

I'M STICKING WITH YOU
SMRITI HALLS STEVE SMALL



I'm Sticking With You

Author: Smriti Halls

Illustrator: Steve Small

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Simon and Schuster

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Synopsis

A gorgeously warm, funny book about everything a friendship can be - for anyone who's ever had a friend.? Wherever you're going, I'm going too.

Whatever you're doing, I'm sticking with you.

It's wonderful to have good friends to see you through the good times and the bad.

But sometimes, friends can also be a bit . . . well . . . overbearing.

This completely irresistible rhyming text by Smriti Halls is perfectly complemented by artwork from fantastic new picture book illustrator, Steve Small.

Author Bio

The youngest of three daughters in a clergy family, I moved around frequently throughout my childhood... from North Wales to Stockport to the Welsh Valleys to Newcastle, Luton, Liverpool and London. This may explain an unreasonable affection for draughty vicarages, male voice choirs, masala dosa and iced buns.

After studying History and English at Liverpool University, I lived in Hong Kong where I taught at an International School. I returned to the UK to work for the BBC and began a career in children's publishing and television as a writer and commissioning editor. I went to work with Bob the Builder, rode the train with Driver Dan and frequently had tea with the Gruffalo.

I began writing books of my own in 2012. Since then, I have been published in 30 languages from Arabic to Afrikaans and from Catalan to Korean.

I live in London with my family, reading, writing and eating avocado pears. We have no pets, other than one well behaved dragon named Doris.



Illustrator Bio

Steve has worked in animation for over 30 years as a director, designer and animator.

The work has varied from working on Disney features to designing and directing shorts, TV series and commercials.

Steve lives in London and when he's not painting and drawing you'll likely find him feeding the crows on Blackheath common.

Curriculum Links

English:

ACELT1575 Recognise that texts are created by authors who tell stories and share experiences that may be similar or different to students' own experiences.

ACELT1577 Respond to texts, identifying favourite stories, authors and illustrators.

ACELT1783 Share feelings and thoughts about the events and characters in texts

ACELT1785 Recognise some different types of literary texts and identify some characteristic features of literary texts, for example beginnings and endings of traditional texts and rhyme in poetry

Health and Physical Education:

ACPPS005 Identify and describe emotional responses people may experience in different situations

Themes

- Friendship
- Feeling/Emotions
- Humour

Pre Reading

Show the cover of *I'm Sticking With You* to your students, reading the name of the book out loud.

Identify the author and the illustrator.

Ask the following:

What animals can you see?

Now turn the cover over and show the back of the book to your students, reading out loud what the book will be about.

Does that give you any other clues as to what the story might be about?

There are two different animals on the back of the book.

What are they?

What are they doing?



Discussion Questions

Bear and squirrel are friends.

Sometimes squirrel gets annoyed at bear.

The squirrel doesn't say much in the story, so how do we know that the squirrel gets cross?

How does the illustrator show what squirrel or bear are feeling?

Facial Expressions

Look at the facial expressions on the squirrel, and the images the illustrator uses above the squirrel's head, like the ! and the grey cloud.

What do you think the illustrator is trying to tell us about how the character is feeling?



Body Language

What about the 'body language' – look at the how the squirrel is sitting in the taxi?

What do you think body language means?

Look at the facial expressions and the body language of the characters as you are reading and talk about how that character maybe feeling

How can we guess how someone is feeling based on their expression or their body language?

Feelings

Ask the student when they may have felt like squirrel? It might be with a friend or a younger sibling?

What are some things we can do when we feel like that?

Things that won't make the other person feel bad?

Talk about what it means to be friends.

Are your friends exactly like you?

Do you always have to do the same things?

Look at the back of the book again. Chicken is reading, and the frog is there too, not reading, but with a big smile on his face. What does that picture tell you about how those characters are feeling?

Do you have to always be happy with your friend?

What happens if you have an argument? Is that OK?

Have a selection of other books to show how illustrators can show the moods of their characters.

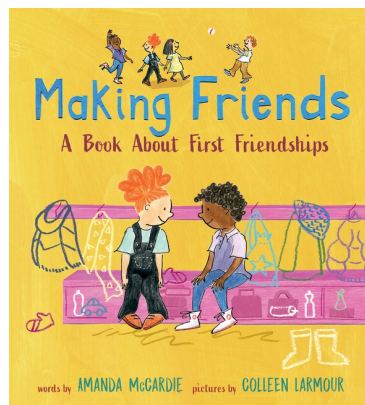
- Are there some that you like more than others?
- What makes one book better than another?
- Is that the same for everyone in the class?

Some examples:



The Elephant and Piggie books by Mo Willems
There's a Bear on My Chair

Books about friendship



Making Friends: A Book About First Friendships **Due Aug 2020**

Friendships are precious, but they can also be tricky to navigate – especially when you're little. In this charming and supremely sensitive book, we meet Sukie and Joe: two children making friends for the first time.

With words by Amanda McCordie, who has studied child development at the Tavistock, and pictures from Colleen Larmour, a rising star, Making Friends is the perfect tool for talking to very young children about friendship and everything that goes with it, from meeting new people to celebrating differences and standing up for one another.

Friendship Is Like a Seesaw

Friendship is a very special thing. It's great to have a friend, and being a friend to someone else is a good feeling, too.

Sometimes getting along with your friends is easy, and other times it can be a little trickier, but there are lots of ways to keep your friendships balanced and fun for everyone.

