

## **Be You!**

Written by Peter Reynolds

This book uncovers ways every person is unique and special and dares the reader to search for what makes them unique. Appreciating your differences and the differences of others may not come easily, but it leads to a world of amazing opportunity.

### **Possible strategies for instruction**

#### **Comprehension**

- **Set purpose for reading.** Before reading, share the purpose for reading this book. One possible purpose is to gain information about what it means to be comfortable in our own skin, to be unique and individual. Another possible purpose is that it helps the reader think about their value as an individual and the value of others.
- **Ask questions throughout the reading process.** Here are some possible questions to model.

Before:

- How does it feel to be you?
- How does it feel when you pretend to be someone you are not?
- How would you describe yourself to someone else?

During:

- What does it mean when the author says *turn every stone*?
- What is a *comfort zone*? Can you think of a time when you had to step out of your comfort zone?
- Who in your life can you be yourself around most easily?
- What does the author mean when he says *help those around you be themselves*?

After:

- Which of the adjectives in this book stand out to you? Are there some you would say describe you? Are there some you aspire to be?
- Why does the world need unique individuals?

#### **Accuracy**

- **Recognize high-frequency words on sight.**  
Although this text contains many basic sight words (*a, like, the, to, go, for, it, your*), it frequently repeats the words *be* and *you*. This would be a great text to read when introducing these words to your class.

#### **Expand Vocabulary**

- **Tune in to interesting words.**  
Possible words to add to your classroom word collector: *journey, curious, kindred, quirky, adventurous, persistent, patient, compassionate, voyage.*