



BE KIND

PAT ZIETLOW MILLER

It's easy to say "Be Kind" but sometimes it's hard to know what that means. When her classmate spills grape juice on herself and everyone laughs, the main character of this story does a lot of thinking on what she could have done to be kind, and thinks of as many ways to be kind as she can. Which is best? Does it matter?



Questions:

1. Is spilling grape juice a big deal? What should you do if someone spills? How does it feel to spill on yourself?
2. How does it feel when you make a mistake and everyone laughs? Should the other kids have laughed? What should they have done?
3. When the author tries to be kind, does it help? Does it make things worse?
4. Have you ever had a hard time knowing the right thing to do to make someone feel better when they're upset? Is there someone you can ask? You can ask the person what they need!
5. Have you ever made a gift for someone like the cookies? How did they feel? How did you feel?
6. Do you help at home and at school? What do you do to help? How do you think your parents or teacher feel when they see you helping?
7. Do you always remember to make sure your trash gets thrown away properly? Do you always say please and thank you? If not, are those easy changes to make to make the world better?
8. Do you know the names of all the people you see every day? What about the cafeteria workers? People at your favorite restaurants? Janitors? Bus drivers? Should you learn their names?
9. Is it easy to be kind ALL THE TIME? Is it even possible to be kind always, or does everyone sometimes make mistakes and hurt people's feelings?
10. Is it hard to stand up for others when people are being mean? Would it be easier if you weren't the only one standing up for them? What if EVERYONE was standing up for the person together, would it be easy then?
11. Is it hard to sit with someone who's having a bad day? Does it make them feel better to not be alone?
12. Do you think that if we all do little kind things every day it can add up to a big difference? What's a small kindness you can do every day to be part of that?
13. Did Tanisha like the picture the narrator made for her? How do you know?