

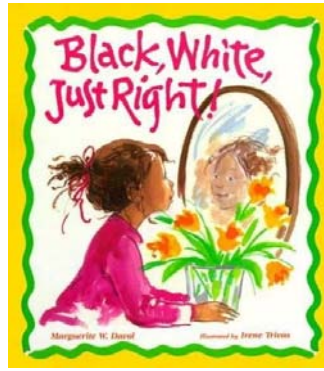
**Title:** Black, White, Just Right!

**Author:** Marguerite W. Davol

**Illustrator:** Irene Trivas

**Summary:**

This story is about a biracial family and their different characteristics. The girl's mother is black while her father is white and she describes herself as just in the middle of both. As the story goes on, she begins to describe her parent's hobbies, their likes and dislikes and how they are different from her. She describes how her parents like different types of music, how her mom likes African masks and her dad likes modern art but she likes the Egyptian art. The young girl celebrates how she is and accepts that her parents are both different but she is just right.



**Age/ why it is age appropriate:** 6-8 years of age. This story is considered appropriate for this age group because the pictures are a visual aid for what the text says. The sentence structure is very simple and there is a repetitious pattern making it enjoyable for young students. This book is realistic fiction but the students can relate to the theme of this story and the content is appropriate.

**Style/sound:** Davol uses casual diction to bring the story to life. This story is meant for children to either feel a connection with the character in the story or learn about a biracial family. The sound of this story includes repetition and figurative language to make it enjoyable for young readers. She often uses onomatopoeia and metaphors in her writing.

**Global Awareness:** This book introduces an intercultural family and the concept of individuality. The girl's mother is African American while her father is white American and she describes herself as just right. This story will allow the students to take into perspective a family that have different cultures, likes and dislikes but yet they celebrate those differences. It makes the students aware that there are biracial families and that it is okay to have your own likes and dislikes that are different from each parent. It also encourages students to be accepting of different people who have different backgrounds and it encourages them to have individuality. Furthermore, it makes the readers aware about the differences among individuals and that we should accept them and not reject them because of those differences.

**Global Engagement:** This book can encourage students to become engage in the topic of acceptance of different types of people. In this story, there are three characters that look different, that like different things but yet they are a happy family. This helps them see that differences among people do not represent a reason for separating from those who are not like them but rather embracing those differences and coming together.

**Global Perspective:** This story allows the reader to have the perspective of a small girl who is part of a biracial family. It will allow the students to see how her parents are different in their hobbies, likes and dislikes but yet she feels like she is just right. This book brings a perspective that will

allow the students to relate to her if they come from a biracial family or even learn about biracial families. The story gives the readers an opportunity to explore a different point of view and understand there are different types of families around the world.

**Theme:** The theme of this story is intercultural family and individuality.

**Language:** This story helps the children language development because it exposes children to mature language. The story uses patterns of language such as repetition of the first and last sentence of every other page and the author uses figurative language. Figurative language and repetition are language components that allow children to cope with written language and expose them to effective use of language. The author plays with sounds and patterns by using onomatopoeia and by keeping a pattern of what mother is like, what father is like and what she is like. This story also encourages a discussion on biracial families and the different personalities that are present in a family, allowing the children to develop their oral language.

**Cognitive:** This story helps the children's cognitive development because it introduces the new concept of biracial families. The children will be able to use the knowledge they learn from this story and connect it to their past experiences with biracial families. Moreover, this story reinforces the concept of different families and it enables students to compare how they would feel being part of this family compared to how they feel in their own family. Furthermore, the students can make predictions of what they feel the girl might be like right after she describes her parents because of the pictures or even the repetitious pattern found in the story. With this story, the children can use their critical thinking skills to analyze how she is different from her parents and evaluate each of the parent's culture.

**Personality:** This story helps the children's personality development by teaching them about individuality and how it is just right to be different. Through this book, the children are able to build positive self-concepts because they will be able to feel good about being different from other people, even their parents. They will be able to become confident and identify their heritage or where they come from in a positive way. Furthermore, this book presents the theme of individuality that will enable the children to value their own uniqueness and their own preferences because that is what makes them who they are.

**Social-Moral:** This book helps the children's social/moral development by giving them the opportunity to relate to other people and see events from the viewpoint of a biracial child. In this story, each character has a different viewpoint on various topics like art, music, and taste in food which allows the children to view each viewpoint separately. This story also values diversity and encourages positive attitude towards the differences among people. Furthermore, the students are able to look at this issue from several books about biracial families and understand the differences and similarities among individuals.

**Aesthetic/Creative:** This story helps the children's aesthetic/creative development by providing artwork that is diverse and uses different media. The images look as if they were paintings and they are very detailed. Using this book, the children can get their own ideas of painting a picture and using the same techniques the illustrator did in this story.