

# Our Table

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Family, Traditions

**Book Brief:** Violet misses the days when her family connected around the table, sharing meals and memories before technology and distractions pulled them apart. As the table shrinks with their distance, she wonders if she can bring them back together again.

**Author:**  
Peter H. Reynolds

**Illustrator:**  
Peter H. Reynolds



## 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 Violet.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask students, "Who do you eat dinner with?" (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

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

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read today, pay attention to how Violet brings her family together."

## DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What is Violet's problem?
- What happened to the table? What did this symbolize?
- Why do you think the illustrator switched back and forth between all purple and color?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** Violet used all her family's interests to help build a new table. What did this do?

**Extending Our Thinking:** The book *Our Table* is centered around the dinner table. Using [RIF's Titles Can Be Telling](#), have students make inferences and connections between the character(s), setting(s), and theme(s) in the book.

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.