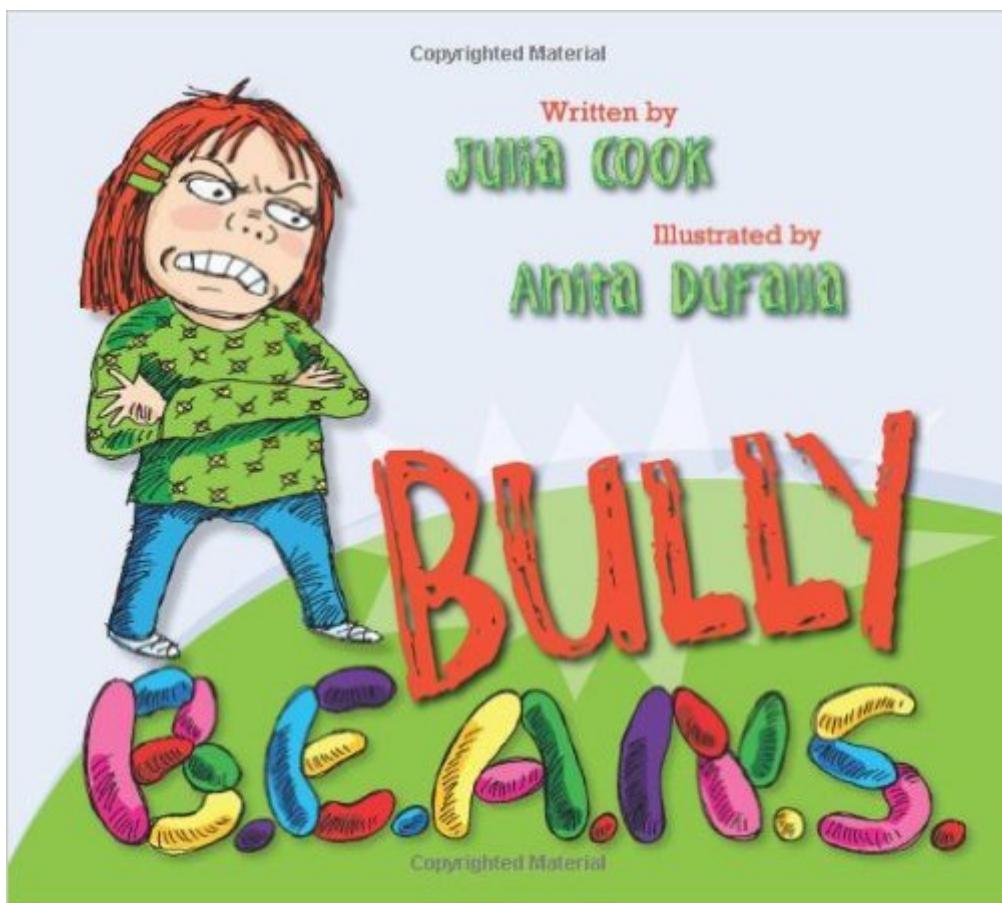


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Bully B.E.A.N.S.



Synopsis

The latest story from hit author Julia Cook, Bully B.E.A.N.S. is a fun story that teaches people of all ages to become proactive when it comes to bullying. This book can help children and adults understand why bullying happens and what they can do to stop it. Finally, a bullying book that speaks to the bystander!

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: National Center for Youth Issues; 1 edition (April 30, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1931636494

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.8 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (45 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #18,890 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #267 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings #5413 inÂ Books > Reference

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

This book has tons of great info on how to successfully deal with bullies. I gave it 4 stars because this book is long - too long to read in its entirety to a class of students. I selected certain sections to read instead. The book doesn't flow quite as well this way (obviously) but it is necessary.

This was a good book about bullying. I really love that talks about how the kids can unite against a common bully in a classroom, and addresses children that stand by while another child is being bullied. However, the happy ending comes a little bit too easily. The kids stand up to the bully with the bully beans, the bully backs down. I just wish that it was a little more realistic, as even in kindergarten there are bullies and standing up to them is very hard, much less trying to get the entire class on your side. Many times the class bully is the prettiest/coolest kid in the class and not necessarily a mean looking girl that it is easy for everyone to go up against.

I am a school counselor and have used this book with first through fourth graders. We have eaten Bully B.E.A.N.S. and done role plays where kids practice being supportive bystanders. This book held high interest for the kids and they were able to share what the author's main ideas were.

As a school counselor, I have 30 minutes for each lesson. This book was lengthy and my 2nd graders had a hard time sitting through it. Luckily I had 2 other books that I was testing out on kindergarten and first grade. This was my least favorite for a few reasons. The book tells children to "scream" when a bully is bothering them. I would have all the teachers coming after me if I told their students it is okay to scream every time they thought they were being bullied. For a teacher with one classroom, the jelly beans activity would be great, but not for me with 3 grade levels. I love Julia Cook and was sadly disappointed by this book.

I have used this book in my bullying prevention lessons in 1st through 4th grades for two years. The children love the story and the bold colorful illustrations. They get the message about the importance of bystander courage and enjoy the "bully beans" gimmick initiated by a caring mom who wanted her daughter and friends to be able to stand up to anyone bullying. My only criticism is that I was disappointed that Julia Cook labels Bobbette as a "bully" since I always prefer to use "someone who is bullying", so that a child who exhibits such behavior does not get "stuck" in that role, but is seen as someone who can change...as Bobbette did! As some other reviewers have mentioned it does take a 40 minute lesson to read this book with discussion time on the topic of bullying prevention.

Julia Cook is hit or miss. Some of her stuff is great, and some of it is just garbage. This one is borderline. The idea of using jelly beans to empower the kids to stand up to a bully is great, as is how the reader gets to see why the bully is bullying others at school. But it's too long and wordy, and the fact that the kids discover before the end that the "bully beans" are just regular jelly beans to me kind of defeats the purpose. I get that the B.E.A.N.S. is supposed to be something that kids can remember, but it's just not catchy--it's just flat-out lame.

I read this to my third grade students. It really gives them tools for dealing with bullies. I recommend this book to all parents and teachers.

Got this for my 6yr old nephew, zach. There's some kids in his class that are a bit aggressive and I wanted to give him some insight as to how he could handle it. THis book gives some good ideas...TEAM UP and STAND UP...and SPEAK UP. THe story teaches him to team up with his friends and stand up to the bully. A bully is fearless only when it's one-on-one, but if they stay together as a group, the bully will back down. he loves yelling "BACK OFF!" on queue. also, it teaches them to speak up and let the adult know if neccessary or possible. Even if it's in an anonymous letter. The 'beans' aspect of it is just a fun part. The mom tells the kids the beans give the kids 'magical' powers to be strong and loud and stand up for themself. In reality, you could use any little trinket available and tell your kid(s) the same; i.e., "Hold on to mommy's barrette and it'll give you courage"....Some kids need that little spark to get them started.I was very happy with this book and will read it again to zach. hopefully he does not have to experience any bullying, but if so, i hope he has the courage these kids had and learns to stand up for himself or his friends.

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