

Title: Surf Soup First Day of School  
Subtitle: An Asian American Journey of Moving and Belonging-Celebrating Diversity, Embracing Cultural Pride, and Fostering Inclusion

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Introduction:

Welcome to Surf Soup: First Day of School! This book follows Little Donna as she navigates the challenges and joys of starting at a new school after moving to a new place. The story highlights themes of friendship, cultural differences, and the courage to embrace new beginnings.

Discussion Questions:

How did Little Donna feel about starting at her new school? Discuss the emotions she experienced and why she felt that way.

What are some ways Little Donna tried to make friends at her new school?

Explore the strategies she used and their effectiveness.

How did moving to a new place affect Little Donna's sense of identity?

Consider how changes in environment can impact self-perception and belonging.

What role did cultural differences play in Little Donna's experience?

Examine how her background influenced her interactions and feelings.

How did Little Donna's family support her during this transition?

Talk about the importance of family support during major life changes.

What can we learn from Little Donna's story about dealing with new experiences?

Reflect on the lessons about resilience, adapting to change, and staying true to oneself.

Activities:

Draw Your New School:

Have readers draw a picture of their new school or a place they are excited to explore. Share and discuss their drawings.

Create a Friendship Collage:

Ask readers to make a collage of things that represent friendship and belonging. Discuss what makes someone a good friend.

Write a Letter to Little Donna:

Encourage readers to write a letter to Little Donna offering advice or sharing their own experiences about starting at a new school.

Cultural Celebration:

Have a discussion or activity about different cultures and traditions. Invite readers to share their own cultural backgrounds and how they celebrate them.

Role-Playing:

Create role-playing scenarios where readers practice introducing themselves and making new friends. Discuss how they felt and what strategies worked best.

Additional Resources:

Explore more about multicultural experiences and moving transitions through local library programs or school resources.

Look for community events or support groups that focus on helping children adjust to new environments and build friendships.

This guide aims to enhance the reading experience and provide valuable insights and activities related to the themes of the book. Enjoy exploring Little Donna's journey and discovering how to navigate new beginnings with courage and positivity!