

Equity 8™

The gender-equity rating

We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands (picture book)

Written and illustrated by Rafael Lopez, Copyright 2018

Rating: 5 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. (A person's name is not counted as a gender reference in this criterion.)</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</p>	0	<p>Some of the children are dressed according to gender stereotypes.</p> <p>It's great that no exaggerated eyelashes and almost no accessories are added to the animals. Only one hedgehog has a flower on its head. The moon is the only thing with exaggerated eyelashes.</p> <p>Seeing a boy on one of the pages wearing a pink shirt helps send the message that pink is just another color.</p>

	<i>loaded with negative stereotyping.)</i>		
<i>Is there counterstereotyping? (Note: not mentioning gender counters stereotypes as it puts gender in the background.)</i>	<i>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.</i>	1	<i>Because such diverse children are shown (through different skin color, clothing, hair, and activities), we experience the variety among people. This helps break down some stereotypes.</i>
<i>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?)</i>	<i>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)?</i>	1	<i>Girls and boys are shown smiling at each other. Together they climb, walk, boat, hold the yarn, etc.</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>	0	<i>It's great that the first character we see is a girl who decides to send the ball of yarn through the sky and spread the spirit of togetherness to others. However the overall agency of the girls in this book is not high enough to warrant a 1.</i>
<i>Does the book's story represent any of the Guiding Principles?</i>		1	<i>Equality. There are a variety of kids interacting with mutual respect.</i>

			<p>Contribution. Through the illustrations and such phrases as “We’ve got you and you’ve got me” and “We’ve got the whole world in our hands,” we learn we are important contributors to the world.</p> <p>Community. Together, we can help one another and the planet.</p> <p>Joy. Images of feeling good are on every page.</p>
<p>Are girls the main characters or do they share the spotlight equally with boy characters?</p>		1	<p>They share the spotlight equally.</p>
<p>Is the writer and/or illustrator a woman?</p>		0	



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