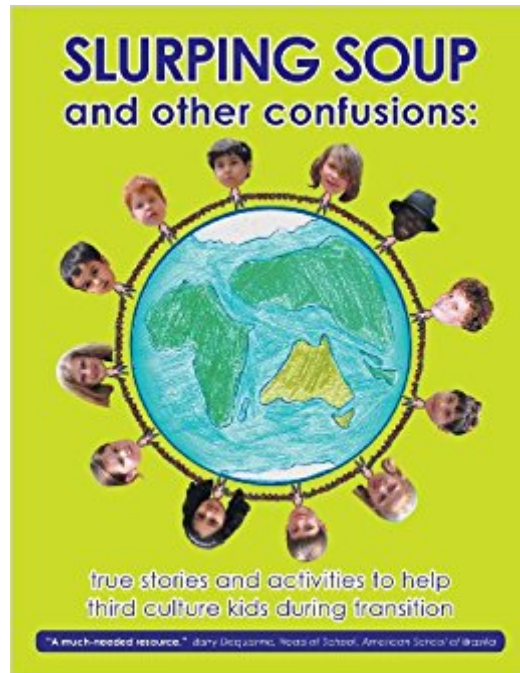




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Slurping Soup And Other Confusions



Synopsis

Slurping Soup and other confusions: true stories and activities to help third culture kids during transition

Slurping Soup And Other Confusions is a collection of twenty-three real life stories from third culture kids. Each story is followed by a related activity. The activities are suitable for three to twelve year olds and include brainstorming, problem solving, party planning, family tree, quirky word games etc. The book aims to help children cope with the challenges of living internationally. The stories explore: - Adapting to new environments -Who am I? Where do I belong? - Home and family adjustment - Cultural differences - Friendship change This charming book is a catalyst for crucial discussions every expat family needs to have. "Slurping Soup is a must-have resource for parents, teachers and children dealing with transition. This interactive tool will assist elementary-aged children in understanding and coping with the challenges and emotions that go along with international relocations." Tina Quick, author of The Global Nomad's Guide to University Transition, Founder, International Family Transitions, www.internationalfamilytransitions.com "As a parent of a mixed race child, it's rare to find a book that speaks to my family's experience the way Slurping Soup does." Michael Wester, Publisher, Beijing Kids Magazine "Slurping Soup gives parents the chance to find out what our kids are feeling or thinking when transitioning to a new country or back home. Children often don't know how to communicate these 'new' feelings. It was nothing short of a miracle when this book came into our life." Captain and Mrs George Vance, US Coast Guard and parents of 12, 9 and 5 year old, Beijing, China and Annapolis, Maryland "Slurping Soup is an invaluable resource for expatriate families. It contains colourful observations and stories that Third Culture Kids will find engaging and meaningful. I highly recommend it!" Dr Cheryl Smith, Clinical Psychologist, Lyon, France and mother of two Third Culture Kids, aged 10 and 12 "Whether you are about to move to another country for the first time or have always lived overseas, Slurping Soup is a valuable resource that effectively addresses the challenges of living in a new culture. The authors have uniquely combined true stories and rich illustrations with practical activities to provide readers of all ages with a much-needed resource to proactively identify and address transition challenges. This outstanding book is a must read for all families living in an international context." Barry Dequanne, Head of School, American School of Brasilia "Relocating from China to Switzerland, Slurping Soup became THE book to discuss our family transition challenges. My 9-year-old daughter kept asking me to sit with her and go through some of the stories and activities and was reassured to see her challenges had been shared by other children." Jasmine Keel, Senior Learning & Development Consultant, mother of three Third Culture Kids aged 10, 8 and 1, Switzerland

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Customer Reviews

excellent resource for third culture kids

Great book for young TCKs! Wish there were more books like this one.

Slurping Soup is a must read for parents, caregivers, teachers and children who deal with transition. This collection of 23 real life stories told from children, all TCKs, gives grown ups a precious insight into the way they experience diversity: Mr. Popular!, I must be a princess, My first year in Vietnam was weird, Home country. What's that?, Slurping soup is fun etc..Each story is followed by an activity that is suitable for three to twelve year olds. The colourful and very appealing illustrations, and the way these activities are presented invites children to participate. The layout also allows teachers and parents to make multiple copies to use with more children as a group activity. The exercises include problem solving, party planning, family tree, word games, lists of questions, understanding different languages etc. The different topics help to engage children to talk about challenges of living internationally, and to approach dreaded questions like "Where do I belong?" and "Where is home?" in a very more playful way. This book is a great help to instigate discussions and conversations with children who might be struggling with some of the aspects illustrated. The way emotions are addressed in Slurping Soup facilitates open discussions between grown ups and children and enables them to find out what they are feeling, expecting and thinking when moving to a new country or back home. As an adult TCK myself, raising TCKs, I can highly recommend this

book! Managing change and transition is difficult enough for adults, and this book is a great help to talk about issues related to this with our children in an open and caring way.

I don't normally read books for children but this was a very charming, engaging and interesting book. It takes short true stories, thoughts and feelings from small children around the world and looks at the issues and the problems they have adjusting to new cultures. The stories are fascinating, reminding the reader of how children think and react to different situations. The activities are well thought out and I can imagine this would be a perfect way to help parents to understand how children feel as they move around the world. In addition it is a lovely workbook for the children to help them come to terms with how they feel. An indispensable and excellent book for expat parents and I would have no hesitation in recommending it wholeheartedly.

As a parent, I wish I'd had a copy of *Slurping Soup* five years ago when my children were going through international transitions. It's a book children, parents and school teachers should read and use together. Packed with children's own testimonials and practical activities *Slurping Soup* is one book that should travel with you wherever you go! As an editor, commissioning international educational resources, I know that this book is very much needed in a world where more and more young people experience international transition through their childhood and educational years. Also, there are more multi-lingual students and classrooms with multi-literacies than ever before. We shouldn't underestimate the challenge and benefits of young people engaging with other languages. The fact that *Slurping Soup* presents the children's own voices is very important and unique - I haven't found anything like it in all my research so far. A couple of wonderful picture story books for (4 - 8 years) children in inter-cultural transition are *The Dreaming Tree (Bridges)* by Eithne Gallagher and *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi.

We have moved countries twice in the last 3 years and I am so glad that I had this book to help each of my 3 children and myself navigate both our move to China and our move to the US. Even though we have now been in the US for just over a year I find myself referencing *Slurping Soup*, especially with my middle school aged daughter. The stories and activities help with so many social situations kids encounter. I also find that even a year on there are still a lot of emotions around relocating and processing what it means to leave friends and family behind for long periods of time and in some cases forever. I love the activities in this book and the fact that children's feelings and their experiences are front and center. It really helps parents at a time when they themselves are

experiencing a lot of emotions and stress related to a move. This book makes a fantastic gift for anyone you know who is moving or has moved recently or even not so recently.

Slurping Soup and Other Confusions tells stories about typical issues that affect Third Culture Kids living in different countries. Each story has a related activity that allows young readers to explore their own feelings and thoughts about each topic. The format is unique, the stories are touching and the activities are inventive and engaging. Lu

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