

Village School Children's Book of the Month May 2019

*The Sandwich Swap* by Rania Al Abdullah, Queen of Jordan, and Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by Tricia Tusa.

Reviewed by Lynn Anair, After School Program Director

*The Sandwich Swap* by Rania Al Abdullah, Queen of Jordan, is beautifully illustrated with soft watercolor & charcoal drawings. This book is about how people can be different and still have lots in common, looked at from the viewpoint of food, which can bring people together. *The Sandwich Swap* is written with four to seven year olds in mind.

Salma & Lily are friends- they do everything together. One loves pita with hummus, the other peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. One day at lunch, they each share how the other's lunch looks yucky, resulting in sad and angry feeling. Each girl thinks about how their parents lovingly prepared their favorite food. After this disagreement the girls stop playing together.

The following day as they eat lunch separately, other children begin to take sides and start insulting each side. The ensuing food fight is a mess. Salma and Lily see this and feel terrible, even before going to the principal's office and helping to clean up the food fight aftermath.

The next day the friends chose to eat together and taste each other's food. The girls discover their friend's favorite food is tasty, and they swap lunches. Afterwards they meet with the principal sharing an idea. Their idea shown only in illustration, is a potluck at the school with foods from all over the world, with flags at each dish noting its origin.

At the Village School, we love a potluck gathering when we can experience tasty new foods and enjoy each other's company, children and adults.