

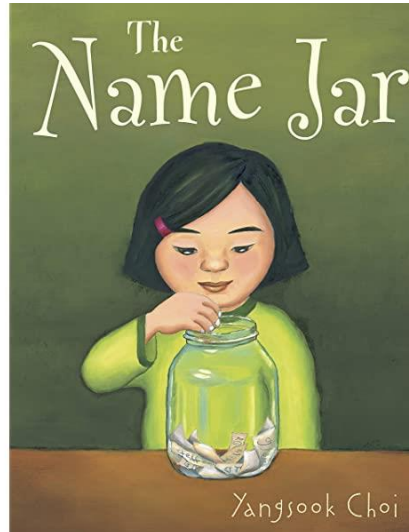
Story Time: Years 5&6



ADVENTURES IN BOOKLAND

G D S T

The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi



Click [here](#) to access a reading of The Name Jar.

Book Summary from Penguin Random House

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighborhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce it—Yoon-Hey.

Discussion Prompts

- 1) Why did Joey choose to have 'Chinku' as his nickname?
- 2) Unhei wanted to change her name at school. What would you say to her? Would you try to change her mind? Why?
- 3) Were her classmates being kind when they were putting American names into the jar?
- 4) Have you ever taken part in a different cultural activity as Joey did? Have you eaten food from a different culture or taken part in a festival that is different from your culture or religion? What did you learn?