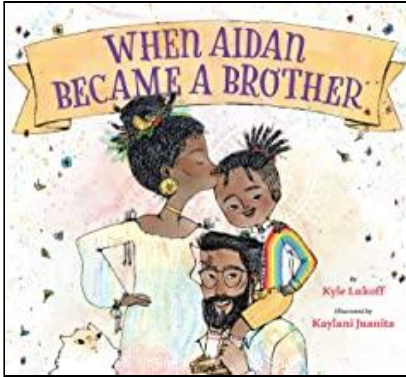


## Elementary Book Lesson for Caregivers



### Book Title

*When Aidan Became a Brother* by Kyle Lukoff, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

### Recommended Ages

4 and up; Discussion questions and journal/activities 7 and up

### Book Summary to Share With Children

*When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl. When Aidan told his parents he felt more like a boy, they were responsive and fixed things in his life so they fit him better. Now, Aidan's parents are about to have another baby, and Aidan is very concerned with getting everything*

*right for his new sibling. He shows he knows how to love and be a big brother through his preparations and considerations for the new baby.*

### Reflection Questions for the Caregiver

1. How does your childcare center or local school/school district set up to support transgender students and their families?
2. What else do you need to learn about and understand before having conversations about gender with your child? How will you find the resources and support?
3. Think of a time when you really cared about something so much that you wanted to make sure you got it right and worried about messing up. What did that feel like? What did you do to manage your worries?

### Reader's Note

Gender is experienced by people in many different ways. It is important for children to see different gender identities reflected positively in order to affirm each child's own identity and build respect across different identities. This creates empathy and understanding for gender diversity. This book provides an example of self-advocacy when it comes to gender identity. It also provides an example of the responsibility felt by a child as they become an older sibling and the consideration for the well-being of a new sibling.

This book focuses on the changes and preparation a family goes through when a new child enters the family. It also focuses on the transition of a transgender boy. To learn more about gender diversity and the difference between gender stereotypes, gender expression, and gender identity, check out <https://www.genderspectrum.org/>.

### Connection to Social-Emotional Learning and Anti-Bias Education

#### SEL

**Self-Awareness**

**Self-Management**

**Social Awareness**

**Relationship Skills**

**Responsible Decision-Making**

#### ABE

**Empathy and Understanding**

**Healthy Complex Identities**

**Respect Across Differences**

**Notice, Name, and Reject Bias**

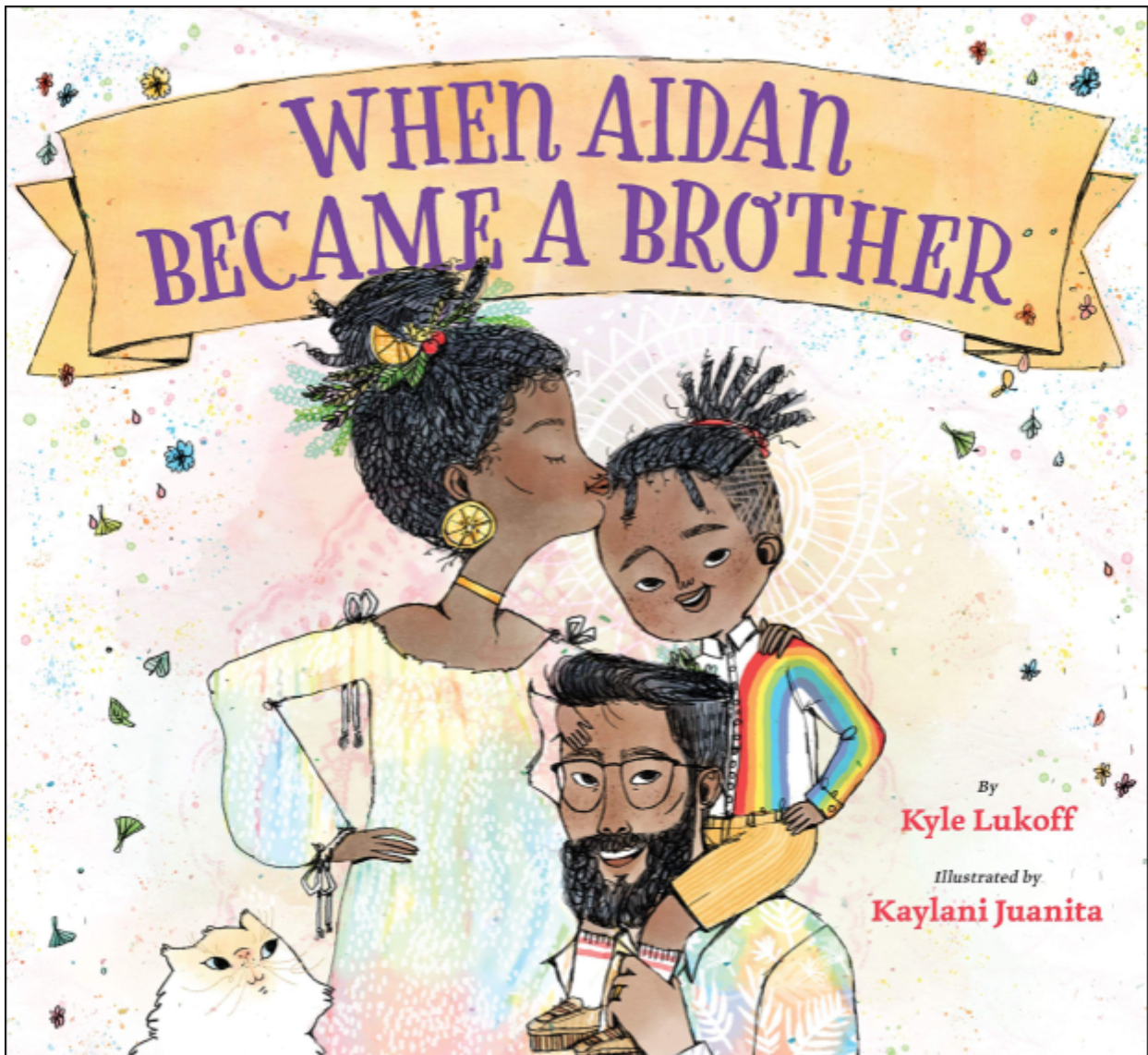
**Responsiveness and Action**

## Discussion Questions

1. How did Aidan and his parents know he was really a boy? What did Aidan's parents do after they realized this?
2. What did Aidan do to prepare for the baby? Why was Aidan worried?
3. What preparations did Aidan and his parents make in order to make sure they didn't misgender the baby and they could grow up to be whoever they are?
4. How does Aidan advocate for himself and his identity? How do Aidan's parents do this, too?
5. When Aidan and his dad were at the hardware store, the paint guy was confused. Why?
6. The book says, "Maybe everything wouldn't be perfect for this baby. Maybe he would have to fix mistakes he didn't even know he was making. And maybe that was okay." When have you had to fix a mistake? What did you do? How did it feel before and after?
7. When has someone made a mistake about you? What did you do? How did you respond?

## Journal Questions/Activities

- At the end of the story, it says, "Aidan knew how to love someone, and that was the most important part of being a brother." Choose an identity role you play in relation to others (sister, daughter, brother, son, friend, etc). Draw or write about how you show your love in this role.
- Draw or write about a time when you tried to prepare for something and worried about whether or not it was good enough and others would like it.



By  
**Kyle Lukoff**

Illustrated by  
**Kaylani Juanita**