

 <p>My Three Best Friends and Me, Zulay</p> <p>Cari Best Pictures by Vanessa Brantley-Newton</p> <p><i>My Three Bests Friends and Me, Zulay</i> By Cari Best (2015) GRADES for USE: K - 3</p>	<p>Grade 3 Discussion Questions</p> <p>RL 3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to text as a basis for the answers.</p> <p>Does Zulay like using her cane at first? How does she use her other senses to figure out what’s going on in her surroundings? Use examples from the story to explain what Zulay means when she says ‘I see with my fingers.’</p> <p>RL 3.3 Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.</p> <p>Describe both Zulay’s and Ms. Turner’s personalities. How do their character traits affect what they say and do and the way the story ends?</p> <p>RL 3.7 Explain how specific aspects of a text’s illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).</p> <p>Explain how the illustrations help you to learn more than the words tell you about Zulay’s friends and teachers, her school and her experiences as a blind person.</p>
<p>SUMMARY OF BOOK:</p> <p>In many ways, Zulay is just like her friends – she wears the same school uniform, enjoys dancing and singing in the school halls, and sometimes speaks out of turn in class. But unlike her friends, Zulay uses a Braille and a folding cane because she is blind. When Field Day comes around, Zulay announces that she wants to run in the race in her new pink shoes. Everyone knows that Zulay is a whiz at math, but is running track a good idea? Not everyone, Zulay included, is sure that she can do it. Can she?</p>	<p>Grade 3 Activities</p> <p>W 3.7 Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.</p> <p>To help students learn more about braille and blindness, read aloud (or have students read independently) and discuss <i>Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille</i> (Bryant, 2016). Have students work in small groups using websites such as www.braillebug.com (braille info and games) and www.mcwdn.org (‘Blindness Written for Kids’) to find and record at least two additional pieces of information about braille or daily life as a blind person to share with the class.</p>