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Equal Shmequal

By Virginia Kroll



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What does it mean to be equal? Mouse and her friends want to play tug-of-war but they can't figure out how to make teams that are equal. Nothing works until Mouse starts thinking mathematically. Wonderful illustrations capture Mouse and her animal friends from whiskers to tails.



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 3—Kroll takes a subject that is difficult to explain and presents it in a fairly palatable tale. Mouse and her friends decide to play tug-of-war after watching kids at recess. First, though, they have to decide how to make both sides equal. They try dividing up by meat-eaters and plant-eaters; then they try those that have fur versus those without. Neither of these solutions works. Then they try three animals on each side. Of course, the larger ones win. Finally, they line up on the teeter-totter, shifting sides until the board balances. With both teams equal, the effort to win the tug-of-war is also equal. Neither side is victorious until Bear is distracted by the buzz of bees. Though predictable in a number of ways, the story still has enough plot tension to keep children reading. The illustrations, done in pastel shades, have a certain charm that young readers will find inviting. At the end of the book, Kroll gives the four definitions of equal from the viewpoints of math, art, the law, and team sports. This is an additional purchase for those collections needing more math-related books.—*Elaine Lesh Morgan, Multnomah County Library, Portland, OR*

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About the Author

Virginia Kroll

Author Virginia has contributed more than 1500 items to juvenile magazines. She travels throughout the country speaking to children about writing multicultural books. She is the author of many children's books, including *Wood-Hoopoe Willie*, *A Carp for Kimiko*, *Sweet Magnolia*, *Jaha and Jamil Went Down the Hill*, *Hats Off To Hair!*, *Masai and I* (Four Winds Press), and *Butterfly Boy* (Boyds Mill Press). Virginia has a special talent for understanding and communicating with children. Her efforts to cross cultural lines and address multicultural issues have won her the praise of critics and readers. Virginia currently lives in New York with her family.

Philomena O'Neill has illustrated many books for children, including *Really Rabbits* and *The Thanksgiving Bowl*, also by Virginia Kroll. Philomena works in watercolor and is known for her warm and gently humorous illustrations of children and animals. She is a mother of four and a grandmother and lives with family in Seattle, WA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jesse Williams:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to know everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or goal; it means that book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They can be reading whatever they take because their hobby is definitely reading a book. Consider the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book when they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will require this Equal Shmequal.

Rachel Garber:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the guide untitled Equal Shmequal can be very good book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Lisa Vazquez:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Equal Shmequal, you can enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Clara Gay:

Don't be worry if you are afraid that this book may filled the space in your house, you could have it in e-book technique, more simple and reachable. This particular Equal Shmequal can give you a lot of good friends because by you investigating this one book you have point that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This specific book can be one of a step for you to get success. This guide offer you information that might be your friend doesn't realize, by knowing more than various other make you to be great individuals. So , why hesitate? We should have Equal Shmequal.

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