

Equity 8™

The gender-equity rating

_____ (Title of picture book)

Written by _____, Illustrated by _____, Copyright _____

Rating: _____ 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>		
<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>		

<p>Is there counterstereotyping? <i>(Note: not mentioning gender counters stereotypes as it puts gender in the background.)</i></p>	<p>Are stereotypes challenged by showing the opposite? <i>Examples are showing a boy happily cuddling a baby or a girl swinging a bat with expert skill.</i></p>		
<p>Are characters with different gender representations interacting with mutual respect, skill, and admiration? <i>(Or are the characters neutrally drawn so we can create the above dynamic ourselves?)</i></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>		
<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>		
<p>Does the book's story represent any of the Guiding Principles?</p>			

<i>Are girls the main characters or do they share the spotlight equally with boy characters?</i>			
<i>Is the writer and/or illustrator a woman?</i>			



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