

Parent Email Blurb: *I Wish You Knew*

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.

Take the opportunity to ask questions of your child and actively listen.

- Make eye contact and paraphrase responses to show that you understand.
- Questions can be simple or serious.
 - What is one thing you wish grown-ups knew about being a kid?
 - If you had a magic wand, what would you change in 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.