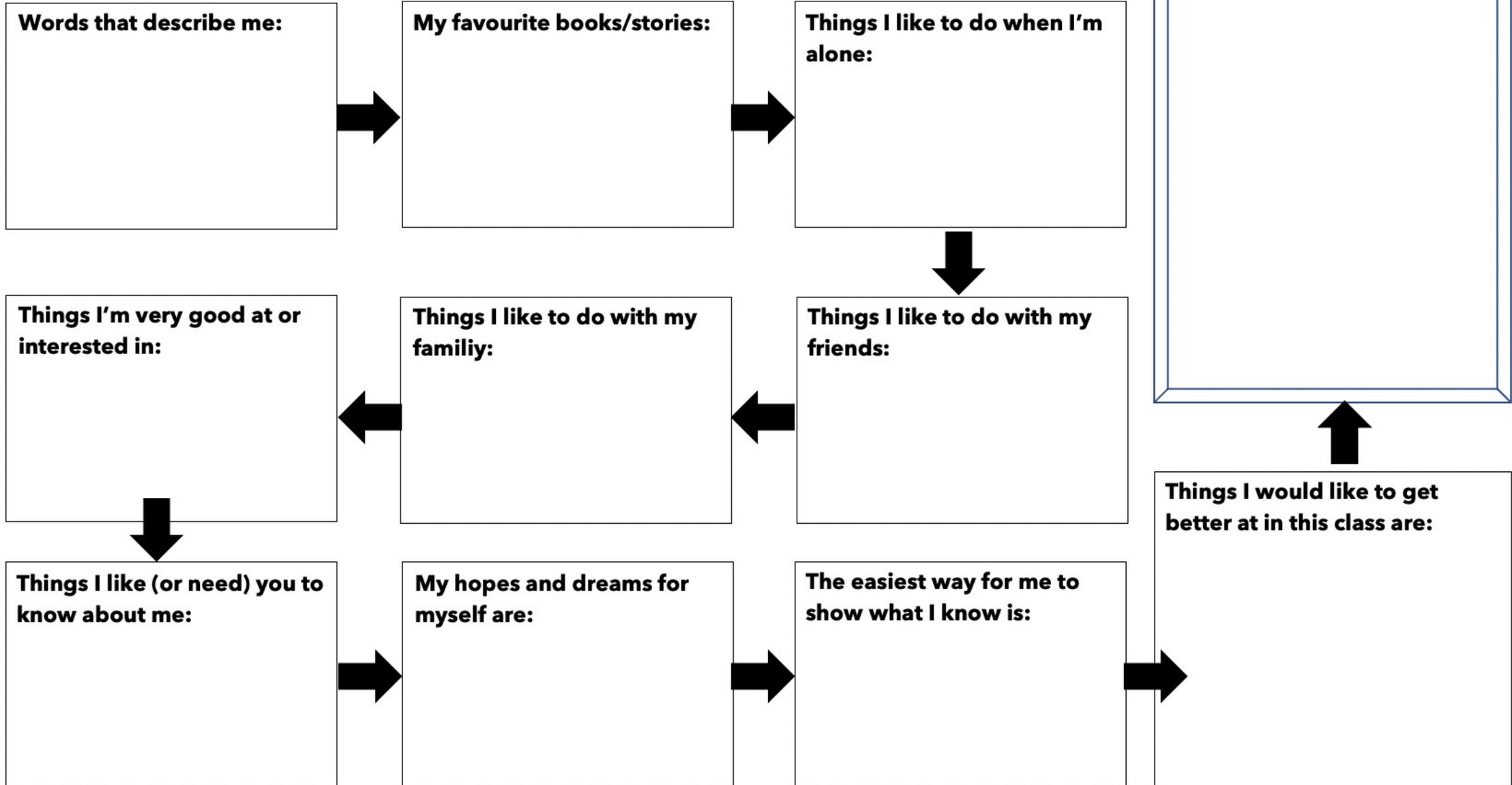
Stretches



Who are you? What are your dimensions?

Who am I? (Identities)	What do I love? (Interests)	What am I good at? (Strengths)	How do I want to grow? (Stretches)	What makes it hard for me to grow? (Needs)
<p>How do you identify?</p> <p>What are some words that describe you?</p> <p>Complete the statement: I am _____</p> <p>What communities are you and your family a part of?</p> <p>What are your pronouns?</p> <p>What place do you call home?</p> <p>What languages do you speak?</p> <p>What cultures, races or nations do you identify with?</p> <p>Are there any disabilities that you identify with?</p>	<p>What brings you joy?</p> <p>What are some of your favourite things/ activities?</p> <p>What are some things that you do with your family and friends?</p> <p>What do you wish you could spend more time doing?</p> <p>What do you want to learn more about?</p> <p>What do you want to learn how to do?</p> <p>What would you do if you had a full day off?</p> <p>What do you like to learn/ read about?</p> <p>What kinds of shows/ movies/ books do you like?</p>	<p>What feels easy to you?</p> <p>What do you know a lot about?</p> <p>What perspective do you bring to conversations?</p> <p>What are you really good at?</p> <p>How can I help others? (Strengths)</p> <p>What could you teach to someone else?</p> <p>Why is your family/ class/group so lucky to have you?</p> <p>How do you help out at home? In other activities?</p> <p>What do you do that brings other people joy?</p>	<p>What is a goal that you have for yourself?</p> <p>What do you want to get better at?</p> <p>What is something you want to learn more about?</p> <p>What do you wish you could do more of?</p> <p>What is an area that you need some practice in?</p> <p>What could you work on now, that will help you in the future?</p> <p>What do you need support for at school?</p> <p>What do you wish you could do more of without help?</p>	<p>What makes it hard for you to learn?</p> <p>What helps you learn best?</p> <p>What makes it hard for you to pay attention/ focus?</p> <p>Do you prefer to work alone or in a group?</p> <p>What makes it hard to get to school/ go to class?</p> <p>What do you wish was different about school?</p> <p>What materials/tools do you need in a classroom?</p> <p>What is important for your teacher to know about you?</p>

Who am I? Profile



Richardson Elementary



Getting to Know Children & Family Dimensions - Family Interview

Child:	Child:	Child:	Child:	Child:
What are the identities of your child and your family?	What are the identities of your child and your family?	What are the identities of your child and your family?	What are the identities of your child and your family?	What are the identities of your child and your family?
What are the interests of your child and your family?	What are the interests of your child and your family?	What are the interests of your child and your family?	What are the interests of your child and your family?	What are the interests of your child and your family?
What are the strengths of your child?				
What is hard for your child in this community? What do they need support with?	What is hard for your child in this community? What do they need support with?	What is hard for your child in this community? What do they need support with?	What is hard for your child in this community? What do they need support with?	What is hard for your child in this community? What do they need support with?
What is getting in the way for your child to feel a sense of belonging and success in this community? What is getting in the way for the family?	What is getting in the way for your child to feel a sense of belonging and success in this community? What is getting in the way for the family?	What is getting in the way for your child to feel a sense of belonging and success in this community? What is getting in the way for the family?	What is getting in the way for your child to feel a sense of belonging and success in this community? What is getting in the way for the family?	What is getting in the way for your child to feel a sense of belonging and success in this community? What is getting in the way for the family?

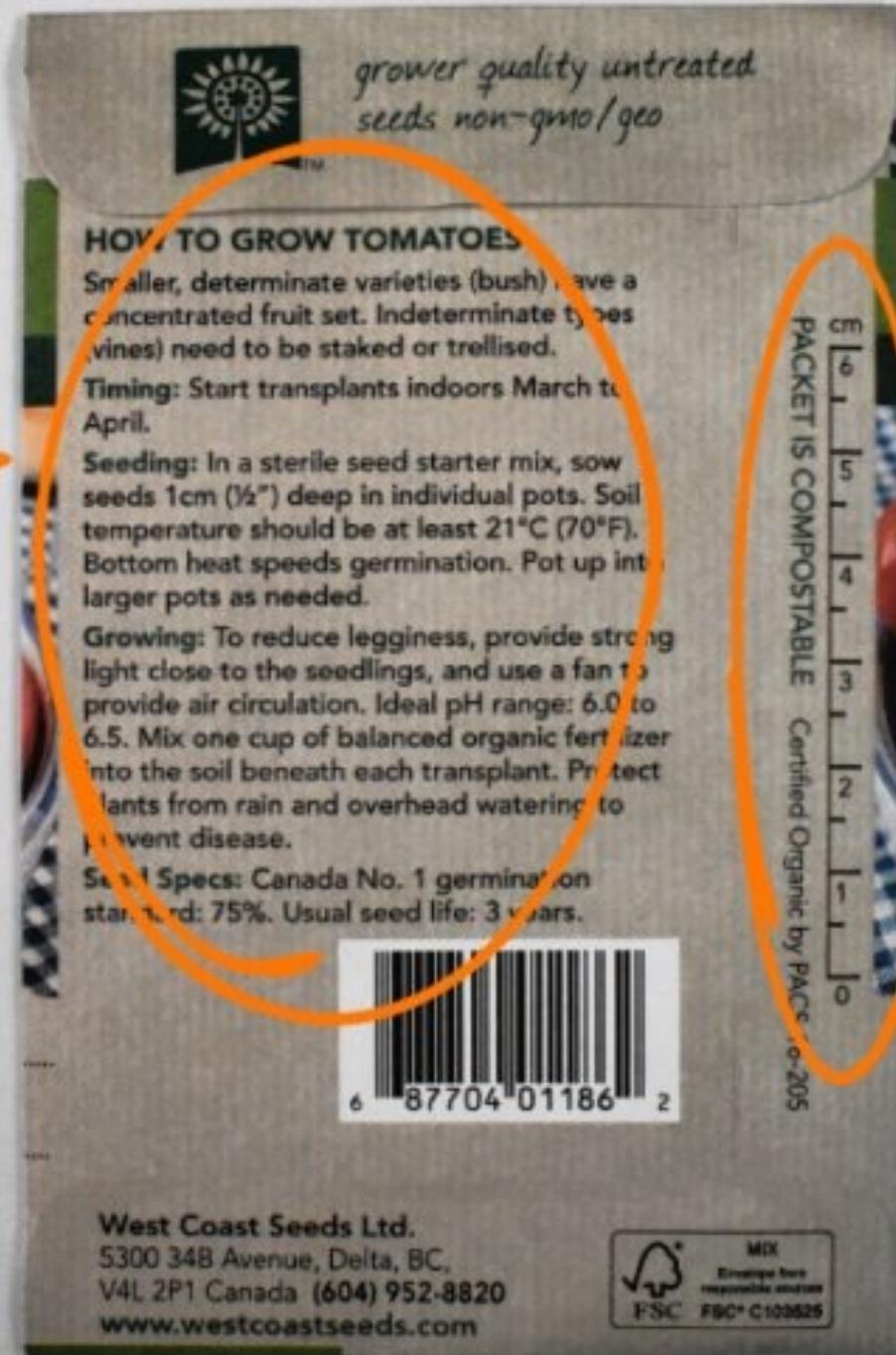
Where do we find information about the needs of a specific plant?



THE SEED PACKET

The back of the seed packet usually includes planting information and specifics, such as when and where to start seeds, how deep to plant them and any other information specific to your plant type and variety.

All seed packets are slightly different and include slightly different information. If you're unsure about anything and your seed packet does not include the information you're looking for, you can Google your plant type and variety for more information.



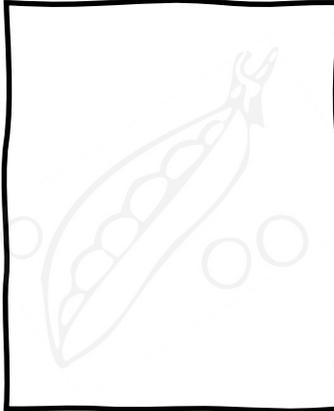
This particular seed packet also comes with a built-in ruler that you can use when planting to help you plant your seeds at the correct depth.

THE SEED PACKET

Growth Year: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____



Identities: I am...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Interests: I really like and/or what to learn more about:

- _____
- _____

Strengths: I am really good at and/or could teach others:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Goals: I want to grow in these areas:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Needs: I need this support in these areas to grow:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Supports: I need this in my garden to grow:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Barriers: This is what makes it hard for me to grow:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Thank You For helping me GROW

Strategy 1:

My I.E.Pea Seed Packet

Growth Year:

Name: Conor G.

Grade: 1

Identities: I am...

- Joyful, funny & dramatic!
- I am so loving!
- I use English, visual and ASL languages to communicate
- I am part of the DS community and have a strong inclusive school community
- My family enjoys some Caribbean traditions and food because that is where my mom grew up!

Interests: I really like and/or what to learn more about:

- Music, dancing, books, outdoor play, Disney princesses, water and water play, jumping, long hair, fruit, popcorn, ice cream

Strengths: I am really good at and/or could teach others:

- Visual, musical, following routines
- helping the teacher, receptive language, empathetic, motivated to please, reading
- I can help my classmates to understand that with the right supports in place, you are capable of anything. Even if others (or yourself) think that you can't

Goals: I want to grow in these areas:

1. Being aware of when I am/ am not safe
2. Communicating what I need and want
3. Social connections and interactions
4. Fine motor skills
5. Being independent

Needs: I need this support in these areas to grow:

- Communication
- Social Skills
- Physical
- Hearing
- Vision

Supports: I need this in my garden to grow:

- Being respected and included in all aspects of community, "first/then" language, lots of praise, time for transition with verbal and visual cues, lots of repetition, appropriate supports and strategies, patience, getting a specific job, silly and exciting language

Barriers: This is what makes it hard for me to grow:

- Negative or forceful comments, expectations without supports or strategies in place, bring rushed, taking behaviour personally, unclear directions, too many instructions at once, when people assume that I am not capable

Thank You For helping me GROW

Student &
Family/
Community
Voice

Help us get to know: _____

Date: _____

Person connected to _____	Identities	Interests	Strengths	Stretches	Needs
Who are you and how do you know _____?	What words would you use to describe _____? What groups is _____ connected to in their community?	What is _____ interested in? What do they like to do on their own? With their friends? Family? Community?	What is _____ good at? What can they teach others?	What is hard for _____? What do you think _____ wants to get better at?	What does _____ need support with? What is important for people to know about _____?
Person 1:					
Person 2:					
Person 3:					
Person 4:					

Help us get to know Juni?

Date: Dec 2022

	Identities	Interests	Strengths	Stretches	Needs
Who are you and how do you know Juni?	<p>What words would you use to describe Juni?</p> <p>What groups is Juni connected to in their community?</p>	<p>What is Juni interested in?</p> <p>What do they like to do on their own? With their friends? Family? Community?</p>	<p>What is Juni good at?</p> <p>What can they teach others?</p>	<p>What is hard for Juni?</p> <p>What do you think Juni wants to get better at?</p>	<p>What does Juni need support with?</p> <p>What is important for people to know about Juni?</p>
Person 1: Rita Grandmother	Kind, strong, smart	watching me sew, taking pictures, listening to music	Patience, she notices everything	Waking up! Trying new things	She needs time and patience. If she is upset or frustrated, she needs space
Person 2: Frank Dad	Athletic, joyful, Ukrainian, church	Watching the baking shows , fishing with me	A great listener, being present	Independence, changes in routine	I think she worries a lot; I need others to know that she needs reassurance sometimes
Person 3: Kiran Family Friend	funny	Football! She loves the BC lions, movies, going for walks	making you feel so important, spreads joy, makes everyone laugh	Friendships, spending more time with her peers	Sharing her thinking, communicating. She has come such a long way!
Person 4:Matty Cousin	Fun, we play a lot together	Whale sharks, camping, swimming	Playing with me	Its hard for Juni to talk sometimes, but I know when she likes something, and she likes me	using her iPad to help her talk

Help us get to know Juni?

Date: Dec 2022

	Identities	Interests	Strengths	Stretches	Needs
Who are you and how do you know Juni?	<p>What words would you use to describe Juni?</p> <p>What groups is Juni connected to in their community?</p>	<p>What is Juni interested in?</p> <p>What do they like to do on their own? With their friends? Family? Community?</p>	<p>What is Juni good at?</p> <p>What can they teach others?</p>	<p>What is hard for Juni?</p> <p>What do you think Juni wants to get better at?</p>	<p>What does Juni need support with?</p> <p>What is important for people to know about Juni?</p>
Person 1: Mr. Lopez Classroom Teacher	Strong, smart, a learner	Getting read to, books, you tube, science	Connecting with her peers	Communicating, independence, asking to help when she needs it	She needs support with her reading (decoding) and her communication with the device
Person 2: Benny Educational Assistant	Funny, curious	Fashion, her friends, books, magazines, her iPad	She knows what she likes and doesn't like and lets us know	Making friends, communicating or using strategies before she gets too frustrated	She needs a chance to rest throughout the day and breaks
Person 3: Ms. Turner SLP	joyful	Sights and sounds around her, being social	Using her iPad to communicate	Building friendships, communicating what she needs	She needs her device available to her, she needs to be around her peers
Person 4: Jesse Classmate	Funny, sometimes she's loud	Playing games, hanging out with her friends	Being happy, making people laugh	I think talking is hard for her	she needs to be around us, her friends

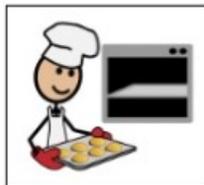
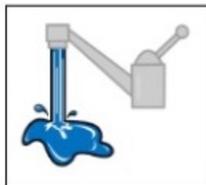
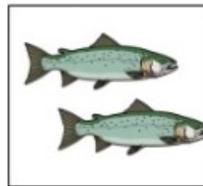
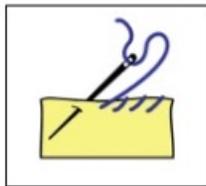
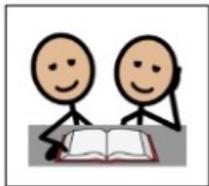
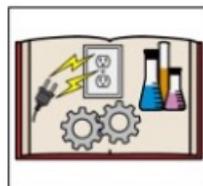
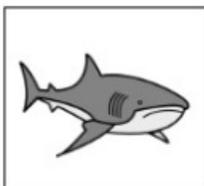
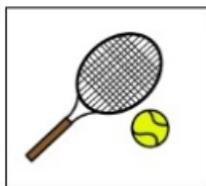
Help us get to know Juni?

Date: Dec 2022

	Identities	Interests	Strengths	Stretches	Needs
Who are you and how do you know Juni?	<p>What words would you use to describe Juni?</p> <p>What groups is Juni connected to in their community?</p>	<p>What is Juni interested in?</p> <p>What do they like to do on their own? With their friends? Family? Community?</p>	<p>What is Juni good at?</p> <p>What can they teach others?</p>	<p>What is hard for Juni?</p> <p>What do you think Juni wants to get better at?</p>	<p>What does Juni need support with?</p> <p>What is important for people to know about Juni?</p>
Person 1: Mr. Lopez Classroom Teacher	Strong, smart, a learner	Getting read to, books, you tube, science	Connecting with her peers	Communicating, independence, asking to help when she needs it	She needs support with her reading (decoding) and her communication with the device
Person 2: Benny Educational Assistant	Funny, curious	Fashion, her friends, books, magazines, her iPad	She knows what she likes and doesn't like and lets us know	Making friends, communicating or using strategies before she gets too frustrated	She needs a chance to rest throughout the day and breaks
Person 3: Ms. Turner SLP	joyful	Sights and sounds around her, being social	Using her iPad to communicate	Building friendships, communicating what she needs	She needs her device available to her, she needs to be around her peers
Person 4: Jesse Classmate	Funny, sometimes she's loud	Playing games, hanging out with her friends	Being happy, making people laugh	I think talking is hard for her	she needs to be around us, her friends



Building my Student profile: What are my INTERESTS?



Growth Year: 2022

Name: Juniper

Grade: 2

Identities: I am...

 kind	 a friend	 funny
 an athlete	 Ukrainian	 smart

Interests: I really like and/or what to learn more about:

 reading	 whale sharks	 Star Wars	 fashion	 Great British Baking Show
 camping	 BC lions	 taking pictures	 salmon in river	 dancing

Strengths: I am really good at and/or could teach others:

 Star Wars	 singing	 being a friend	 playing	 asking for help
--	--	---	--	--

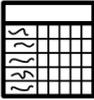
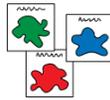
Goals: I want to grow in these areas:

 waking up	 playing football	 talking	 making friends
--	---	--	---

Needs: I need this support to grow:

 emotional regulation	 social skills	 communication	 physical
---	--	--	---

Supports: I need this in my garden to grow:

 patience	 my peers	 a plan	 visuals	 my talker
---	---	---	--	--

Barriers: This is what makes it hard for me to grow:

 being rushed	 no one asks me	 writing	 no visuals	 ignored
---	---	--	---	--

Thank You For helping me GROW

Student Voice

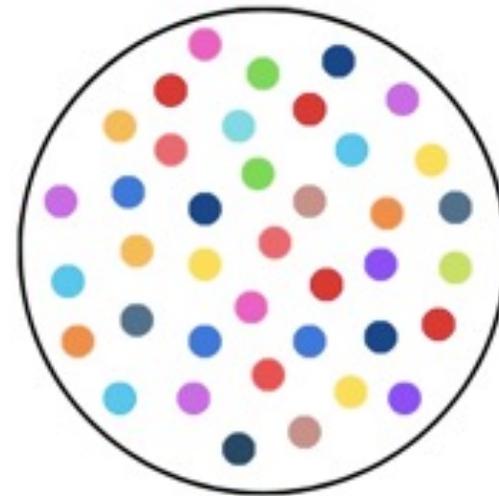
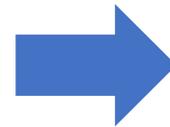
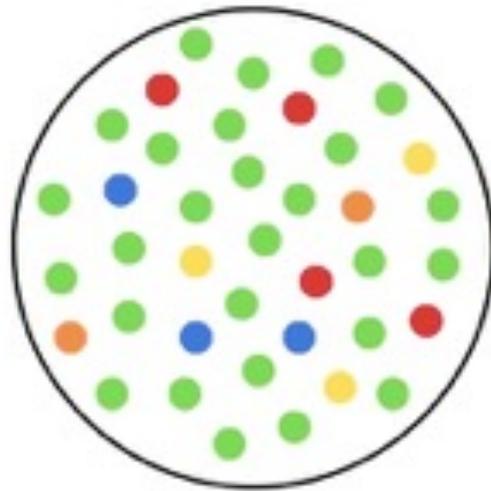
Classroom Student Dimension Inventory

Class

Year

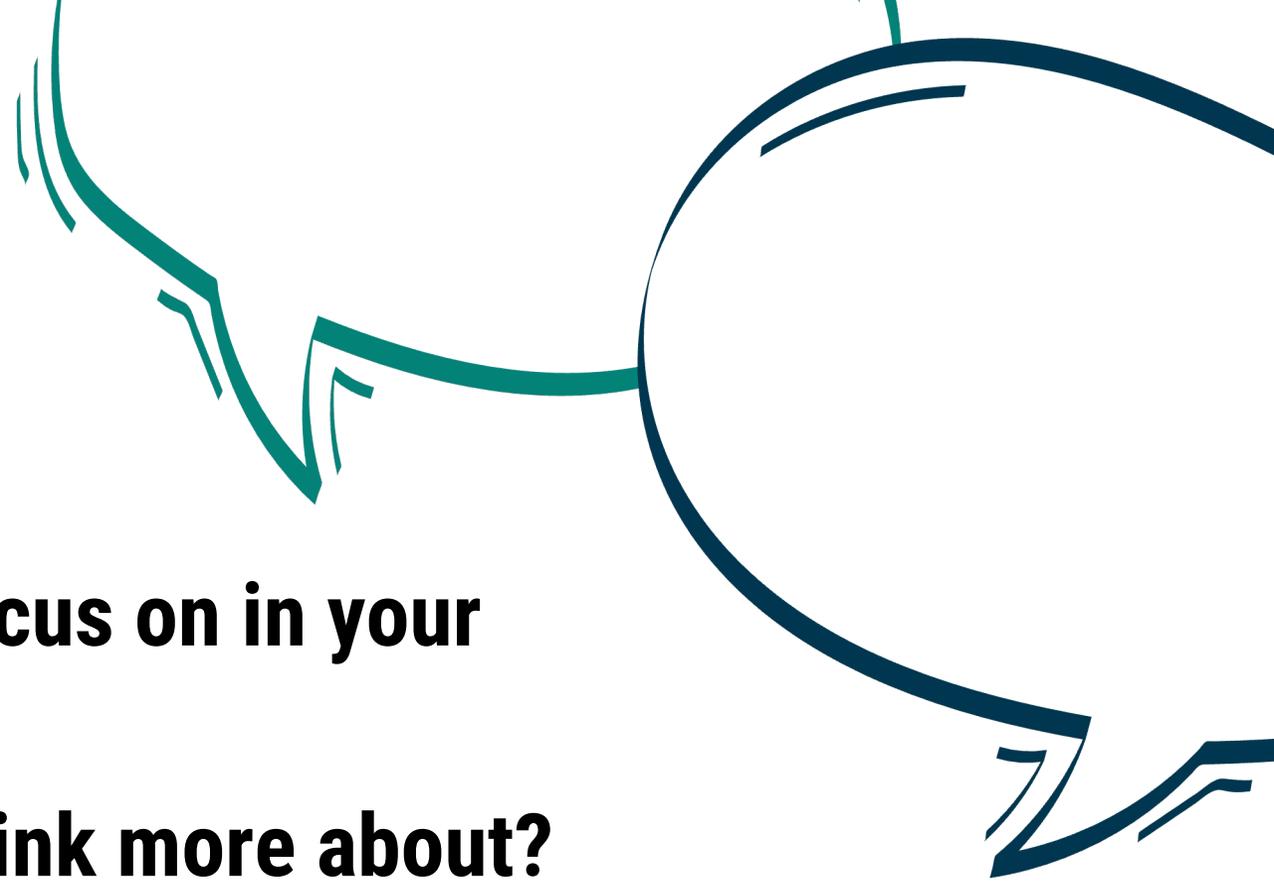
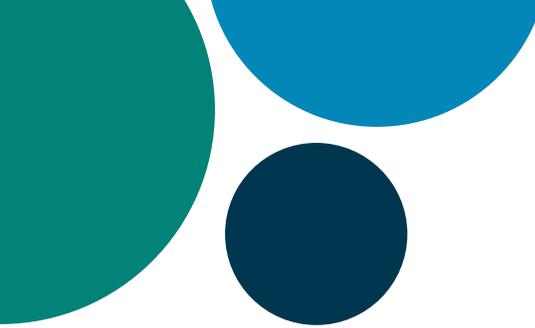
Student Name	Identities	Interests	Strengths	Stretches	Needs	Supports	Barriers
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							

WHAT IS *inclusion* ?



How do we
include people
with disabilities?

How do we teach
to *diversity*?



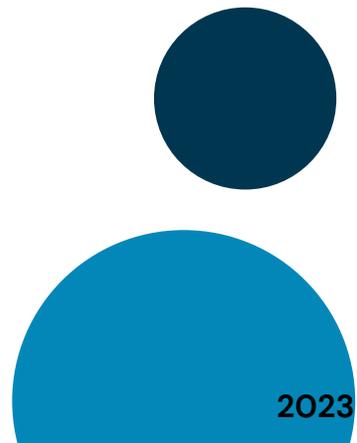
What is one useful idea?

What is one thing you want to focus on in your context?

What is one thing you want to think more about?

What is one thing you want to learn more about?

What is one thing you want to share with someone who is not here today?



Shelley MOORE PH.D.



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