

Equity 8™

The gender-equity rating

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Car (picture book)

Written by Kate Dopirak, Illustrated by Mary Peterson, Copyright 2018

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 are used.</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 to differentiate between characters. Hair is one way to do this that is less loaded with negative stereotyping.)</p>	1	<p>No contributing to stereotypes.</p> <p>The car is red (not blue or pink).</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>	1	<p>If we make the car a girl, yes.</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 (and not an/a inferior or superior)?</p>	1	<p>While we make the main character a girl, we can make the rest of the characters (tractor, digger, police car, skunk, etc.) a mix of genders (without using stereotypes or demeaning reasons to explain why).</p>
<p>Does the girl character have agency?</p>	<p>Is her body shown in motion? Is she making something happen through her efforts? Can you see her straining her muscles in active movement?</p>	0	<p>The car driving around is great. Beyond driving, though, the car doesn't demonstrate enough agency.</p>
<p>Does the book's story represent any of the Guiding Principles?</p>		1	<p>Equality: Because the car is presented as a character everyone can enjoy.</p> <p>Joy: The car is enjoying herself and smiling through much of</p>

			<i>the story. On one page, she has a particularly big smile.</i>
<i>Are girls the main characters or do they share the spotlight equally with boy characters?</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>If we make the car a girl, yes.</i>
<i>Is the writer and/or illustrator a woman?</i>		<i>1</i>	



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