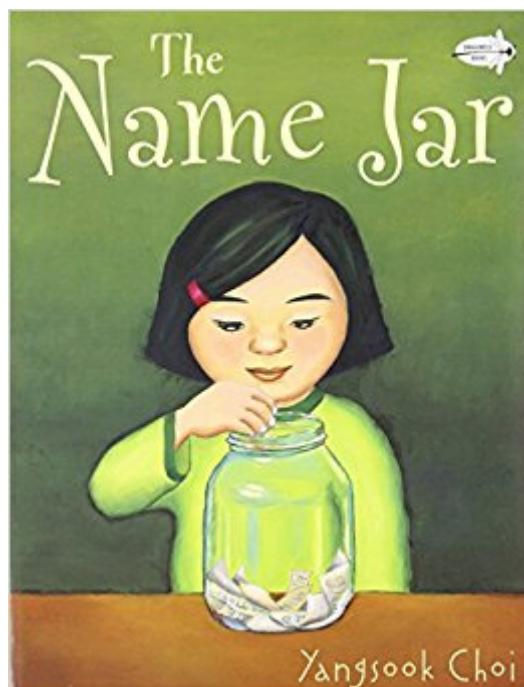


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The Name Jar



Synopsis

The new kid in school needs a new name! Or does she? Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighborhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce itâ "Yoon-Hey.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 590 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; Reprint edition (October 14, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0440417996

ISBN-13: 978-0440417996

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 173 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #623 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American #4 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction #13 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2-On the way to her first day of school, Unhei is teased by the children on the bus for her Korean name. When she reaches her classroom and is asked her name, she tells her classmates that she has not yet decided on one. To be helpful the children put their suggestions into a "name jar." Eventually the girl decides to keep her own name as one of her classmates takes pride in the new Korean nickname he has chosen, Chinku, meaning "friend." The round, red imprint of the

Korean character for Unhei's name provides the graphic manifestation of the story's theme. Attractive golden endpapers feature random repetitions of the stamp imprint interspersed with her classmates' handwritten suggestions on scraps of torn paper. The bold, bright paintings that illustrate the story are realistic, warm, and appealing. Unfortunately, the text sags under the weight of its mission to describe how it might feel to immigrate. A well-meaning and visually attractive effort, but uninspired. Dorian Chong, School of Library and Information Science, San Jose State University, CA
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Ages 4-8. Unhei has just come with her family from Korea and is starting school. Her name is pronounced Yoon-hye, which means grace, but she feels awkward about it after some teasing on the school bus. She decides to choose an American name, and her classmates oblige her by filling a glass jar with their suggestions. Her mother reminds her that she and her grandmother went to a name master for Unhei's name, and Unhei practices stamping her name with the beautiful name stamp her grandmother gave her. Finally, Unhei decides to keep her own name, and one of her classmates even has a stamp made for himself with the Korean characters for friend. The paintings are mostly in gold and earth tones, and the figures have both stature and simplicity--as does the story. GraceAnne DeCandido
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Lovely book. Gives children an opportunity to understand a young immigrant's experience, but is more than just a message. The story stands up to multiple reads, and the pictures are beautiful. I catch my 6 year old son looking at the pages on his own, though he can't read them. The character Joey is a good model of compassion and kindness.

A wonderful book about embracing who you are and being a good friend to people who seem different on the outside. We are all more alike than we are different.

I teach second grade in a school in India, and I have a student in this very situation this year. A boy moved here from Seoul and we have had difficulty saying his name and trying to communicate with him. There is a girl from Korea in the class as well, but they are a bit nervous talking to each other, and so she is not always comfortable translating for us. I am looking forward to reading this book next week. As we are all from different countries in our class, all of the students will be able to relate

to it in some way, but I think it will really strike a chord with the new boy from Korea.

Very good book. Name jar is about accepting one's culture background. Once Unhei accepted who she was, she was able to teach the class and the teacher about her Korean background. The book shows things from the viewpoint of a young girl who is a new American. I think this is not only a good book for kids at home to read, but a good book to assign for school children to read.

This is a really cute book. My daughters love it, they love the concept and had no idea what to expect in the end. (Girls ages: 8 & 7). This past week my daughter asked to be "The girl from The Name Jar" for Halloween. That speaks volumes to me as a Mom because she is finding strength in something other than the mainstream. It is a Must have for my kids bookshelf and will hopefully be a great thing to read for years to come!

I love this book! It's perfect to use in a classroom setting. I purchased this book to use for some course work I'm doing in college, but plan on holding onto this throughout my teaching career. I definitely recommend this for any teachers or parents who hope to expand their children's horizons and introduce them to a little bit of Korean culture.

a great book in the bilingual and ESL classroom

This was a great story about a girl who moves to America from Korea. She feels uncomfortable that her name is so different from the American names. She learns that it is okay to be herself and that no child chooses his or her own name and that she is not so different after all. This would be an excellent book to read to an elementary classroom to help children understand that it is okay to be yourself and to learn about the similarities in all children.

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