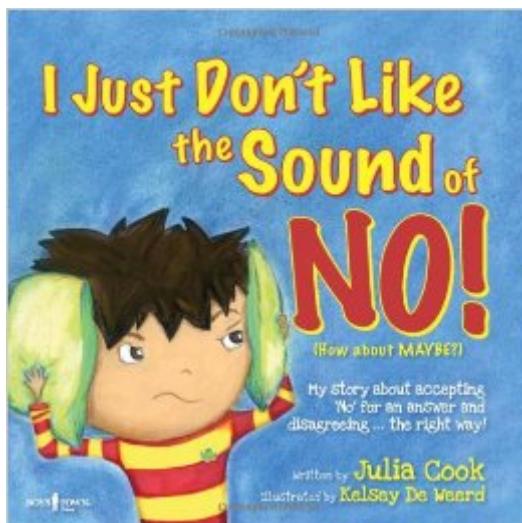


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# I Just Don't Like The Sound Of No! My Story About Accepting No For An Answer And Disagreeing The Right Way! (Best Me I Can Be)



## **Synopsis**

NO is RJ's least favorite word . . . and he tries his best to convince his dad, his mom, and his teacher to turn No into Maybe or We'll see or Later or I'll think about it. Even though he doesn't have much success, RJ keeps arguing until his teacher suggests that he try to join her classroom's Say YES to NO Club. If RJ can learn how to accept No for an answer and to disagree appropriately with his teacher and parents, he can add his name to the club's Star Board. RJ finds that lots of praise and some rewards come his way when he uses these skills the right way! Author Julia Cook helps K-6 readers laugh and learn along with RJ as he understands the benefits of demonstrating these social skills both at home and in school. Tips for parents and educators on how to teach and encourage kids to use the skills of accepting No for an answer and disagreeing appropriately are included in the book. I Just Don't Like the Sound of NO! is another title in the BEST ME I Can Be! series of books from the Boys Town Press to teach children social skills that can make home life happier and school more successful. This book is also available with an accompanying CD audio book, read by the author. Winner of the 2011 MOM's Choice Award Honoring Excellence and the National Parenting Center's 'Seal of Approval.'

## **Book Information**

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

I was surprised by how much my 5-y-o son LOVES this book. He wants us to read it over and over, and really "got" the concept and lately he isn't arguing at every single 'no" in his otherwise good life but sometimes actually says "okay, mommy!" and moves onto the next subject , smiling a knowing smile (if only all us adults had a book for us about how to take "no" so well). even better, he seems to "get" in a new way that there's a "good" way and a not-so-good way to disagree with others. it is an entertaining and cute book and i think frankly he likes it not for any embedded lessons but really because it's a cute story and appealing to a 5-y-o brain and humor. i rarely do reviews but wanted to take the time to highly recommend this book to others b/c it is very simple but a surprising little jewel.

I'm a child therapist and a mom with a 4 year old who does not like the sound of no! I was excited to try out this book. As I was reading it to my son, he was really engaged and really seemed to understand the concepts in the book. It was a great conversation starter for him. Then it got to the end of the book where the teacher tells the boy in the story about the "say yes to no club", where basically the boy can get his name in a drawing to win prizes if he accepts "no" as an answer from other people. I was quite disappointed! I was hoping for a tool to help kids learn about accepting no, but not just another method of bribing them into accepting no. I want my children (and children I work with in therapy) to learn about limit setting and accepting no, but I don't want to have to reward them to get them to respond appropriately. So basically the book was not something I could use as a helpful tool unless I decided to do some sort of "say yes to no" reward system like she does in the book. At one point, I tried to talk to my son about saying yes to no, like they do in the book. And his response was "Well then do I get a prize for saying yes to no?" Totally not the lesson I wanted him to take from the book.

In this story the child learns to accept no because he is rewarded for doing so. He gets a star on the board at school for accepting "No" both at home and at school. Additionally, his name is entered in a drawing for a prize, which he won. The prize he won happened to be the same thing he was told no to at the beginning of the story. This is not the lesson I want to teach my child. I want my child to understand that there are important reasons people say no and to learn to handle the frustration and disappointment. I thought the book "Accepting No" by Joy Berry accomplished that goal much more effectively.

I purchased this book because I just loved the title!! \*AND\* The Preview showed it to have some

GREAT content. My boys (ages 6 & 8) LOVE this book! My 6 year old took it into class for sharing and all the children LOVED it!! My 8 year old has Aspergers & ADHD, he could really relate to this book and enjoyed it greatly. He also shared it with his class and they thought it was great! The illustrations are wonderful, the children read this over and over again ... and they really are getting better at dealing with getting "NO" for an answer ... BONUS!! I am purchasing more Julia Cook books for my home and for the teachers at my boy's school. I highly recommend this book if you have children up to about 8 years of age.

I have been working very hard with my daughter who has ADD about being respectful and how to go about things the right way. Everything in this book reiterated what I have been telling her and as she read, she would look at me funny and say something like, "it sounds like you wrote this". The pictures and fun tone of the book made what I have been telling her more concrete and we really enjoy reading it together. We have talked about reading it more than once because she says she thinks it really helps her. She can remember a story in a book more than a lecture from mom, or being told to do something so it helps her set good limits and be respectful. I have purchased more of Julia Cook's books and even though I was worried that they would be a little "young" for my daughter who just turned nine, they were written in a manner that did not seem juvenile for her. Cook's books are an amazing tool for helping kids work through some behavior issues in a fun and positive way!

My 4 year old really likes this book, though it is probably more effective with slightly older kids. When I say no and she starts to disagree, I remind her to "say yes to no" and it actually works sometimes! We make it fun by practicing how to respond when I say no to her.

First of all, the book is really hard to get through b/c it's so nagging. I cannot imagine anyone actually enjoying reading this book aloud. It's pretty agonizing and super whiny if you ask me. Secondly, it is very lecturing and negative. And the actual lessons aren't very rich. It's just a bunch of "nooooo RJ, nooooo RJ, nooooooooooo RJ." The "lesson" beyond noooo RJ is overly complex. Like saying "I'm going to agree to disagree that we are always going to agree. Got it?" Most importantly, if your child is too young this will just FURTHER TEACH THEM WAYS TO SAY NO and nag you. Trust me. And if they're too old, they'll get annoyed quickly by the nagging tone of the book and want it to hit the shelf. If your kid doesn't need the lesson, this isn't a good one for evening reading (it's stressful). And if your kid DOES need the lesson, find a better book or create little

scenarios in your own book that better teach it. This goes to the recycle bin.

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