

Thank You, Omu!
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – 3rd

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Preview the author’s note on the last page with students. Use this opportunity to discuss different cultures and ways that people may greet their family members.
- Ask: Why is sharing important? Have you ever had to share something that you didn’t want to? (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- What kind of person is Omu? Use details from the story.
- How did everyone know that Omu was making stew?
- How did Omu make her neighborhood feel when she shared her stew with them?
- How did Omu feel when her friends shared with her too at the end of the story?
- Why do you think Omu says this was the best dinner she has ever had?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- Ask: What makes Omu a great neighbor?
- Tell students to think about a friend, family member, and/or community member that they are thankful for. Brainstorm ideas on chart paper about the following questions: What are some ways that you can show gratitude? How can you continue to show gratitude daily?
- **Extension:** At the end of the story, the young boy shows his gratitude to Omu by writing her a thank you note. Have students choose someone they want to write a thank you note to. For younger students, encourage them to draw a picture to accompany their writing.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.