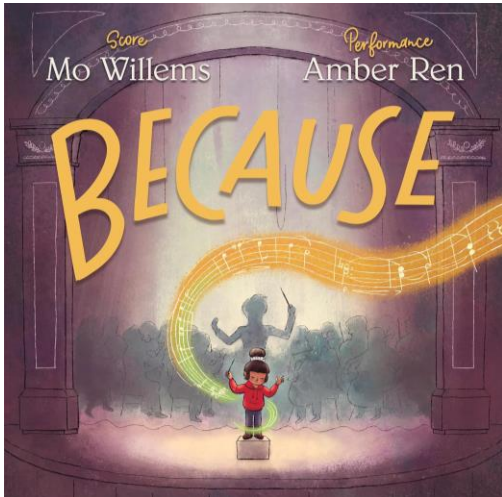


## Discussion Guide for Families



### ***Because***

*Author: Mo Willems*

*Illustrator: Amber Ren*

**Themes:** Community, Music, Inspiration

**Book Brief:** A book about how one piece of music can inspire many people across time, leading to a big orchestra concert. It shows how everyone from the musicians to the audience plays a part in making and enjoying music.

### **READ ALOUD**

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#### **Before Reading: Build Background**

- Model how to connect to the story by sharing experiences or thoughts about attending live performances, like concerts or plays.

#### **While Reading: Make Connections**

- As you progress through the book, explore the characters' emotions and the cause-and-effect relationships that lead to the concert. Consider questions such as, "Why do you think the story mentions Ludwig van Beethoven?" or "How do all these different people help in making the concert happen?" This encourages your child to think about the interconnectedness of actions and the impact of the arts.

#### **After Reading: Ask Questions**

- How did the concert change the little girl's life?
- What does this story tell us about how art and music are created and shared?

### **RELATED ACTIVITIES**

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#### **If your child enjoyed this book, consider:**

- Looking for a local concert or musical performance to attend, giving your child a chance to experience the joy of live music.
- Making simple instruments from household items and create your own music.