

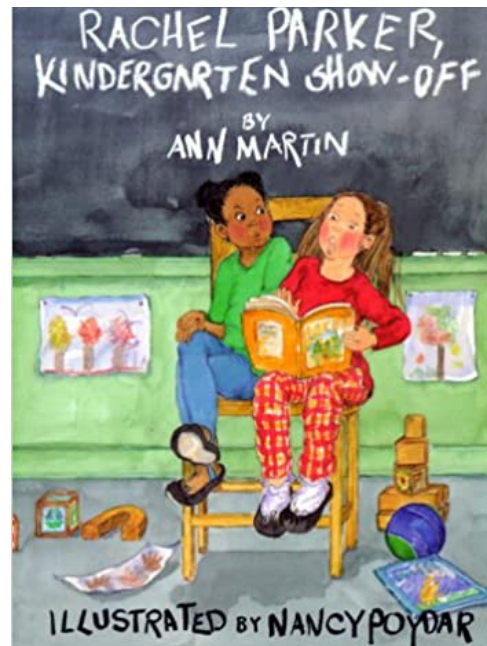


RACHEL PARKER, KINDERGARTEN SHOW-OFF

ANN MARTIN

SUMMARY

Olivia is used to being the smartest kid in kindergarten. That is, until Rachel Elizabeth moves next door. Suddenly, Olivia isn't the only one who can read anymore. Will having a new friend next door be fun, or will Olivia and Rachel get stuck in a show-off war?



Questions:

1. How do you think Olivia feels when she sees the moving van? How would you feel if you got new neighbors?
2. Would you love sharing time at school? Would everyone? How do some people feel when they have to talk in front of everyone?
3. How do you think Olivia felt when she saw the young girl? How did Rachel feel when she saw Olivia? How does Olivia feel when she hears that Rachel can read and write?
4. When Rachel reads to the class how does Olivia feel? Is it okay to feel jealous? When you feel jealous, what should you do? Should you try to make yourself feel special or remind yourself that it's nice for other people to have chances to be special, too? How do you think Rachel felt when she got to read to the class? How did she feel when Olivia said "Hop on Pop" was easy?
5. How do you think Rachel felt when Olivia said mean things about her room?
6. Why does Olivia leave when she sees what Rachel has? How does she feel?
7. Why do the girls keep trying to be better than each other? Does competing make them feel good? Would being nice and letting each other be special feel better?
8. Who is having a harder time being nice, Rachel or Olivia? How can you tell? Why do you think Olivia is having such a hard time being friends with Rachel?
9. If you want to be friends with someone, can you always be more special than them? How will they feel if you always make yourself the special, important one? Will someone want to be your friend if you never let them feel special?
10. If you don't let anyone feel special and don't have any friends, how much fun can you have all alone? Is it better to share the spotlight and have friends to play with?
11. Why does the teacher make them read together? Is life better when they are friends and both get to feel smart and important?