

# MARGO SORENSON, AUTHOR

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

### *Aloha for Carol Ann*

K-Grade 3

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Illustrated by Priscilla Garcia Burris

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#### **Downloadable Free Teacher's Guide:**

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**Synopsis:** 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 herself just how much "aloha" means as she makes a place for herself at her new school.

**Strategy:** Ask students to name different kinds of food they like to eat. Ask them to raise their hands when they hear a food they want to try or a food they like. Read the list aloud and write it on the board.

Say, "Trying new foods can be fun. Why?" Write the reasons on the board. Say, "Carol Ann has to try lots of new things, too."

Read the story twice. The first time, ask kids to raise their hands when they hear about something new or different that Carol Ann finds. The second time, ask them to raise their hands when they hear something that she changes her mind about.

After the second reading, ask, "What does Carol Ann like at the end of the story? Why? What have you tried lately that is new or different? What will you try this week that is new and different?"

Ask (older) students to write these items down, what they liked about them, and share with the class.

## *Aloha for Carol Ann (continued)*

**Recommendations:** *Publishers Weekly* Review: "In this story of starting at a new school and making friends, not even a beautiful Hawaiian setting can conquer Carol Ann's unhappiness about her current situation: "She didn't want fluffy, pink flowers. Yuck! She didn't want warm trade winds. Nuh-Uh!" But with the support of her new teacher and her unfailingly friendly classmates, Carol Ann is soon saying "Aloha" with the rest of them. ... the book should prove reassuring to children in similar situations – even those in far less exciting locales."