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# It's Okay To Be Different



## Synopsis

It's okay to need some help. It's okay to be a different color. It's okay to talk about your feelings. From the bestselling author Todd Parr comes a reassuring book about being who you are. Told with Todd Parr's signature wit and wisdom, *It's Okay to Be Different* cleverly delivers the important messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence in an accessible, child-friendly format. The book features the bold, bright colors and silly scenes that made Todd a premiere voice for emotional discussions in children's literature. Targeted to young children first beginning to read, this book will inspire kids to celebrate their individuality through acceptance of others and self-confidence--and it's never too early to develop a healthy self-esteem. *It's Okay to Be Different* is designed to encourage early literacy, enhance emotional development, celebrate multiculturalism and diversity, and promote character growth.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD260L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; 1 Reprint edition (April 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316043478

ISBN-13: 978-0316043472

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.2 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 190 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,167 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #57 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings #119 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

## Customer Reviews

For anyone who ever doubted it, Todd Parr is here to tell us all that it's okay to be different. With his signature artistic style, featuring brightly colored, childlike figures outlined in heavy black, Parr shows readers over and over that just about anything goes. From the sensitive ("It's okay to be

adopted"--the accompanying illustration shows a kangaroo with a puppy in her pouch) to the downright silly ("It's okay to eat macaroni and cheese in the bathtub"), kids of every shape, size, color, family makeup, and background will feel included in this gentle, witty book. In this simple, playful celebration of diversity, Parr doesn't need to hammer readers over the head with his message. Parr is well known for his funky feel-good titles, including *Things That Make You Feel Good/Things That Make You Feel Bad*, *Underwear Do's and Don'ts*, and *This Is My Hair*. (Ages 3 to 6) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

arr (*The Okay Book*) combines rainbow colors, simple drawings and reassuring statements in this optimistic book. His repetitive captions offer variations on the title and appear in a typeface that looks handcrafted and personalized. A fuschia elephant stands against a zingy blue background ("It's okay to have a different nose") and a lone green turtle crosses a finish line ("It's okay to come in last"). A girl blushes at the toilet paper stuck to her shoe ("It's okay to be embarrassed") and a lion says "Grr," "ROAR" and "purrr" ("It's okay to talk about your feelings"). Parr cautiously calls attention to superficial distinctions. By picturing a smiling girl with a guide dog ("It's okay to need some help"), he comments on disability and he accounts for race by posing a multicolored zebra with a black-and-white one. An illustration of two women ("It's okay to have different Moms") and two men ("It's okay to have different Dads") handles diverse families sensitively this could cover either same-sex families or stepfamilies and also on the opposite page, a kangaroo with a dog in its pouch ("It's okay to be adopted"). He wisely doesn't zero in on specifics, which would force him to establish what's "normal." Instead, he focuses on acceptance and individuality and encourages readers to do the same. All ages. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

My daughter is 6, she has grown up with one of her closest friends having Down syndrome. But when she made her way to public school in first grade there were difference in religion, clothing, appearances, and language that she was being faced with. And as all children do, she started to ask questions about why her new friends weren't like her old friends. So we bought this book after seeing it in a store, and she loved it!!!!As a mommy, I loved it because t blended serious differences with silly ones, that helped keep her attention. The drawings assist in keeping her attention and created a visual representation of what the book was talking about.Weeks after purchasing and reading the book, she brings it up and talks about it when we are out and about and see things that make every person different. It really helped me explain mental illnesses, religion, and other things

that make people different, but not visually different. It also helped her to defend a friend at school that was getting picked on for not celebrating Halloween, she explained to the kids about all of the ways that people can be different. One proud mommy!!!! And a grateful mommy for a book that helped simplify a difficult conversation.

You can never go wrong with a Todd Parr book! Anytime I see this author's name, I know the book will be colorful, engaging, and funny while teaching important values such as acceptance, diversity and love. Here might be Parr at his greatest -- a book that is hilarious, never preach-y, and the title sums up the biggest lesson Parr teaches in all of his work: it's okay to be different! I got this for my 15-month-old who is too young to sit and read with me (well, he'll sit with me while I read but he'll start chewing the book or turning the pages too quickly!) yet every night, when I ask him to bring me a book to read to him, he is almost guaranteed to grab one of Todd Parr's multi-colored books. I'm so very happy to have Parr's books in my young boy's library so he can grow up enjoying quality literature that imparts important lessons. It's Okay To Be Different uses metaphors children will understand to describe or allude to real life differences - it's okay to have a big nose, with an illustration of an elephant and his trunk; it's okay to be from somewhere else - like outer space! Simply put, this book is a must for any child's collection. Whether you're starting a library for a baby-to-be or adding to a preschooler's books, this story will be a great addition.

Thanks goes to the author for reminding me that it's okay to be different. That message will come through loud and clear to anybody who reads the book, regardless of age. At the moment in United States Children need to hear this message because they're not getting it from the leaders of nation. Also, the book has an incredible range of subjects. In other words, I don't think the author misses a subject that a teacher or parent can use at home or school.

I bought this book bc my friend raved about it and how her son LOVED IT it was his favorite book. My son didn't have the same vibe. Granted he did love the silly pictures and colorful pictures but that's it. We spent more time talking about the pictures than the lesson of the book.

Great book for young kids. My six year old had a lot of questions about why some kids at her school are different colors than her. She decided she preferred people who look like her. I bought a few books that talk about how everyone is different and that's okay. She enjoyed this one.

this was the 1st book by mr parr that my 3-year old enjoyed. we got it from the library & it was an instant favorite, so much so that i had to get her a copy. very cute, great message!

This is a great Todd Parr book. I also love "the family book." This is one of my daughter's favorites (14 months old)

This is a great book for kids... each page is "it's okay to..." with any number of issues listed (have a big nose, lose something, be mad, etc.) I like that the rest of the message is up to the parent to insert. It helps you raise the issues, and then you can talk to you own child about how to handle that difference, since the author doesn't manufacture that message for you. For fun, I'd love to see the author do a book with suggested ways to respond to others who point out your differences... just to have something to work from. But as it stands, you can shape this book just about any way you want to.

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