



I WALK WITH VANESSA

KERA SCOËT

Vanessa is new in school and doesn't know anyone. Her first day, she feels very lonely. Another girl notices how shy she is, but says nothing. When she sees someone bullying Vanessa and being mean, what will she do? Will she stand up for Vanessa or will she stay quiet?

Questions:

1. Have you ever read a book without words before? Is it easy to tell how people feel only by looking at the pictures?
2. How would you feel if you were a new kid in school? How does Vanessa feel?
3. At the end of her first day has Vanessa made any new friends?
4. What happens between the boy in the striped shirt and Vanessa? Did anyone see or hear it happen? Have you ever heard or seen anything like that before?
5. How does Vanessa feel after the boy was mean to her? Look at the bottom right picture. How does the girl who saw it happen feel?
6. Does the girl in the yellow dress stay quiet and do nothing? How do her friends feel when she tells them what she saw? How does that show empathy? What is empathy? It's not feeling bad for someone, but with them.
7. Did the mean words the boy in the striped shirt said to Vanessa only hurt her? Who else was hurt? Have you ever been hurt by mean words that were said to someone else?
8. Does the girl in the yellow dress let her bad feelings go and move on? What does she do when Vanessa's hurt stays with her? Does she give up?
9. When Vanessa is home alone, sad, is she really alone?
10. In the morning, the girl in the yellow dress has an idea. What do you think she's going to do?
11. How do you think Vanessa feels when she knows she's not alone anymore? Is it hard to hold someone's hand and stand by their side? Does it make a big difference?
12. How does Vanessa feel when more people join? How do all the people feel being together?
13. Look at the boy in the striped shirt. Is he going to be mean to Vanessa anymore? Why not?
14. Does Vanessa have friends at the beginning of her second day?

