

Can I Play Too? – Reading Guide

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Themes: friendship, teamwork, empathy, effort, inclusion

Lesson/Notes: Gerald and Piggie get creative to play with a new friend. Funny story that models caring about others, working together to solve a problem, and not giving up. *Sometimes people have challenges that make some things hard for them that may be easy for you. It's nice to find a way to include everyone when you can.*

Discussion Questions

- *What was the problem? (Snake couldn't catch)*
- *Did Gerald and Piggie leave Snake out because he didn't have arms? (No, they found a way to include him)*
- *Would you like to share about a time you felt included or excluded (left out)?*

Activity: Play Catch

Supplies: frisbee or ball

- Find a frisbee or ball, and play catch!
- If possible, encourage child to ask someone else to join. Model skill (“Would you like to play catch with us?”) then have child practice before going to ask a peer.
 - Remind child that it's okay for peer to say no. If this happens, child can say, “Okay,” and ask someone else or return to play catch.