



**Alfie: (The Turtle That Disappeared)**

by Thyra Heder

Nia is excited to bring home her new turtle named Alfie on her 6th birthday, but eventually loses interest as Alfie doesn't seem to notice all the effort she makes to include him in her life. Alfie has noticed though and sets off to do something special for Nia for her 7th birthday.

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Nia didn't perceive how much Alfie appreciated her, but when the story shifts to Alfie's point of view, it's clear how much Nia means to Alfie. Give students a chance to appreciate one another and show how even small gestures can make a difference. Share the things you notice and appreciate students doing to model the idea of appreciating others. Then ask students to write positive messages, notes of thanks, or messages of appreciation or encouragement to fellow students as they notice the things their classmates say and do to support each other every day. Have a special box available to collect their writing and make time to regularly read them aloud at the end of the school day.

**Find more love and appreciation in these titles:**

- Thanks a Million* by Nikki Grimes
- A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip C. Stead
- The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig
- Ten Things I Love About You* by Daniel Kirk
- I Am Loved* by Nikki Giovanni

**DECEMBER 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					<b>December is:</b> • Human Rights Month	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Inclusive Schools Week begins	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Human Rights Day	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Bill of Rights Day
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 					