

## Sense of Self

This book follows two children who live in different parts of the world and discover how their lives are the same in many ways and different in others.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES	INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES	
<b>RELATE</b> 	<b>Children will:</b>	<b>Teachers will:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe a range of individual characteristics</li> <li>Communicate ways people are similar to and different from others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embrace similarities and differences</li> </ul>

**TEACHING TIP**

As children develop their sense of self, they’re also becoming more aware of the ways in which people are similar to and different from them. Sharing books that feature diverse characters provides opportunities for children to notice differences and ask questions, and for adults to model ways to confidently and respectfully talk about people who are different from them. When children understand and appreciate diversity, they are more likely to treat others fairly and kindly.

### 1. INTRODUCE

- “Today we’re going to read a book called *Same, Same but Different*. It’s about two children who send letters and pictures back and forth to learn about each other’s lives. We’re going to see that, even though they look different and they live far away from each other, they are alike in many ways!”

### 2. READ THE BOOK

- Pause occasionally to comment or ask about the message in the book.
- Use questions and comment to embrace similarities and differences.

Embrace Similarities and Differences 		
<p><b>Read:</b> “My name is Kailash, and I love to climb trees too. Same, same but different.”</p> <p><b>Ask:</b> “What do you notice about the two boys? How are they alike? How are they different?”</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> “It’s awesome that they look different and live in different places, but they’re both children who love to climb trees!”</p>	<p><b>Read:</b> “So do I! Same, same but different!”</p> <p><b>Ask:</b> “Which way looks most like your ride to school? How are they the same? How are they different?”</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> “They both ride to school, but their buses and their cities are different. Isn’t that interesting?”</p>	<p><b>Read:</b> “Different, different but the same!”</p> <p><b>Ask:</b> “Do you think these children are friends? How can you tell?”</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> “By sending pictures back and forth, Elliot and Kailash found out that they are alike and different in many ways. I think learning about each other helped them become good friends.”</p>

### 3. REVIEW

- “There are so many people in the world. It’s okay to notice and talk about all the ways we are the same and different from each other. Have you noticed differences between your teachers or your friends? I think when we learn more about each other, we’ll see that we’re all the same, the same but different. And that’s wonderful!”

### 4. KEEP IT GOING

- It’s important that children feel comfortable noticing differences and asking questions as they grow to appreciate diversity. Model how to talk about differences in respectful ways and encourage children to share about their own identities. The more comfortable children feel in their own skin, the more comfortable they will feel with others.