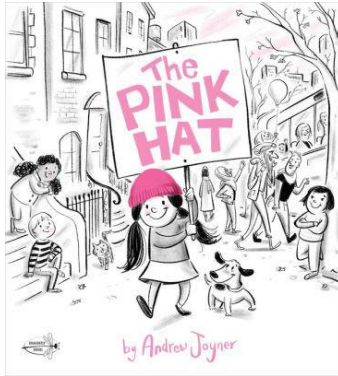


# The Pink Hat



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Topics: First Amendment, Symbolic speech, Community building, Student voice, Rights and responsibilities, What it means to be American

Genres: Picture book, Informational history text, Women's rights narratives

**Throughout our history, there have been a lot of symbols that represent people’s points of view. For example, people put hearts in their windows as one way of saying thank you to the hard-working health care providers. Various lapel designs have come to symbolize patriotism. Pink hats have become a symbol of women’s rights. All of these logos, accessories and visual emblems are part of citizen voices and expressions in our democratic society. This story contextualizes pink hats as an authentic emblematic fashion statement expression.**

## **Before the Read Aloud:**

What right or civic value is important to you? Education, health, climate control, nutrition, parks, school lunch? For each one that is important to you, what logo or article of clothing could you wear or display to "speak" your right or value? Explain your article of clothing or emblem and how it "expresses" your value.

# The Pink Hat

## During the Read Aloud:

1. The pink hats in the story were worn by millions of women, men, and children who were part of a peaceful protest behind the message, “Women’s rights are human rights”. What do you think are some of the factors behind this Women’s March?
2. Do you think the story would have a different impact/ narrative if the main character was a boy? If so, how would it have been different? If not, why do you think it would be the same?
3. Imagine that your school has adopted the theme of keeping the school environment clean and healthy. Using symbolic speech, how would you let other people know that you are on the team that cares about the environment?
5. In addition to calling attention to the need to take care of our environment, what action steps would you share with people who recognize your symbol and want to know how they could help?

## Take Action Project:

Think of symbols in today’s world that clearly convey a message.

Example: Why do people wear red ribbons? (*To call attention to the need to prevent drug abuse and drunk driving.*)

Focus on billboard, product, public mural, government agency, and issue emblems. Make a list and a chart of them.

Think of how these emblems might inspire your own creation for your own symbolic speech.

Draw or build a representation of your symbolic speech.

