

2026 Heritage Month Kit Guide Pre-K & Kindergarten

This suggested guide can be modified as needed. It is provided to give context and assistance in using and facilitating the Heritage Month Kit materials.

Hello there!

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month. At Asian American Voices for Education, we see history as more than the past. It is a critical tool for Georgia's diverse student population to understand interconnected histories and become change-makers in their local and global communities.

2026 is our fourth Heritage Month Kit, and our theme this year is **home and belonging**.

Designed for Georgia classrooms, you will find:

1. A book for your classroom
2. Discussion prompts for some deep-thinking conversations
3. Classroom coloring art

Thoughts to Ponder:

What does **home** mean to you?

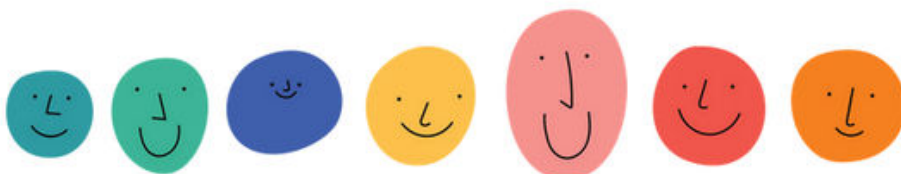
Can you have more than one **home**?

What does **belonging** feel like?

Book:

Each kit contains a copy of

- **The Spice Box** by Meera Sriram and illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat



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Discussion Prompts:

Before Reading:

1. Look at the cover—What do you see? What do you think is inside the shiny box the boy is holding?
2. Look at the boy's spice box—In India, this is called an anjarai petti (say: an-juh-rye pet-tee). It is a special box that holds smells and tastes from his family's **home**. Let's read to see how this box helps Rishi feel like he **belongs!**

After Reading:

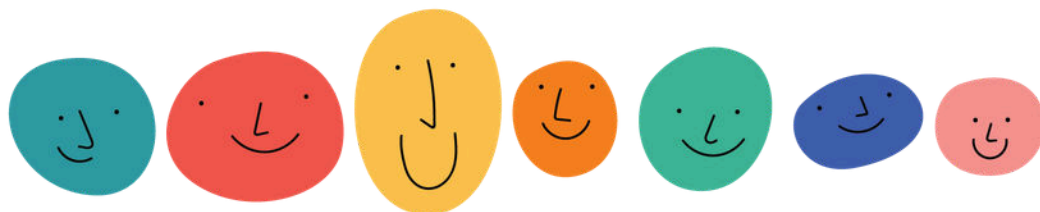
1. What was inside the spice box? What happened when Rishi tried to carry the box by himself?
2. The spice box moved from India to a new country with Rishi's family. How did the smells and stories of the spices help them feel like they **belonged** in a new place?
3. Where does Rishi feel most at **home**? Is it in the kitchen with his Dad?
4. Where do you feel most at **home**? Is it a certain place, or is it when you are with your family?
5. What is a special food or tradition that makes you feel like you **belong**?
6. What can we do to help a new friend feel at **home** in our classroom?

Classroom Coloring:

- There are two sets of coloring activity in your craft bag.
- Each student receives 1-2 sheets of coloring page, coloring them with colors that remind them of **home** and **belonging**.
- Assemble the art together (handy dandy numbers on the back of each page to make this easy for you).
- Hang the coloring collage masterpiece on a wall or hallway for all to see!



Art by @tiffblot, class coloring activity inspired by Ms. Karla & Ms. Diane (GA teachers)



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Meet the Artist:

Tiff Chau (@[tiffblot](#)) is an Asian American illustrator born and raised in Georgia. She celebrates slices of life through her watercolor artwork that captures the warmth of culture and the nostalgia in the well worn corners of our hearts. In honor of her childhood spent working in her family restaurant, Tiff also collaborates regularly with local non-profits and small businesses. Her greatest joy is creating artwork for her community and sharing stories about the little things over a big bowl of soup!

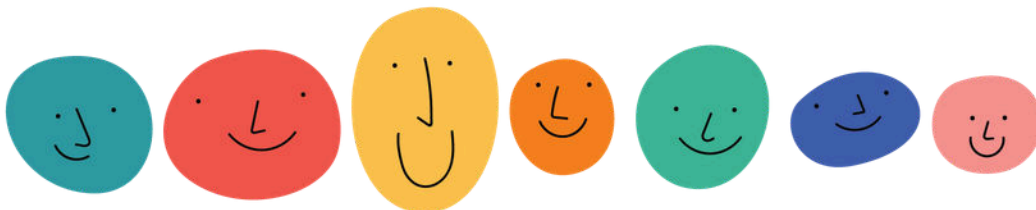


Follow Tiff on social media at [@tiffblot](#)



What does Home and Belonging mean to you as an AANHPI artist in Georgia?

“They say home is where the heart is, and my heart has always been found in a noisy, overly warm, too-tight kitchen space with a plate and glass that is always full. **Home** and **belonging** are defined in so many languages, but especially growing up in a multicultural household, my heritage has been defined by the love language of food that has endured oceans and generations so that I can enjoy it today!”



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Thoughtful Tips:

- Be sure to talk about how vast Asian American communities are. They are people of **Asian descent from 48 countries and over 60% of the world's population**. Asian Americans come from many different backgrounds and can be first-generation immigrants or have roots in America since the 1700s.
- Most of us in the US have roots in other countries. Discuss what **your student population's roots may be**.
- Celebrate **more than food, fun, and festivals**. Give space for students to **explore deep thinking skills** by relating the books to personal experiences.

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the kit and tag us [@aaved_org](https://www.instagram.com/aaved_org)
or [@aaved.org](https://www.facebook.com/aaved.org) 

The post with the most likes by
May 20 will win books for your
classroom library!

