



Tease Monster: (A Book about Teasing vs. Bullying)

Julia Cook , Anita DuFalla (Illustrations)

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When One of a Kind is laughed at by Purple One and called a name by Green One, is the Tease Monster to blame? This whimsical story teaches children the difference between mean teasing and friendly teasing.

Tease Monster: (A Book about Teasing vs. Bullying) Details

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Narita says

When our girls were growing up, I can remember working hard at teaching them the difference between teasing and bullying. Our motto was, "If it isn't fun for everyone then it's not fun!" With bullying being such an epidemic among children, they all need to know which is which, and when they are crossing the line. The characters are very unusual as most books go; they are all a number "One". What makes them different is the various colors except for "one". (pardon the pun) He distinguished from the others by many colors and designs. His name is "One of a Kind." Pretty catchy huh? The emphasis of course is how very unique he is compared to his peers.

He shares funny little characteristics about himself that make him special. Just as with anyone that isn't like everyone else, he is teased a lot. To make it even worse is best friend teases him! One returns home from school after a particularly hard day and feels awful! He rushes into the house and tells is very wise Mom all that has happened.

She explains that teasing is just a part of life but there is a difference someone being playful or just mean. She also cautions him to look at himself and see what kind of kidding around he does. Mom shares coping skills with One to help him better respond to others. The next day he applies these each time he is teased or bullied. The day turns out great!

To a young child both activities are painful. This colorful book with funny characters is written rhyme which makes it even more appealing. It truly equips children to emotionally, mentally and verbally deal with teasing and bullying. At the end of the book are tips for adults to help children further. I love these books!!

Brandie says

Great book - my 6-year-old's current favourite! Talks about the difference between good-natured teasing between friends, vs mean teasing, meant to hurt. Also talks about how good-nature teasing between friends can be misunderstood. Also provides problem-solving for handling misunderstandings.

Kim says

This book is too wordy and doesn't really do a good job describing the difference between bullying and teasing in kid friendly terms. It's confusing and it would be better off if the "ones" were just monsters and the "tease monster" was a mean monster. I can't use this with my kids because it's over their heads and the length of it makes it incredibly boring, which is never good with young kids.

Jessica says

I wasn't expecting to enjoy this book as much as I did. It has a very important message for young readers about teasing and bullying. A classroom essential! Illustrations were fun and added to the message nicely.

Jodie says

A book about teasing and bullying. It addresses mean teasing that is meant to hurt you and nice teasing that friends do with one another. It also shows that you need to think about the words you use and how others might hear them differently than what was intended.

Paula says

Julia Cook has a great way of teaching a lesson while making it fun. This book is no exception! She teaches children about playful teasing and bullying.

The Styling Librarian says

Tease Monster (A book about teasing vs. bullying) by Julia Cook, illustrated by Anita DuFalla – 5/6 years old and up – appreciated this book that made the number 1 the main character and special, one of a kind. Reminded me of many of my serious, thoughtful students who cannot differentiate between jokes and bullying even with their friends. I found that other books didn't quite address this and I was grateful that once again Julia Cook found a way to address the topic. Also appreciated that there were strategies shared and dialogue that students could take away from the story as well. I recently was reminded about Parenting with Love and Logic. Appreciated this post that a friend on Facebook shared and think it also connects to this book: Tease Proof your kids (can be used at school and home): <http://www.loveandlogic.com/t-teasepr...>

Nadia Buffa says

Tease Monster is a children's book that discusses the differences between teasing and bullying. The tease monster is about a "one" who gets teased by the other "ones" in his class for being unique. They tease him for the way he eats, for his many different colors, for his big feet, for being clumsy, and for his intelligence. When he gets home from school, he tells his mother that he is upset that the other "ones" are teasing him in school. His mother tells him "dealing with the tease monster is just part of life". She helps him understand how to deal with getting teased. She describes to him there are two different types of teasing: nice teasing and mean teasing. She describes that mean teasing is bullying and it comes from a person who does not care about you and teases you to make you feel hurt and upset. On the other hand, nice teasing can help a person solve problems and comes from a person who cares about you and does not want to hurt your feelings. Furthermore, the mother teaches her son to talk to an adult about the bully when he is upset. The next day when One returns to school, he uses his mother's tips and does not get upset when he is teased, but instead deals with the problem.

This book is a great addition to a text set on bullying and respect for others. The book teaches children to be careful of what they say because their words can hurt others. This book will help students in relationship-building and bullying. Children will understand how powerful and hurtful their words can be and will teach

them that teasing others can be hurtful. It teaches children that people sometimes hear things differently from the way you intended them to be heard. Furthermore, this book teaches children to ask an adult for help and tell them about the bullying and teasing issue. If One did not ask his mother for help, he would have been upset at school and would not have coped with his bullying. This book teaches that an adult can help solve the bullying at school and help a child cope with being bullied.

Bonnie says

This story lightly touches on teasing versus bullying. It describes the differences and gives examples for young elementary level.

Basically, there are two types of teasing: nice and mean.

Mean teasing is negative, bullying and not a good thing. The ones doing it are trying to be mean. It comes from someone who doesn't care about you and wants to embarrass you or make you feel bad on purpose.

Nice teasing is positive and adds to your life. It can help you solve problems in humorous ways and get you through the difficult days. It comes from someone who cares about you and would not want to hurt you or make you feel bad.

Jeff says

Two for two - Julia Cook books are for me in terms of 5-star ratings. Sure, I'm only two books in, so there's definitely a strong opportunity for a 4-star rating in the future... But, I'm awestruck for now. I think her books are tremendous.

"Tease Monster (A book about teasing vs. bullying)" is very intelligent yet entertaining and user friendly - for, I believe, children or adults. And I could confidently say the same for the other Cook book I read earlier today ("Lying Up a Storm") as well.

Considering "Tease Monster" specifically, I really like the spacing used in the book. I think it's very clean, clear and direct. It's not cluttered. There's a lot of neat illustrations and terrific written content, but it's easy to read and enjoy. As opposed to the other Cook book I mentioned, it's very colorful (like "Lying...") but not as busy. And I think that's by design when considering the title and topic of each book.

Some details I noticed include:

- * The actual Tease Monster - itself - is a two-headed being for good reason. It was really interesting to read and learn about the fine line between bullying and good-natured teasing.

- * I love a lot of the lessons this book offers. One specific quote I'd like to mention is coming from the main character's mother to him. It's on page 23 and reads: "You need to be careful about what you say. A nice tease bite to you, can ruin his day ... Sometimes when you nice tease, your words go too far. You just have to realized how powerful they are." ... How true is this? The power words can hold, especially for young

(developing) children.

* I realize it's a Picture Book and thus I should probably point out more details about the illustrations (which are tremendous), but I'd like to mention another quote. This one is from page 25 and the font changes in three of its words - "AT", "WITH" and "BEST!" Again, as with the previously mentioned quote (above), it's coming from the main character's mother to him: "Laughing AT some one is never good, but laughing WITH is always the BEST!" The font for those three words is larger and has some graphic design within the letters as well. The letters for these three words are all capitalized, the rest is standard ... I loved this. It's so true. I think children and adults - alike - realize laughing is great when it's good natured; but laughing at someone or taking a joke too far can be hurtful.

Briana says

The book is about what is good vs. bad teasing. It uses this idea of being bit by a tease monster, which was interesting, but not super effective. Good book content overall.

Maggie Mattmiller says

Not my favorite Julia Cook book. Love her others, but for me, I'd be nervous to use this with my students, as they might get confused between the different kinds of teases. I can think of a couple of students who would try to do "nice teases" and would rub peers the wrong way. It might be a nice receptive lesson, but if they kids tried to start expressing the teases, it could get tricky...

Christina says

Love how Ms Cook's books explain emotions and social issues. This one tackles an important topic that students need to figure out early.

Kirsten says

I personally I think that this book is too wordy for the age group it's directed to. And considering how wordy it is--it still doesn't drive home the difference between bullying and teasing.
