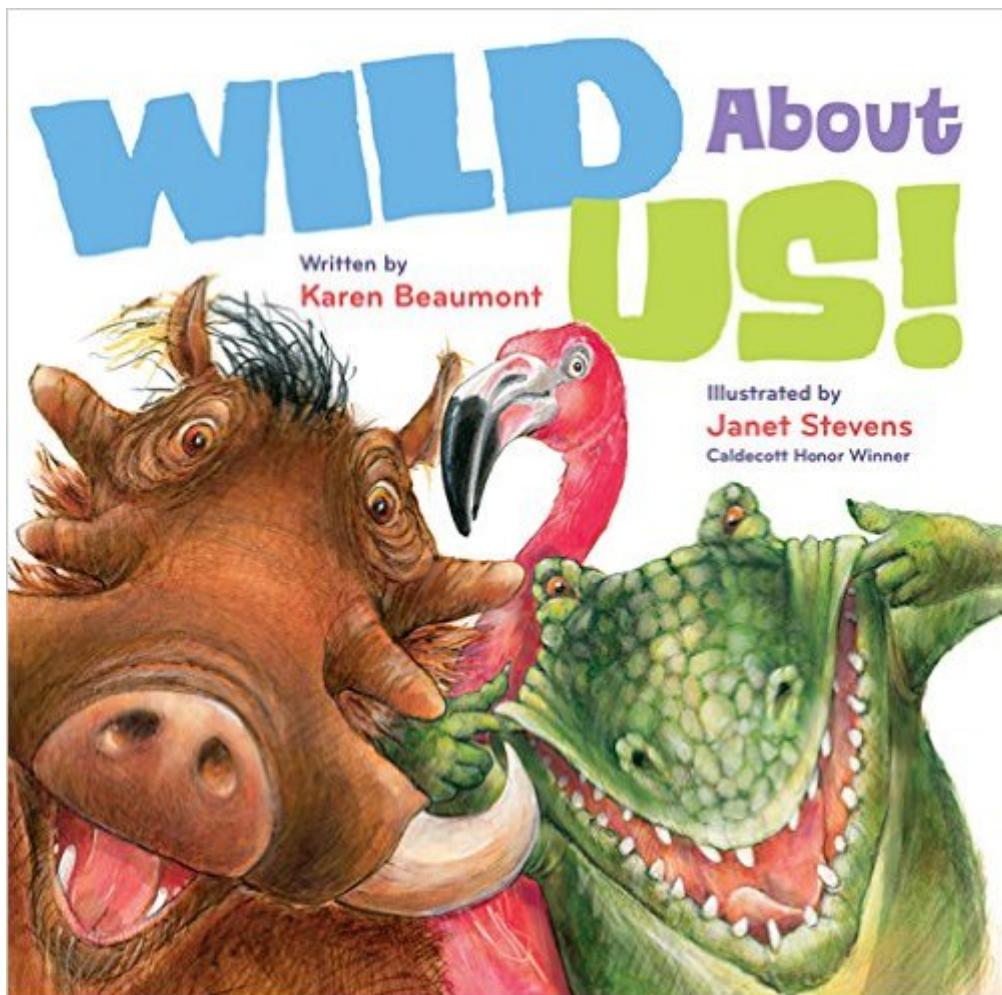


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## Wild About Us!



## **Synopsis**

Warty Warthog may have warts and tusks, but he likes himself that way! Join him as he celebrates all of his animal friends and the attributes that make each one unique. Whether it's Crocodile's toothy grin or Kangaroo's huge feet or Leopard's spottiness, each animal is different. Wouldn't it be dull if all the animals at the zoo and all the people in the world looked alike? A joyful picture-book celebration of everything that makes us individuals!

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: AD360L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (April 7, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152062947

ISBN-13: 978-0152062941

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #79,937 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Zoos #186 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse #200 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Poetry

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

It's never too early to reinforce a healthy body image in our children. Though most of this should be taught through proper affection and modeling through the parents, books can also serve as wonderful supplements to any life lesson. In this case, "Wild About Us!" is the perfect fit for young children. In fun and simple rhyme, Karen Beaumont introduces us to Warty Warthog, who happens to be very proud of his appearance. As he puts it, "can't be who I'm not. I am who I am, and I've got what I've got." The other animals at the zoo share the same sentiment. No one seems to worry about whether their ears stick out or whether their nose is too long. Wrinkly skin isn't worrisome either, nor big feet . . . not even a hind-end that packs a bit of jiggle. They each appreciate their differences and accept how they've been made. What a great lesson, and it is skillfully presented through just the right amount of humor in both text and illustration. Both my girls shared some

giggles throughout the story, though its significance was not missed. As my seven-year-old reflected: "It's showing you that you can be yourself. You don't have to be like anyone else!" The choice of zoo animals not only makes the page-turns fun to look at thanks to Janet Stevens, their practicality makes the lesson all the more convincing. It simply isn't practical for an elephant to look like a flamingo, and that can be celebrated. As the story ends: "We're glad we're all different! It would be such a shame if you came to the zoo . . . and we all looked the same!" So true! A 5-Star book for two to 10-year-olds!

I am wild about Wild About Us! I have been using this book in story time all week with fantastic results. The illustrations are big and goofy, and it has a great message. This is a short little read that flows well and gives us a look at a variety of zoo creatures. The text celebrates all their unique aspects before finally determining that the zoo would be a boring place indeed if everyone looked the same. The kids laugh at the hippo who loves her jiggly behind and they grin at the chimpanzee with the big ears. This is a book that celebrates differences without ever becoming heavy handed. I think it's when the text talks about the leopard and his spots that all the kids start to "get it". It's very gratifying when you can look out into a story time audience and see the kids start to understand what the book is really about. Learning to appreciate ourselves for what makes us unique is such an important thing, and Wild About Us is a great little tool to help kids begin to grasp the concept. A fine read, a fine lesson, and most importantly - lots of fun!

As a reading teacher who loves children's literature, I think this is an extraordinary children's book in every respect. The idea that individual differences can be both appreciated and a source of joy is depicted with great humor through brilliant animal illustrations and wonderful rhyme. It is a book that can appeal to children of all ages and its message should resonate with all of us.

Animals embrace their individuality and so should humans. Karen Beaumont and Janet Stevens show us how unique each animal is and why each animal is proud of how they look. A soothing lesson in embracing who we are and what we look like. Good message too in that the world would be quite boring if we all looked the same. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. #PB #animals #individuality #unique

Summary: Warty Warthog introduces himself and his friends at the zoo, explaining in rhyming text why each animal is perfect the way he/she is. Rhino likes his wrinkly skin, Elephant knows his nose

is supposed to be long, Chimpâ™s sticking-out ears are charming, etc. Each animal is gets a large illustration on a white background, every animal looking as happy as can be. The final conclusion? A celt would be such a shame if you came to the zoo and we all looked the same! •Pros: An upbeat message for kids to appreciate differences, joyfully illustrated by Caldecott Medal winner Janet Stevens. Cons: If you read this aloud, you will have to endure endless laughter about Hippoâ™s wiggly, jiggly behind.

This one started off a little rough. The first couple of pages have longer poems about animals that are really a little on the boring side. But then ... the book completely changes gears and begins to tell you about the flaw/beauty of each animal. Every page reminds you that no one is complaining about and the animals certainly are happy about their particular flaw/beauty. In the end, we get a great little book about being unique and how that is such a good thing. Loved it! Great art as well!

This is a great book about accepting your flaws and loving them! My pre-k's love it! There is also a fly on each page they like to find!

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