

Equity 8™

The gender-equity rating

Run Wild (picture book)

By David Covell, Copyright 2019

Rating: 7 out of 8 stars



Met criteria = 1

Did not meet criteria = 0

Egregiously did not meet criteria = -1

What to look for	Example(s)	Rating	Explanation of rating and recommendations
<p>Did the author tell the entire story without mentioning gender? (Just by mentioning gender we communicate that it's someone's most important quality and activate stereotypes.)</p>	<p>No gendered words, such as she, he, girl, boy, mommy, daddy, etc.</p>	1	<p>No gendered words used.</p> <p>(However in the dedication, the author uses "she" to refer to a lake. Calling any object a "she" (whether it be a lake, car, Earth, etc.) is to be avoided as it links to the ways females have been treated as objects to be owned rather than as people who own objects.)</p>
<p>Did the artist illustrate the entire story without contributing to gender stereotypes?</p>	<p>No pink, bows, or exaggerated eyelashes, etc. on girls. No blue, ball caps, etc. on boys, (Length of hair alone is not enough to exclude a book from this criterion. Authors often want/need</p>	1	<p>Both kids are wearing shorts for exploring outdoors in warm weather.</p> <p>While the boy is not wearing a shirt, this is not as linked to negative stereotypes so it is allowed in this criterion.</p> <p>Different hair lengths are allowed in this criterion.</p>

	<p>to differentiate between characters. Hair is one way to do this that is less loaded with negative stereotyping.)</p>		<p>Kids of color are represented, which is great.</p>
<p>Is there counterstereotyping? (Note: not mentioning gender counters stereotypes as it puts gender in the background.)</p>	<p>Are stereotypes challenged by showing the opposite? Examples are showing a boy happily cuddling a baby or a girl swinging a bat with expert skill.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>There are multiple ways stereotypes are countered:</p> <p>We see the girl character first. She is running fast. She is also shown running faster than the boy on the back four pages and the inside back cover.</p> <p>Seeing a girl and a boy having so much fun together.</p> <p>The girl having fun getting dirty, moving fast, and roaring ferociously.</p> <p>The boy being emotionally and physically honest. When he trips and falls, he doesn't brush off her question, "Are you okay?," with a bravado-like "Of course," "No problem," or "What's it to you?" Instead he is emotionally and physically honest with, "I think so."</p>
<p>Are characters with different gender representations interacting with mutual respect, skill, and admiration? (Or are the characters neutrally drawn so we can create the above dynamic ourselves?)</p>	<p>Are girls and boys both shown using tools while building something? Do they smile at each other? Do they treat each other like a peer</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>The girl and boy are having fun together running fast, splashing in the mud, and being in nature.</p> <p>They treat each other with mutual respect. He answers her honestly with, "I think so," and she shows healthy</p>

	<i>(and not an/a inferior or superior)?</i>		<i>concern by checking in on him. Once she knows he is okay, she invites him back to the fun and they run together again.</i>
<i>Does the girl character have agency?</i>	<i>Is her body shown in motion? Is she making something happen through her efforts? Can you see her straining her muscles in active movement?</i>	1	<i>She is in motion through most of the book. She helps her friend feel better by checking in on him and inviting him back to the fun.</i>
<i>Does the book's story represent any of the Guiding Principles?</i>		1	Equality <i>Joy: splashing, howling, growling, running' happily</i> Physical Ownership: <i>enjoying what their bodies can do and feel</i> Emotional Wellness
<i>Are girls the main characters or do they share the spotlight equally with boy characters?</i>		1	
<i>Is the writer and/or illustrator a woman?</i>		0	

