

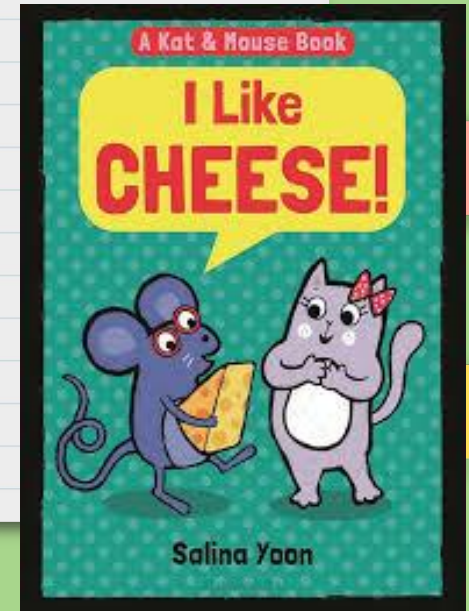
I Like Cheese!

Written and illustrated by
Salina Yoon

“Lunch Box Conversations”

Available at
[colorado.edu/event/
bookfest](https://colorado.edu/event/bookfest)

Developed by Abbey S., Tatum R., and
Camilla M. for CU Boulder Children's
Book Festival 2025, Open Education
Resource, Creative Commons.



Grade and Colorado Academic Standard:

Grade: 3rd Grade

Subject: Social Studies

Standard: Civics

Grade level expectation: Respect the views and rights of others.

Evidence Outcome: Identify and apply the elements of civil discourse. For example: Listening with respect, speaking in a respectful manner, and restating an opposing viewpoint or opinion

Colorado Academic Standard information

retrieved from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/standards>.

View the full standards at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/standards>

Lunchbox Conversations



Activities Objective:

Students will practice listening, respecting, and restating different viewpoints by connecting to Kat and Mouse's different lunch preferences.

Activity Overview:

In the activity, students will read *I Like Cheese!* by Salina Yoon and explore how the characters Kat and Mouse respect each other's different lunch choices. After discussing the story, students will learn about listening respectfully, speaking kindly, and restating another person's opinion.

Materials



Some examples of what could be used for their “lunch option”:

- “The book *I Like Cheese!* by Salina Yoon (read aloud or shared reading)
- Plastic food
- Cards with pictures of food on them (handmade or for ex: Delicious Foods Cognitive Cards for Kids)
- Paper or scripts of what students will reply/talk to each other about

Step-By-Step Directions

1. Read and Discuss: After reading *I Like Cheese!*, ask:

- a. "What food did Kat like?"
- b. "What food did Mouse like?"
- c. "Did they agree at first?"
- d. "How did they stay friends even though they liked different things?"



1. Talk about Civil Discourse

- a. Points like:
 - i. Listen with respect
 - ii. Speak respectfully
 - iii. Restate an opposing opinion
- b. Explain that today, students will practice being like Kat and Mouse—disagreeing politely and still being friends.

Continued Step-By-Step

3. Lunchbox Opinions Game:

- a. Give each student a "Lunchbox Opinion Card" (For example: one student might get "pizza," another "salad.")
- b. Pair students up
- c. Student A says: "I like (pizza) for lunch."
- d. Student B responds by restating the opinion first: "You like (pizza) for lunch, but I like (salad)."
- e. Encourage them to add something respectful like: "That's cool!" or "I've never tried that, but I would love to sometime."

4. Class reflection:

- a. Ask "How did it feel when someone listened and restated your opinion?"
- b. "Why is it important to respect someone's choice even if it's not the same as yours?"



Additional Suggestions

A couple of ways to further extend the activity, and add some modifications could be...

- Students could extend on why they do (or do not) like that food choice by adding 2-3 sentences explaining their reasoning.
- Students can create a graph to show how many people like the food choice and how many do not, incorporating math skills such as bar graphs, fractions, or data analysis.

- At the end of the lesson, students could write on a sheet of paper what their partners liked (or did not like) to eat to demonstrate their listening skills.



Closing

The CU Boulder School of Education and Boulder Bookstore present the

2025 Children's Book Festival

Saturday, November 8 | Boulder Public Library



**SALINA
YOON**



**NYASHA
WILLIAMS**



**DENISE
VEGA**



**PAM
MUÑOZ RYAN**



**RITA
WILLIAMS-GARCIA**



**SHAREE
MILLER**

Join us on Saturday, November 8, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

 **Boulder Public Library (Main Branch) - 1001 Arapahoe Ave.**
Free parking available

This **free event** includes author talks, a panel for educators, book sales and signing, children's activities and more. Come for part of the event, or stay for the day!

Free educational resources available on our website. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available for teachers and librarians.

The CU Children's Book Festival is supported by a grant from the CU Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship (PACES)



See the schedule & register:
[colorado.edu/event/bookfest](https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest)

 School of Education
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

 **Boulder
Bookstore**

We also hope you can join us on Saturday, November 8 at the Boulder Public Library to meet Salina Yoon and hear more about *I Like Cheese!* in-person, along with other authors and illustrators!

For more information, visit <https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest>