Nobody!

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Topics: Bullying, Compromise/conflict, Student voice, Building community, Who we are as citizens
Genres: Bully fiction, Picture books, School stories, Affirming personal identity stories

This beautifully written and illustrated story highlights the challenges of being bullied over several years at school. It also offers an honest perspective on the bully's personal issues and peer behaviors which lend the bully power. In addition, it arms its target readers with ways to define themselves as individuals.

Before the Read Aloud:
Do you want to be different from everyone, the same as everyone, or a bit of both? There is no single correct answer. In your response explain how you are different and how you are the same.

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During the Read Aloud:

1. What effect does Kyle’s bullying have on Thomas? What advice do other people give to Thomas for dealing with Kyle’s bullying?

2. Why do you think Thomas’s friends don’t stand up to Kyle?

3. Kyle makes Thomas feel like he is a nobody. Thomas decides to look at being a nobody in a different way – maybe nobody is like him. What does he mean by that? Thomas’s friends also start to speak up for Thomas. What effect does this have on Kyle?

Take Action Project:

What does Thomas mean by, “I’ve decided that nobody can make me feel like a nobody,”?

Detail the many ways you are a "somebody" who stands out. Draw or collage words or images that describe how you think you are somebody who matters. Display the combined word art and collages to showcase the class of somebodies.