

# ICEBREAKER FOR A NEW GROUP OF STUDENTS

USING THE PICTURE BOOK A NEW SCHOOL FOR CHARLIE

Like many new students, Charlie is having trouble finding his place in a new classroom. At first, Charlie's differences feel insurmountable, but finding a shared language with Fiona changes everything. Together they discover their commonalities and come to love their differences.

"Eventually, Charlie isn't the only one making changes to gain new friends; the cats and dog are shown digging holes and playing with sticks during playtime. Dicmas charmingly captures the personality differences between cats and dogs; the former aloof and territorial, the latter excitable and outgoing." —Kirkus Reviews

Whether you are meeting your new class in person or online, Charlie's adventure as a dog in a school of cats can offer some icebreakers.

In this kit are reproducible 1/2 sheets that invite kids and adults to list favorite books, colors, sounds, food, activities, and the languages that are spoken at home. Final sheets ask readers to list what makes them happy and things they worry about. Can your students uncover some commonalities?

An additional activity invites students and staff to grant awards to themselves or the new friends they discovered in the icebreaker.

The picture books ends at the Buddy Bench with Charlie grinning up at a new student. Here's to creating a welcoming classroom!

#### MY FAVORITE BOOKS

### **MY FAVORITE COLORS**



#### FROM A NEW SCHOOL FOR CHARLIE BY COURTNEY DICMAS (CHILD'S PLAY)



### FAVORITE FOOD

#### LANGUAGES MY FAMILY SPEAKS



FROM A NEW SCHOOL FOR CHARLIE BY COURTNEY DICMAS (CHILD'S PLAY)



## FAVORITE MUSIC OR SOUNDS

#### FAVORITE ACTIVITES



FROM A NEW SCHOOL FOR CHARLIE BY COURTNEY DICMAS (CHILD'S PLAY)



## THINGS THAT MAKE ME HAPPY

#### THINGS THAT WORRY ME







