



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Dear Parents/Guardian:

Today in your child's classroom, I read the book *I Wish You Knew* by Jackie Azúa Kramer. The story has characters sharing what they wish others knew about them. This thought-provoking book encourages students to consider their own biases and assumptions. It provides opportunities for conversations about compassion, active listening, and perspective-taking.

Active listening is an important skill for growing empathy and connecting. It allows students to:

- Better understand the situation
- Improve retention of information
- Enhance engagement
- Refine communication skills

**We hope you will talk with your child tonight about *I Wish You Knew*:**

- Ask questions and actively listen.
- Make eye contact and paraphrase responses to show that you understand.
- Questions can be simple or serious.
  - What would you do, if you won the lottery?
  - What is one thing you wish grown-ups knew about being a kid?
  - If you had a magic wand, what would you change about the world?
  - What house rule would you like to change and why?
  - If you could do anything you wanted to right now, what would you do?

By modeling active listening and then giving your child a chance to do the same, you are teaching your child to gain insight into a speaker's experiences. This perspective-taking builds empathy in the listener and the speaker.

If you would like more information about the ABC program or would like to volunteer to read in the classroom, please contact me.

Sincerely,

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ABC Volunteer

Telephone/Email