

free spirit

PUBLISHING®



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October
2011

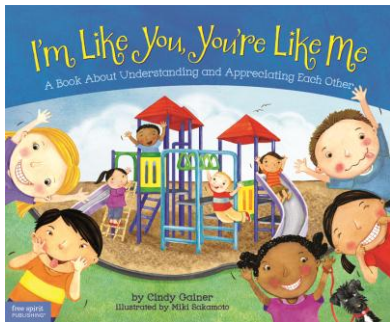
Lively New Art Breathes Fresh Life Into Classic Introduction to Diversity for Young Children

Minneapolis, MN—Free Spirit Publishing brings fresh life to its classic early childhood book on diversity with new illustrations by Miki Sakamoto. *I'm Like You, You're Like Me: A Book About Understanding and Appreciating Each Other* (Free Spirit Publishing, \$14.99), written by Cindy Gainer, addresses the subject of diversity through six concepts: comparing, acceptance, listening, understanding of self and others, kindness, and cooperation. This perennially popular Free Spirit book teaches kids to appreciate the ways they are alike and affirm their individual differences.

I'm Like You, You're Like Me describes diversity in terms kids can understand: hair that's straight or curly, families with many people or few, and skin that's dark, light, and in between. Sakamoto's whimsical illustrations depict kids from various cultures and ethnic backgrounds, by showing kids with hair from bright red to dark and curly or covered by a headscarf. Detailed border illustrations will captivate young readers.

I'm Like You, You're Like Me meets a need for multicultural picture books for children. Nearly eight in ten (78%) U.S. adults believe that it is important for children to be exposed to picture books that feature main characters of various ethnicities or races—but one-third (33%) report that it is difficult to find such books, according to a recent survey commissioned by The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the love of reading and learning in all children.

The original edition of *I'm Like You, You're Like Me* was released in 1998 and has sold more than 46,000 copies. Written for kids from preschool to lower elementary, the new edition contains a two-page section for parents and caregivers that provides tips and discussion points for talking with children about tolerance and respect for others. The book ends with a reaffirmation that though people are alike in many ways, it's our differences that make each of us unique and interesting. Kids learn that being “not exactly the same” is a great reason to like each other.



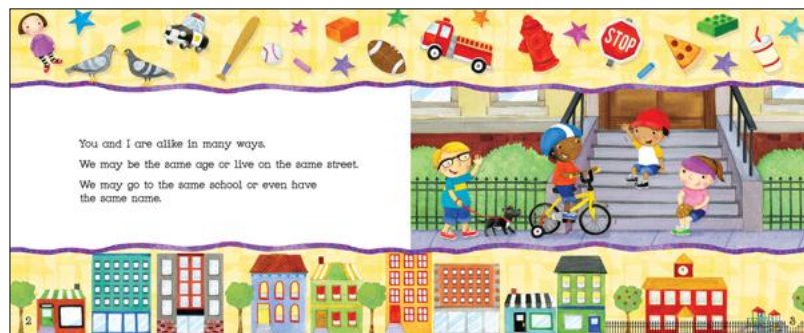
**I'M LIKE YOU,
YOU'RE LIKE ME:
A BOOK ABOUT UNDERSTANDING
AND APPRECIATING EACH OTHER**

by Cindy Gainer,
illustrated by Miki
Sakamoto

**Praise for the previous
edition:**

**“A wonderful book for
helping young children
understand and
appreciate people who
are different from
themselves.”**

**—Our Children, National
PTA Magazine**



(Note: There's a fun “Where's Waldo?” touch in the book. Look for cameos of a black terrier pup—that's Twiggy, one of Free Spirit founder Judy Galbraith's rescue dogs. Twiggy can usually be found at the Free Spirit office getting belly rubs from 9 to 5.)

-end-

I'M LIKE YOU, YOU'RE LIKE ME

by Cindy Gainer

ISBN 978-1-57542-383-8 • \$14.99 • Hardcover • 48 pp.
• color illust. • 11¼" x 9¼" • for ages 3–8



About the author

Over her 28-year career, Cindy Gainer has worked with and for children in many capacities, including as an educator, proprietor of a preschool, athletic mentor, award-winning author, illustrator, musician, workshop presenter, and support professional for children with special needs. *I'm Like You, You're Like Me* embodies her sensitive and encouraging manner. Cindy resides near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Bill, and son, August.



About the illustrator

Miki Sakamoto's interest in illustration began during her childhood as she sketched, colored, and painted away for hours in her room. Her artwork is inspired by all her nieces and nephews. Miki resides in Orange County, California, with her husband, Kevin, her cat, Jake, and her mouse, Millie. She has illustrated several picture books, including *What I Like About Me* by Allia Zobel Nolan and *My First Garden* by Wendy Lewison.



About Free Spirit Publishing (www.freespirit.com) Meeting kids' social, emotional, & educational needs since 1983

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Free Spirit is the leading publisher of learning tools that support young people's social-emotional health and their educational needs. Free Spirit's mission is to help children and teens think for themselves, succeed in life, and make a difference in the world.