



## Kaden's Shells

*Embracing the 'Super Powers' of children with differences*

by Jeanie Gould

Illustrations by Dai Thomas

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**K**aden's *Shells* is a whimsical story that takes place in the quaint beach town of Pacific Grove, where young Kaden is spending a week with his grandparents.

As they delightfully explore the many marvels at the beach, his grandma takes the opportunity to weave in life lessons of understanding, compassion, and empathy for those with differences; celebrating their super powers... not despite of their differences... but because of them.

Their talks then translate to Kaden's nightly, adventurous dreams where he engages with a variety of friends, each with a different disability, exploring each other's super powers. These dreams teach him that we are all more alike than we are different, and just like him, we all just want to be understood, loved, and accepted...and that WE ALL have super powers to share.

*Kaden's Shells* is a wonderful catalyst for discussion to help children better understand and support children with differences, thus supporting their peers, making new friends, and ultimately stretching their own character.

**T**he mother of a severely handicapped daughter, Jeanie Gould wrote *Kaden's Shells* to help enlighten young children with lessons in understanding and compassion for those with differences. She also is the author of *Mommy...Move The Sun*, a memoir showing that even with a dire diagnosis, joy can shine through.

Jeanie began her 25+ year marketing career in the book publishing division of *Bon Appetit* and *Architectural Digest* magazines. She also worked in marketing and public relations for a 5-star resort in Carmel, CA. Currently, she is in management in the non-profit sector for The American Cancer Society. She is a member of the Society of Childrens Book Writers & Illustrators.

