All Ale Come Here STORYTIME KIT

Host a Storytime!

Event Suggestions

- Place an "All Welcome Here" sign in the storytime area.
- Set out schooltime snacks like apple slices, fruit snacks, and juice.
- Make copies of the activities in this booklet and provide markers or crayons.
- Hide a fun item like a pencil or a star in the children's section. Let the child who finds it hold a copy of the book and flip the pages.

Read-Aloud Tips

- Ask one person to hold an extra copy of the book to show off the gorgeous artwork. Ask another child to read the headlines of the poems.
- From gym class to the library to the cafeteria, the book takes readers on a full tour of school. Ask the kids to talk about their favorite place in school.
- Many of the children are nervous about attending the first day of school. Ask them to share stories about their first day of school. What advice would they give to another child about starting school?



Make your own "Welcome" sign!

Decorate your "Welcome" sign in the space below. With an adult's help, cut it out and tape it up in an inviting place.





All Welcome Here by James Preller; illustrated by Mary GrandPré

It's the first day of school! Help Angelica get to the school bus!





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Write your own haiku!

Did you know that each poem in All Welcome Here is a haiku?

A haiku is an unrhymed three-line poem where the first and last line is five syllables, and the middle line has seven syllables. It looks like this:

Line 1: 5 syllables Line 2: 7 syllables Line 3: 5 syllables

Check out a few examples from All Welcome Here.

This morning she clung To her mother's knees, so scared. Now look—a kind face!

All stand and turn to Face the flag, hands over hearts: Jingle-jangle in our ears. Our America.

This morning bells ring The janitor's keys.

Ready to write your own? Use the lines below to write a haiku.



Bring life to the library!

What does your library look like? Draw it in the space below.



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You're almost ready for school! Make your own name tag.

Instructions

- 1. Write your name in the space below and decorate your name tag with colored pencils, crayons, or other craft supplies.
- 2. With an adult's help, cut out the rectangle.
- 3. Fold it in half so "All Welcome Here" is shown on one side and your name is on the other.
- 4. Display your name tag proudly on your desk at school or at home.





All Welcome Here by James Preller; illustrated by Mary GrandPré (A) An imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group Name Tags At every desk, A chair with tennis-ball feet, A place just for you.

ALL WELCOME HERE



The bus door swishes Open, an invitation. Someone is not sure . . .

The first day of school and all its excitement, challenges, and, yes, anxieties are celebrated here in connected haiku poems. With gorgeous multimedia paintings and collages by acclaimed artist Mary GrandPré, James Preller's *All Welcome Here* promises to be an evergreen gift picture book for children about to take the big leap into their first days of school.

About the Author

James Preller is the author of many acclaimed books, including the Jigsaw Jones series, the Scary Tales series, and the novels *Bystander*, *Blood Mountain*, and *Better Off Undead*. He lives in Delmar, New York. jamespreller.com

About the Illustrator

Mary GrandPré is best known as the beloved artist for the Harry Potter series; she is also the Caldecott Honor–winning illustrator of *The Noisy Paint Box* by Barb Rosenstock. She lives in Sarasota, Florida. marygrandpre.com