

## Supporting Empathy & Understanding in Children

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### Before You Begin

Ask simple questions to prepare children for the story:

- Do you know anyone who learns or grows differently?
  - What makes people unique?
  - Why is it important to be kind to others?
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### While Reading

Pause and ask:

- Why do you think he is in the hospital?
  - What do you notice that is helping him?
  - How do you think his family feels right now?
  - What helps you feel safe in a place that feels different or a little scary?
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### After Reading Discussion

- What did you learn from this story?
  - How can we be kind to someone who is different?
  - What makes you unique?
  - How can we help a friend who needs extra support?
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### Choose One Activity

- 1 **Draw & Share:** Draw a picture of yourself and something that makes you special. Share it with the group.
- 2 **Kindness Practice:** Think of one way you can help someone. Talk about it or role play together.
- 3 **Feelings Connection:** Talk about how the character felt. Have you ever felt the same way? What helped you?