

The book was found

Personal Space Camp



Synopsis

Louis is back! And this time, he's learning all about personal space. Louis, a self-taught space expert is delighted to learn that his teacher has sent him to the principal's office to attend personal space camp. Eager to learn more about lunar landings, space suits, and other cosmic concepts, Louis soon discovers that he has much to learn about personal space right here on earth. Written with style, wit, and rhythm, personal space camp addresses the complex issue of respect for another person's physical boundaries. Told from Louis perspective, this story is a must-have resource for parents, teachers, and counselors who want to communicate the idea of personal space in a manner that connects with kids.

Book Information

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Personal space, outer space... what's the difference? In the case of Julia Cook's latest book, the difference is a riot. Let's face it, explaining the concept of personal space to children isn't exactly easy, but as an experienced educator and astute author, Julia Cook leads her lovable character Louis, a self-proclaimed space expert, on an enlightening journey of discovery. While this down-to-earth book will serve as your child's very own personal invitation to attend personal space camp, it is also guaranteed to leave you (and anyone else who has any reason to interact with children) laughing your way out of the bookstore. --Laura A. Jana, M.D. - Associate Director, Boys Town Institute for Child Health Improvement

Julia Cook is a former teacher and school counselor with a master's degree in elementary school counseling. She strives to help children explore their untapped potential by actively engaging them in creative stories that not only entertain, but inspire children to change for the better. Her fun, child-friendly stories are inspired by years of working with children and carefully listening to parents and teachers. She lives in Fremont, Nebraska with her husband and three children.

Julia Cook's books are an absolute hit with our students. I was ecstatic when I found *Personal Space Camp*. I'd already been using *My Mouth Is A Volcano* to reinforce school skills like raising your hand and waiting your turn to talk. But what about when kids are in each others space during 'carpet time' or pushing and shoving in the cafeteria line? These behaviors can make instruction difficult and cause a lot of teacher angst. I don't know how many times I've had to say, 'Please, keep your hands to yourself.' *Personal Space Camp* is a life saver book. Angst will be decreased! Okay, so in defense of the kids - developmentally it's really difficult to sometimes be in control of yourself. Kids need to move and wiggle around. However, they need extra guidance building awareness of themselves and those around them before the wiggling offends another student. When there are 20 some bodies in a classroom - we have to learn to work and live together. And newsflash - negative reinforcement doesn't build awareness - it just makes kiddos feel bad. I use *Personal Space Camp* as a social awareness teaching tool because it makes kids feel GOOD about themselves. They love learning about the concept of personal space and how it can affect others positively and negatively. Most importantly, the story is engaging and Louis is a VERY likeable character. We also copy Louis and use the same strategies in the book. The kids love being jammed into a hula hoop and reflection gets those light bulbs flashing about personal space. And here is the best part, author Julia Cook wrote a supplementary activity and idea book!! Activities galore! I got my hands on it this Spring and started integrating the lessons in small groups. The main reason the guide rocks is because the activities provide cool visuals for the students. Yep, your lessons on personal space just got even MORE engaging! Educators, get this one on your shelf. When teaching classroom routines, make this part of your curriculum.

Not what I was looking for.... this book is kind of cheesy. *Hands Off Harry* is better.... not crazy about the storyline or the illustrations.... the book is just oddly CORNY! They take the "space camp subject" wayyy too far. I think it can end up confusing young kids as to what the book is really trying to teach them...which is not about space camp! They just took it too far!

This book is great for those k-3rd grade kids who don't seem to understand that not everyone wants them in their face. Lois goes about his day crashing into people (flying through space) and is told he would have to go to Personal Space Camp. He is all excited because he imagines that he'll be flying rockets or getting to eat astronaut's ice cream. When he sees hoola hoops on the floor, he is confused... I love the gray pictures of Lois's imagination and how he views his world (or more appropriately, his out-of-this-world) experiences. At the end he finally realizes that he had misunderstood what others had been saying all along. The humor is just what this topic needs and it allows the kids to grow without being embarrassed.

I'm not thrilled with this book. Let me start with it being pretty well written. There's a decent story that carries through from beginning to end. And there's a cute angle, the difference between outer space and personal space. That's why I bought it. But - and it's a big but - I don't like two very important things about it. 1) I don't like that teacher uses her "cranky voice," with cranky in different font and emphasized. That's not a good role model for a teacher trying to get a point across, and it's not a good way for a kid to learn, especially when it just comes out of nowhere, not after several tries. Of course we get cranky. I've taught in classrooms of various ages, and I have a child. But don't let that be the model. 2) When it comes down to it, I don't really like the story very much. It's teachers telling kids. There is a little "experiential" story in it, but mostly it's about what isn't okay and what is okay. I was bored long before I got to the end. 3) I know I said two, but let me add: I don't like the certificate at the end. Maybe that's just me. But I wouldn't share this with my child, and I wouldn't use this book in class. Really, it makes the whole book come off preachy. Sorry. I really wanted to like this book.

This is a terrific book to help children understand the need that we all have for personal boundaries. I teach first grade and my students got the point of this story pretty quickly and laughed when Louis, the main character, did not! My students thought it was wildly funny that throughout the principal's camp, Louis thought he was going to "outer" space camp when in reality he was going to "personal" space camp (i.e., he thought he was being measured for a space suit when he was asked to lie down to have someone trace his body to show how much floor space his body took). I especially like the activities that the principal employed with Louis (i.e., the hula hoop to show how much space others need, the body drawings to help illustrate why they ALL can't lie on the floor). I also did these activities with my own students which really brought the point home. Now I regularly overhear my students tell their classmates, "Please be careful, you are entering my personal space." It truly is a

book all primary teachers should have in their library.

I bought this for our son who has sensory integration disorder. This book is wonderful, and we did some of the activities (done in the book) at home. It would have probably worked better if the teacher would have read it when I sent it to school and used some of the language. I liked this book so much I brought it to work (Head Start) and read it to the children. Wonderful! I hear children talking about it all the time!

I loved this book. I work with a lot of kids on the spectrum and with behavioral issues. This book managed a tricky subject with humor and warmth, in terms a young child can understand. Excellent for professionals and parents.

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