

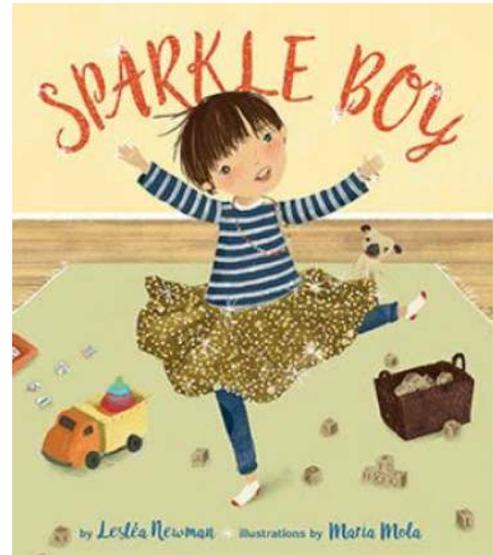


A discussion guide provided by MERGE for Equality

SPARKLE BOY

By Lesléa Newman

Illustrated by Maria Mola



Book Summary:

Casey loves to play with his blocks, puzzles, and dump truck, and he also loves things that shimmer, glitter and sparkle. Casey's older sister, Jessie, thinks this is weird. Shimmery, glittery, sparkly things are only for girls, right? Casey and Jessie head to the library for story time, Casey proudly wears his shimmery skirt and sparkly bracelet. His nails glitter in the light. Jessie insists that Casey looks silly. It's one thing to dress like this around the house, but going outside as a "sparkle boy" is another thing entirely. What will happen when the other kids see him? This sweet and refreshing story speaks to us all about acceptance, respect, and the simple freedom to be yourself. Shimmery, glittery, sparkly things are fun—for everyone!

Why Has MERGE selected this book?

Sparkle Boy reflects an appreciation for flexible gender norms, providing a counter example to rigid, unhealthy and harmful examples of masculinity.

Sparkle Boy boldly and delightfully aligns with the MERGE mission, of transforming masculinity to advance gender equality.

Before reading you may wish to develop background knowledge and anticipation by asking questions such as:

- What do you like to wear? Why?
- Do children pick out their own clothes?
- Why do you think some things children like or enjoy are considered for boys or for girls?
- Have you ever been told you can't do something because it's only for boys or only for girls?

Invite children to be active participants in making meaning of what they see and hear. This helps children thinking critically about the book. While you are reading the story, ask questions such as:

- What do you think the title means?
- Who do you think the book might be about? What makes you think that?
- Throughout the book ask, what do you see happening in the picture? Tell me how the picture says that.



After reading you can help the children communicate what they have learned by asking the following questions. Ask them how the words and pictures communicate their ideas to them. This assists them in thinking critically about what they are seeing and hearing.

- What type of toys, activities and clothing does Casey enjoy?
- How does Casey's family feel about Casey's dress up interests?
- What do the boys at the library think about Casey's dress up choices?
- How do you think the boys came to believe these ideas about what boys should and should not wear?
- What new idea does Jessie realize about gender norms at the end of the story?
- How might this story help your friends and family reconsider ideas about how people should behave based on whether they are seen as a boy or a girl?

About the author: Award-winning author, Lesléa Newman, has penned 70 books for readers of all ages, including *A Letter to Harvey Milk*; *October Mourning: A Song for Matthew Shepard*; *I Carry My Mother*; *The Boy Who Cried Fabulous*; *Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed*; and *Heather Has Two Mommies*. *Heather Has Two Mommies* was the first children's book to portray lesbian families in a positive way. Lesléa added to this pioneering work with several more children's books on lesbian and gay families: *Felicia's Favorite Story*, *Too Far Away to Touch*, *Saturday Is Pattyday*, *Mommy, Mama, and Me*, and *Daddy, Papa, and Me*.

About the illustrator: Maria is a freelance illustrator and artist. She is from Barcelona, Spain, but she currently lives in Chicago with her husband and their two little children. She is passionate about bringing her art to the children's picture book industry. Her clients include Lerner Publishing, Editions Anna Chanel, Pearson, and McGraw-Hill among others. Maria has worked in the educational field and for the trade market and she regularly collaborates with magazines too.

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Wondering if Sparkle Boy is OK for your kids? Parents: Set preferences and get age-appropriate recommendations with Common Sense Media Plus. Join now. Continue reading Show less. Stay up to date on new reviews. Get full reviews, ratings, and advice delivered weekly to your inbox. Subscribe. 1,745 sparkle boy illustrations & vectors are available royalty-free. Reset All Filters. It is a Boy type message with blue sparkle heart. On pale blue plush lined fabric. Fractured Pixel Man Alone Icon and Textured Bad Boy Seal. Man alone icon in sparkle, dotted halftone style and Bad Boy dirty stamp seal. Fragments are grouped. Sparkle Pixel Halftone Electrician Boy Icon. Electrician boy icon in dispersed, pixelated halftone and undamaged entire variants. Particles are organized into. See more of Sparkle boy on Facebook. Log In. or. Create New Account. See more of Sparkle boy on Facebook. Log In. Forgotten account? Im sparkle boy, nagpapaalala sa dadating na halalan please VOTE WISELY. Sparkle boy. 24 September 2018. Di papatalo sa kantahan si mr. sparkle. Sparkle boy updated their cover photo. 24 September 2018. Sparkle boy updated their profile picture. 24 September 2018. Sparkle Boy speaks to us all about acceptance, respect, and the simple freedom to be yourself! (more) View On WordPress. #Lesbian Newman #LGBTQ Diversity #New Releases #Pride Month #Sparkle Boy. sparkle-boy. One would never be less unhappy. This fella's already unhappy though? Sparkle Boy [Leslea Newman] on Amazon.com. *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Sparkle Boy. This item: Sparkle Boy by Leslea Newman Hardcover \$14.94. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Pink Is for Boys by Robb Pearlman Hardcover \$14.46. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com.

Sparkle Boy [Leslea Newman] on Amazon.com. *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Sparkle Boy. Sparkle Boy has been added to your Cart. Add gift options. Buy used Sparkle Boy book. Read 161 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. Casey loves to play with his blocks, puzzles, and dump truck, but he a... We'd love your help. Let us know what's wrong with this preview of Sparkle Boy by Leslea Newman. Problem: It's the wrong book It's the wrong edition Other. Sparkle Boy speaks to us all about acceptance, respect, and the simple freedom to be yourself! (more!) View On WordPress. #LesleaNewman #LGBTQ Diversity #New Releases #Pride Month #Sparkle Boy. sparkle-boy. One would never be less unhappy. This fellow already unhappy though? Sparkle Boy. 11. How does Jessie respond when the boys tease Casey? 12. What do Casey and Jessie do at the end of the story? Extension/Higher Level Thinking. Unlike Jessie, why isn't Casey worried about what others will think? 6. What might Mama, Daddy, and Abuelita be thinking to themselves when Casey asks for a skirt, nail polish, and a sparkly bracelet? 7. What effect do the girl's comments at the library have on the older boy who overhears Casey's response? Why do you think the boy calls over his friend? Sparkle Boy Hardcover " 15 June 2017. by Leslea Newman (Author), Maria Mola (Illustrator). 4.6 out of 5 stars 63 ratings. She wrote this book to celebrate all the "sparkle boys" she knows. Newman lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, with her spouse, Mary Vazquez. MARIA MOLA studied art in Barcelona, Spain, and later at art schools in the United States. She has illustrated picture books for several European publishers and is just breaking into the US picture book market.