

Teacher's Guide

Aloha for Carol Ann

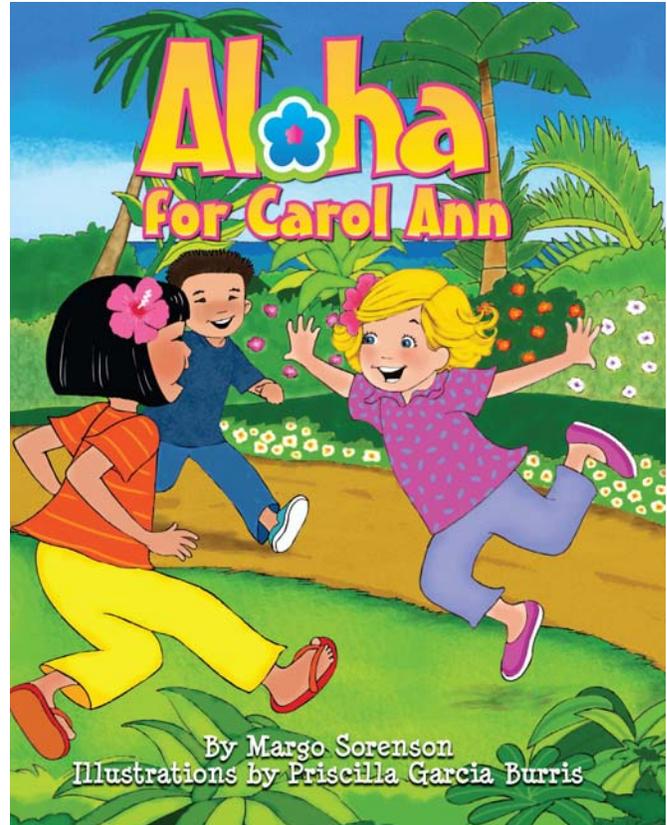
By Margo Sorenson

Illustrated by Priscilla Burris

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Book Description:

Beautiful palm trees, pretty flowers and a warm breeze are all waiting to welcome 8-year-old Carol Ann to her new school in Hawaii. But Carol Ann doesn't want a new school. She doesn't want new friends, or palm trees or a warm breeze. She wants her old friends. She wants her old home. She wants things the way they used to be. How will she remember her new classmates names? Who will she play with at recess? How will she ever feel at home in this new place? Then the teacher introduces Carol Ann to the term, aloha. She says the little word means hello, welcome and a lot more. Carol Ann finds out for just how much aloha means as she makes a place for herself at her new school.



Target Ages: 4-8

Themes: family, friendship, transition, culture, school

Pre-Reading Questions:

- Look at the cover. Does it give you any ideas of what the book is about?
- Where do you think this story takes place? Explain your answer
- What language is the word "aloha" from?
- Do you know what "aloha" means? If so, where have you heard the word before?
- What do you know about Hawaii?

Comprehension Questions

- Where is Carol Ann's new school?
- How does Carol Ann feel about going to this new school and why?
- What grade is Carol Ann in?
- Name some of the things Carol Ann is worried about on her first day.
- What does the teacher say "aloha" means?
- Do Carol Ann's classmates do anything to make her feel better? Explain.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) How do Carol Ann's classmates show "aloha?" In what ways can you show aloha at school and at home?
- 2) Have you ever started a new school in a new city, state, or country? Describe your experience to the class.

WRITING/LANGUAGE ARTS

Vocabulary

Trudged
Scuff
Rustling
Announce
Answer
Recess
Hibiscus
Surprised
Important

- 1) In *Aloha For Carol Ann*, Carol Ann learns that "aloha" has many translations. Write down the translations for aloha. Then create a definition for each word. Ex:

Aloha means hello. Hello is an expression used to greet someone.

- 2) List 5 adjectives you would use to describe Carol Ann in the beginning of the story. List 5 adjectives you would use to describe Carol Ann at the end of the story.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 1) Locate Hawaii on a map or globe. What countries is it closest to? Which countries do you think influenced Hawaii's culture?
- 2) Pretend you are going to Hawaii. What city/airport would you fly in to? What sites would you visit? What foods would you try? What activities would you do?
- 3) Following are a few different Hawaiian dishes. Have you tried any of them? Are there similar foods or dishes in your culture?

Shave ice (flavored shaved ice in a cone)
Rice candy (you can eat the inside wrapper!)
Lilikoi ice cream (island fruit flavored treat)
Malasadas: fried doughnut
Macadamia nut cookies
Mango bread (sweet island fruit bread)
Hawaiian sweet bread (sweet bread)
Spam musubi (fried spam wrapped in sticky rice and seaweed)
Li hing mui (sweet and sour dried fruits)

4) Working with 3 or 4 other students to form a group, research fun facts about one of the following aspects of Hawaii:

language, dress, entertainment, food, climate, religion

and present them to the class.

ART

1) Identify three foods or dishes you'd like to try from the list above. Draw pictures of them based on their descriptions.

OTHER

1) Play a form of charades. Using the vocabulary words listed above, have 1 student act out one of the words. The rest of the class must guess the word the student is acting.

About the Author

Born in Washington, DC, **Margo Sorenson** spent the first seven years of her life in Spain and Italy, where books became her earliest friends. She finished school in California, graduating from UCLA. After teaching high school and middle school, Margo began work as a full-time writer and has since published 27 books, including *Danger Marches to the Palace*; *Queen Luili'uokalani* and *Secret Heroes*. Margo says it's fun writing for young readers because they really enjoy living the lives of the characters in books. When she isn't writing, she loves visiting her grandchildren, playing golf, reading, watching sports, traveling, and hearing from her readers. After living in Hawaii and Minnesota, Margo and her husband now live in California. Margo's Hawaiian name, Leipua'ala, given to her by a Hawaiian family friend, means lasting gifts for children.

About the Illustrator

Illustrator, designer and author, **Priscilla Garcia Burris** was born and raised in Southern California. An artist from a very early age, she earned degrees in both Fashion Design and Early Childhood Education, and taught pre-school for several years. She serves on the Board of Advisors for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, and she has illustrated educational, mass market and trade books and other materials for children, parents and teachers. Her published books include *Five Green and Speckled Frogs*, which she wrote and illustrated; *What Do Angels Do?*, and *I Love You All Day Long*, which she illustrated.

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