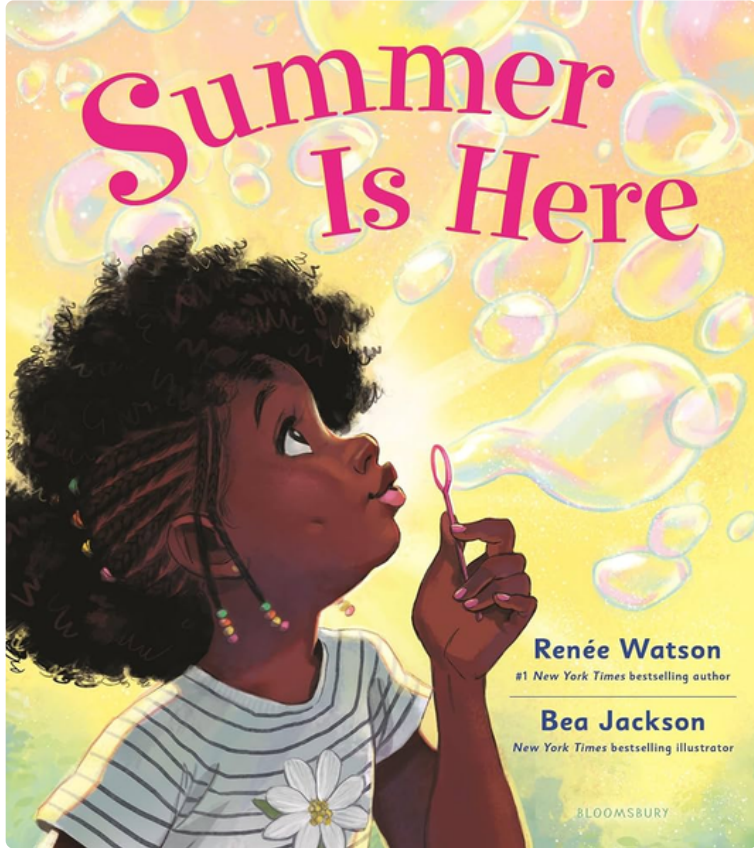


READ-ALoud GUIDE

BEST FOR AGES 3 - 6

SUMMER IS HERE

Written by Renée Watson and illustrated by Bea Jackson



SUMMARY

From sunrise to starlight, one child experiences the many joys of a beautiful summer day. She tastes fresh fruit, splashes in the pool, jumps rope with friends, throws water balloons, enjoys a family cookout, listens for the ice-cream truck, blows enormous bubbles, and ends the long, lovely day by gazing up into the shimmering night sky.

WHY WE CHOSE THIS BOOK

Centering Black childhood joy, this book celebrates ordinary moments of magic found through movement, nature, loved ones, and all five senses.

VOCABULARY

Notice these words together in the story

tiptoes	sunrays	mangoes	tangy	freestyle	backstroke
lily pads	pavement	charcoal	sizzle	serenading	shimmer

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE READING

1. What do you notice on the front cover? Count the number of bubbles.
2. What does summer look, sound, smell, taste, or feel like to you?
3. What is one activity you enjoy on a warm day?

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHILE READING

1. Which of the five senses is the child using on each page?
2. How do the colors and light change as the day continues?
3. What do you predict she will do next in the day?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AFTER READING

1. Why do you think the author refers to Summer as "she"?
2. Which part of the day would you most like to join in? Why?
3. How would your own perfect summer day be the same or different?

EARLY LITERACY ACTIVITIES DURING OR AFTER A READ-ALOUD

- Point out letters and sounds in the story.
- Clap syllables in character names or interesting words.
- Find rhyming or alliterative words together.
- Play "I Spy" with beginning sounds using objects in the illustrations.
- Trace or build letters from favorite words in the book.
- Draw or write what summer looks, sounds, smells, tastes, and feels like.
- Draw your ideal summer day from morning to night.
- Act out story words such as tiptoe, leap, swim, float, splash, and shimmer.