



Transcript for *You Matter* by Christian Robinson (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an Imprint of Simon & Schuster)

Introduction (approximately 0:00 – 5:23)

Hi everyone! It's Colleen from the KU Natural History Museum, and I'm so excited for today's Story Book Science! We are going to read the book *You Matter* by Christian Robinson in just a moment, but I do want to wait for some folks to join us.

So while we wait I want to talk a little bit about this book and what we're going to be talking about. So we're going to be talking about how you matter, just like the title says. We're going to talk about how you matter, how everyone matters. Old and young, big and small; you matter. But when we say things like old and young and big and small, we're talking about opposites. So we're talking about things that are the reverse of each other. Now let's look at old and young as an example.

What do I mean when I say old? When I say old, I mean something that's been around for a long time, something that is in a late stage of growth. So that is what old means. And we know that old is the opposite of young. So if old is something that's been around for a long time, what does young mean? Young is something that's been around for a short period of time. It's in an early stage of growth.

We can look at big and small to also understand opposites. So what do I mean when I say big? When I say big, I mean something is huge! What do I mean when I say small, keeping in mind that small is the opposite, or the reverse of big? So if big is huge, small is tiny! Now we can just talk about what these opposite mean – opposites mean – or I can also show you some examples. So we're going to do an example of big and small using museum specimens.

Now for big, and I'm going to grab it, I have an American Crow. Now this is a bird, and it's quite large! I haven't even put the entire bird in the camera frame, and all you can see are above its feet. So I'm going to put it a little closer, and I'm going to angle it. And you can see how big it is, all the way from the beak to the tail. This is a big bird! So this is something big, but now I want to look at something small. So it's small. It's going to be tinier than the big American Crow. And that is the House Sparrow. Now the House Sparrow is much smaller. We can see all the way from the beak, all the way to the tail in the camera frame. So it's smaller than the American Crow. And I'll try to put both of these birds next to each other, so you can compare the two. We have the American Crow, which is very big. And we have the House Sparrow, which is small. So you can see that these birds are opposites. So I'm going to put these down.

Now what I want you to do is I want you, as we read this book, to think about some opposites, some things that are reverse of each other, just like old and young and big and small. So that's what I want you to do while we read this book.

It also looks like folks have joined us. So let's go ahead and get started with Story Book Science!

First and foremost, we need to go over Story Book Science guidelines. So what that means is we're going to follow museum rules, even if we're not in the museum. So if you want to ask a question, if you want to write a

comment, you should feel free to do so! But if you ask a question or write a comment, you need to make sure you use kind and considerate words. If you respond to a question or comment, you also need to make sure you use kind and considerate words. It's really important that, even when we're not in the museum, we still make sure that this is a welcoming and inclusive space. Alright? Perfect!

So for today's Story Book Science we are reading the book *You Matter*. It's by Christian Robinson, and we are reading this with permission from Atheneum Books for Young Readers, which is an imprint of Simon & Schuster. Now I really like this book because, as I mentioned before, it reminds me how you matter! Old and young, big and small; you matter. Now the last thing I want to say before we start this book is if you have a question, please feel free to ask, just know I may not be able to see it immediately. Also if you need a partial transcript of this reading, that will be made available later! And you can find it on the museum's website, and there is a link to that in the video description. Now I think it's time for us to read our book!

You matter.

Reading from *You Matter* (approximately 5:24 – 9:46)

You Matter includes copyrighted materials, and we do not have permission to include the written text of the book in this transcript.

Conclusion (approximately 9:47 – 17:13)

The end.

Oh! I just love this book, oh. And I want to remind you, and it's something that came across a lot in the book, it was repeated. And it's something that's important to repeat: that you matter! Old and young, big and small; you matter.

Now in that book we read a lot about opposites. Old and young are opposites. Big and small are opposites. Were there any other opposites that you realized when we were reading the book? One of the opposites that I thought of when we were reading together were things that swim with the tide, or an ocean current, and things that don't swim with the tide, or an ocean current. So something that swims with the tide, it kind of just goes with the flow, those things are plankton. And this is a photo of plankton. Now some things that can swim against the tide, so they don't have to go with the flow, those things include fish. And that could be something like an Atlantic salmon. So those were opposites that we read in the book, but there are a ton of opposites!

And one of the opposites I thought of was something with hair like I have on the top of my head. So something like a mammal because mammals have hair. And that would include something like the cotton rat. So you can see it has hair, or fur. So something with hair, the opposite of that would be that something that doesn't have hair! And then I thought, well what animals don't have hair? So one animal I thought of was a fish. And a fish doesn't have hair, but it does have scales. Can you see the scales on the fish all on its body? So this fish and the cotton rat, those are opposites. One has hair, and one doesn't have hair. It has scales.

Now the last opposite I thought of was, I thought of something that we've talked a lot about in Story Book Science, and that is the millipede. Now when we've talked about millipedes, we've talked about how they have a lot of legs. They have many, many legs. They don't have a million legs, but they do have two pairs of legs per body segment. So this millipede has many, many legs. What's the opposite of many, many legs? Not a lot of legs, or no legs at all. So the opposite of something like a millipede with its many, many legs would be a

leech. It kind of just squirms around when it moves. And the leech is a little small, but you might be able to see it. Do you all see that? So this leech, it doesn't have legs like the millipede. And it moves around by squirming.

So let's go over those opposites again. Now earlier we talked about big and small. And big means huge, which a good example of that is an American Crow. Look how big this bird is from its beak all the way to its tail feathers. And then something small like a House Sparrow, which I'm going to grab to show you. From its beak to its tail, it's much smaller than the American Crow. So it's an opposite.

Then we read about things in the book that go with the flow and move with the tide and swim with the ocean current. Those things were plankton. And then there were the opposite of things that swim with the tide, things that don't swim with the tide that don't have to go with the flow. And those were fish like the Atlantic salmon.

Then we talked about things that have hair. So you could include ourselves if you have hair on the top of your head, or we could talk about any other mammal like the cotton rat with its fur. Or the opposite of something with hair is something that doesn't have hair. And we talked about fish with their scales. So I'll give you another opportunity to look at those scales.

And lastly, we talked about the millipede again with its many, many, many legs. And you can see that in the specimen – whoops! And then we talked about the opposite of having many, many, many legs. And the opposite is that it doesn't have a lot of legs! In fact, we looked at a leech that doesn't have legs, that squirms and moves around by squirming around.

Alright. So we talked about opposites. We talked about things that are the reverse of each other. So did we discuss any of the opposites you thought of, or are there opposites that you're thinking of? What opposites can you come up with?

And the last thing I want to say is that, just like we learned in the book, no matter the opposite, old and young or big and small, you matter.

Alright. So this is the end of Story Book Science today, but I do want to let you know I will be back next week with another book! We'll be reading *Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines*. Now this book is written by Jeanne Walker Harvey, and it's illustrated by Dow Phumiruk. And we'll be reading it with permission from Henry Holt and Company. Maya Lin was an artist and an architect. So she was able to create and build and design things. And when we read this book together we're going to talk specifically about her design and her idea to create a memorial: the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. So I hope you join me next week for us to read about Maya Lin and talk, not only about architects like her, but also some of nature's architects. So I'll see you then! Bye!