



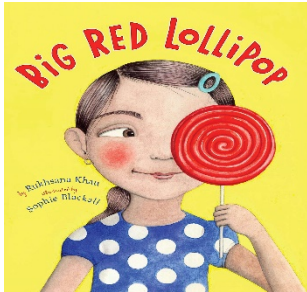
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December 2020



Dear P.S. 115Q Community,

We are proud to present our December choice for Book of the Month, Big Red Lollipop, written by Rukhsana Khan and illustrated by Sophie Blackall. The 2011 winner of the Golden Kite Award for best picture book text which was also selected as a part of New York Public Library's 100 Great Children's Books in 100 years selection, tells the story of a young girl named Rubina. In the story,

Rubina is thrilled to share with her mother, Ami, that she has been invited to her very first birthday party. Her happy news is interrupted, however, when Rubina's little sister, Sana, insists on joining Rubina. Mortified by this request, Rubina begs her mother not to let Sana join them. Her request is quickly denied and her fears of her little sister embarrassing her, unfortunately, come true on the day of the birthday party. The story continues years later when Sana, then receives her first birthday invitation and is met with an unexpected, sweet, and surprising response from her sister.

We felt the theme of this book, which is based upon the love of family, would fit perfectly with our Virtue of the Month: **Love**. "Love is a special feeling that fills your heart. You show love in a smile, a pleasant way of speaking, a thoughtful act or a hug. Love is treating people and things with special care and kindness because they mean so much to you. Love is treating other people just as you would like them to treat you-with care and respect." (Popov, L.K. *The Virtues Project Educator's Guide*. PRO-ED, Inc., 2000).

As you read/listen to the book, we invite you to look for all the many ways the author and illustrator show the theme of love throughout the story. What examples do you connect with the most? How do you show love to the people in your life? Now more than ever, we appreciate the value this virtue plays in our lives as a part of our strong school community. As we enter this holiday season, we want to hold this virtue close and hope that you are able to receive but, more importantly, demonstrate many big and small acts of love.

With all our love,

The P.S. 115Q Team

*Equal Opportunity for Success*