

# Equity 8™

The gender-equity rating

*That's Not My Chick...* (picture book)

Written by Fiona Watt, Illustrated by Rachel Wells, Copyright 2018

Rating: 6 out of 8 stars



Met criterion = 1

Did not meet criterion = 0

Egregiously did not meet criterion = - 1

What to look for	Example(s)	Rating	Explanation of rating and recommendations
<b>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.)</b>	<b>No gendered words, such as she, he, girl, boy, mommy, daddy, etc.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>No gendered words are used.</b>
<b>Did the artist illustrate the entire story without contributing to gender stereotypes?</b>	<b>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 to differentiate between characters. Hair is one way to do so that is less loaded with negative stereotyping.)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>No gendered accessories are added to the animals.</b>

<p><b>Is there counterstereotyping?</b> (Note: not mentioning gender counters stereotypes as it puts gender in the background.)</p>	<p><b>Are stereotypes challenged by showing the opposite?</b> Examples are showing a boy happily cuddling a baby or a girl swinging a bat with expert skill.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>If we use “it” pronouns throughout the book (even when we talk about the mouse and other animals), we counter stereotypes as we’re making gender secondary.</p> <p>If we make the chick a girl, we counter the message that girls are not the stars in stories (specifically those typically read by boys).</p> <p>(Note: In real life, the bees going from flower to flower are all females, so ideally we will identify the bees that way.)</p>
<p><b>Are characters with different gender representations interacting with mutual respect, skill, and admiration?</b> (Or are the characters neutrally drawn so we can create the above dynamic ourselves?)</p>	<p><b>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 (and not an/a inferior or superior)?</b></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Yes, if we make the chick a girl, the mouse a boy, and have them interact positively together.</p>
<p><b>Does the girl character have agency?</b></p>	<p><b>Is her body shown in motion? Is she making something happen through her efforts? Can you see her</b></p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Neither the chick nor the mouse show enough agency to warrant a 1.</p>

	<i>straining her muscles in active movement?</i>		
<i>Does the book's story represent any of the Guiding Principles?</i>		0	
<i>Are girls the main characters or do they share the spotlight equally with boy characters?</i>		1	<i>Yes, if we make the chick and the bees girls. (Note: In real life, the bees going from flower to flower are all females.)</i>
<i>Is the writer and/or illustrator a woman?</i>		1	



Authentic You  
[www.authenticyou.co](http://www.authenticyou.co)