

# When We Gather

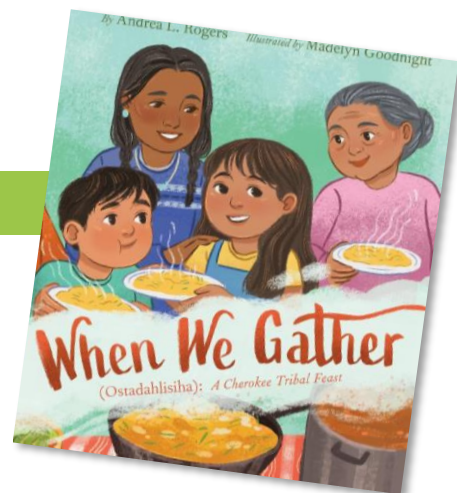
## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Community, Family, Native American Culture

**Book Brief:** As the dirt warms and green sprouts poke up, a Cherokee girl joins her family in the hunt for green onions. Together, they pick enough to bring to a feast, which is cooked with love and shared by their community. *Idalisdavhvga!* Let's all eat!

**Author:**  
Andrea L. Rogers

**Illustrator:**  
Madelyn Goodnight



## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

**The Pictures:** Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the girl.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask students, "What traditions does your family have?" (Optional: think, pair share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read today, pay attention to what the girl does with her family."

## DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Why do you think Agilisi says, "No dog onions"? What does she mean by this?
- What does the girl mean when she says she gives the onions haircuts. Why do you think she does this?
- What does the author mean by, "The ham and beans dance across my tongue"?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** The girl makes a wild onion dinner with her family. Explain her family members involvement in the preparation of this meal.

**Extending Our Thinking:** The girl's family tradition of making wild onions brings them together. Using RIF's [Recipe Card](#), have students write their own family tradition recipe. This can be a dish or how to do or make an activity. Encourage students think outside the box if it's not a dish.

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.