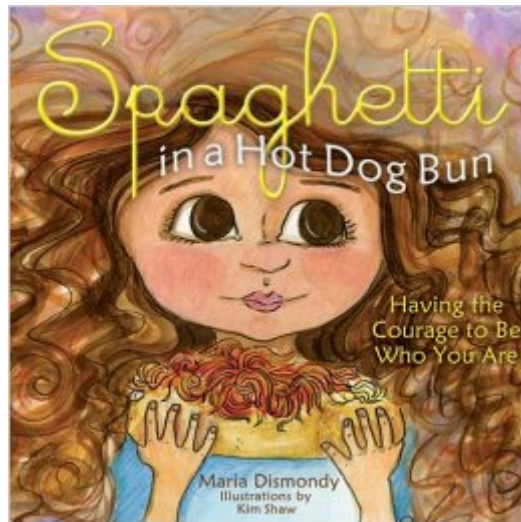


The book was found

Spaghetti In A Hot Dog Bun: Having The Courage To Be Who You Are



Synopsis

How can Ralph be so mean? Lucy is one of a kind and Ralph loves to point that out. Lucy's defining moment comes when Ralph truly needs help. Because she knows what she stands for, Lucy has the courage to make a good choice. This charming story empowers children to always do the right thing and be proud of themselves, even when they are faced with someone as challenging as Ralph.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Cardinal Rule Press; Reprint edition (August 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0615473938

ISBN-13: 978-0615473932

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (351 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #196 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies](#) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values](#) #7 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect](#)

Age Range: 4 - 11 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5

Customer Reviews

The title sure grabs you and so will the story. As an elementary school counselor it's got everything I need to talk to students about differences and bullying. But here's what I really drove home with the kids when reading the story - it can be difficult to show respect to someone who is mistreating you. I see this in my school ALL the time. Kids (and adults by the way) see this as a way to protect and defend themselves. Enter Lucy. More like, enter KIND CHILD, who does what is right and shows kids you don't have to bully back to win. We need to make kindness more popular than bullying! I'm so passionate about this...okay anyways.....she is taunted and teased by Ralph, but doesn't give in to the temptation to bully back. She rises above because of her grandfather's words in the first few pages, "Remember, when you treat others with love and kindness, you are doing the right

thing."Okay, call me crazy but I still believe in the magic of smothering 'mean' people with kindness. Essentially this lets them know they can't push your buttons. This doesn't mean we want our kids to turn into a bunch of door mats. But we want them to use the BEST PART of who they are and not join in on the 'back and forth' bully game. Lately, I'm teaching more about empathy, compassion, and being your best self. Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun has reminded me of one of the ultimate strategies to combat bullying - respect, kindness, and be your best self. Recently, I had a student report to me at recess that she had just received a put down. When I asked how she responded, her response was, "I said - I'm sorry you are having a bad day. And then I just walked away." And I just stood there with my mouth hanging open. (i love my job!) This was one of the role plays the kids and I worked on.

I was looking for a book with a message about it being OK to be different or to be yourself no matter what. This book had tons of good reviews and the cover illustration looked great so I bought it and gave it to my kindergartner for Christmas. He liked the picture on the front and wanted to read it, but after the first time, he never asked for it again. He had some questions when we were reading it, like "why would someone eat spaghetti in a hot dog bun?" And "why would someone else tease them about it?" And he's completely familiar with big curly hair - that's what I have. Nothing odd or funny about it to him. So, the whole premise was sort of lost on him. He didn't really see the "different-ness" of the main character. And I agreed. I mean, I got the point and all, but for a child that truly knows what it's like to be different, that spaghetti in a hot dog bun thing was sort of minor and a little meaningless. There's nothing even odd to most children in the U.S. about spaghetti or hot dog buns. Yeah, it's a weird combination, but not THAT weird. And it's likely that most children know another child with curly hair. Those are not the types of things most kids get picked on for. Doing odd, "different", things - yes. But eating spaghetti in a hot dog bun wasn't a good example. And looking different? Again, yes! But not so much just for curly hair. The story just doesn't seem real or plausible. So, for the premise and the effort and the cute picture and the ability to start a conversation, I think it's an OK book. But I think there are books out there that do a better job.

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