



Reviews

"A GUMDROP TALE" by R. Elizabeth Russell

Jack *****

This book has a special place in my heart. Working with children who have been through trauma, I've learned how sensitive they are to emotional cues. This story, with its subtle depiction of manipulation, mistrust, and ultimately healing, provides the perfect backdrop for tough conversations in a gentle, non-threatening way. The Rainbow Gumdrop gives children hope that their voice matters, that one small act of bravery can restore peace. I now use this book as part of my emotional literacy sessions. It's a blessing for caregivers, social workers, and educators alike.

Taylon ***

I've read A Gumdrop Tale multiple times now once by myself, once aloud to my 6-year-old, and again to my niece and nephew during a family visit. What I noticed each time is how layered this book is. On the surface, it's a fun story about gumdrop people and a mischievous stranger. But just beneath is an exploration of emotional manipulation, the fragility of trust, and the healing power of honest communication. The illustrations are gorgeous, but the prose is what truly stands out: lyrical, gentle, and deeply resonant. The Rainbow Gumdrop's speech is something I won't forget. This is a classic in the making.

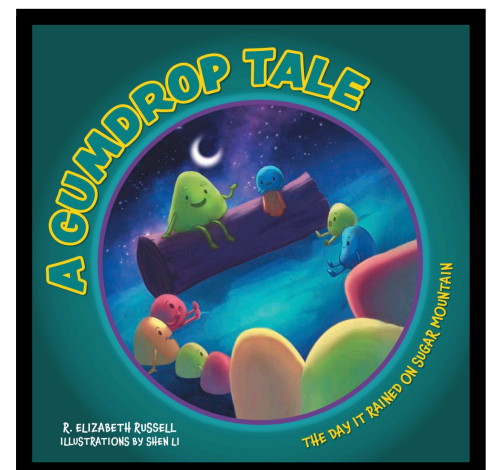
Mia *****

A Gumdrop Tale is a masterclass in inclusivity. Through colorful, diverse characters who each shine in their own way, it beautifully teaches children that harmony doesn't come from sameness but from celebrating and supporting our differences. What impressed me most was how it handled conflict. The disagreements didn't come from bad people, but from confusion and influence. That's a powerful message for kids: sometimes we are hurt by others who are themselves hurting or confused. The way the story returns to collective empathy and reconciliation is not just sweet it's profound.

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For an inside look into "A GUMDROP TALE "
visit: www.talesoflearningandgrowth.com





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Saint *****

A must read for emotional intelligence and social learning."

This story illustrates emotional contagion in a way kids can immediately understand. The way the Grey Gumdrop spreads doubt, the way emotions erupt it's a perfect gateway to discuss how feelings spread and how community can be rebuilt through listening and trust. I'll be using this in my SEL toolkit.

Sarah *****

One of the best children book have seen this year.

Cynthia *****

Perfect for the classroom.

I'm a second-grade teacher, and this has already become one of my favorite circle time reads. It opens the door to talk about empathy, teamwork, and how our words affect others. It's beautifully written and wonderfully illustrated. I'd give it 6 stars if I could

Daniella Wilson *****

This story is both entertaining and enlightening. I love how Russell introduces conflict and resolution in a way that children can understand and adults can appreciate. There's so much to unpack and discuss here.

Evelyn *****

Though filled with gumdrops and sugar, this story has substance. It handles conflict, empathy, and reconciliation in a way children can truly understand

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