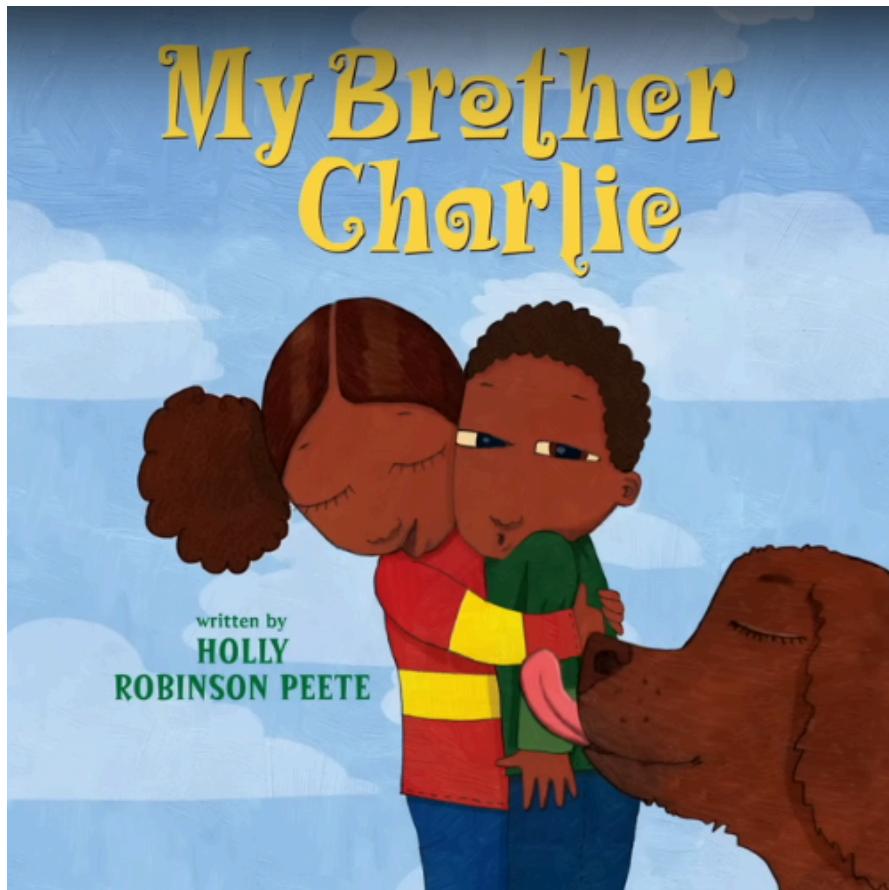


My Brother Charlie

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



Written by Holly Robinson Peete & Ryan Elizabeth Peete

Illustrated by Shane W. Evans

THEMES

Environment & Conservation

STEAM

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

SUB-THEMES

Sibling bonds

Neurodiversity

Story Discussion Guide

- Understand what autism is in a gentle, relatable way.
- Recognize that every child has unique strengths and challenges.
- Reflect on how we can support and play with children who communicate differently.
- Develop empathy and inclusive thinking.

Lesson plan

This story helps introduce young learners to the topic of autism through sibling love. It encourages kindness, patience, and celebration of different ways of being.

Before Reading:

- What are some things you love about your brother, sister, or friend?
- Have you ever met someone who communicates differently?
- How do you show kindness to others?

During Reading :

- What are some things you love about your brother, sister, or friend?
- Have you ever met someone who communicates differently?
- How do you show kindness to others?

After Reading:

- What are some things you love about your brother, sister, or friend?
- Have you ever met someone who communicates differently?
- How do you show kindness to others?

Activities:

- Strength Stars: Children create stars showing their own strengths and those of their classmates.
- Circle of Support: In small groups, discuss how to include and help a classmate who might be shy or have autism.
- Story Drawing: Draw a scene where Callie and Charlie are playing and smiling together.
- Feelings Match: Use emojis or illustrations to talk about how different people express their feelings.

Expected Outcomes

Children will walk away with a better understanding of autism, an appreciation for neurodiversity, and a sense of how to be a supportive friend or sibling. They'll see that every child belongs—and love is our greatest bridge.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

SDG Explanation

- SDG 3 supports emotional and mental health for all.
- SDG 4 advocates for inclusive education that acknowledges neurodiversity.
- SDG 10 promotes tolerance and social inclusion of people with disabilities.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences. Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.