

Save Me a Seat

By Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

Annotation

Two fifth grade boys discover friendship can come in unexpected ways. Ravi, an excellent student, moves from India to New Jersey, only to find out that his skills aren't viewed in the same light at his new school, Albert Einstein Elementary School. Joe has always lived in New Jersey, and attended that same school. However, due to his Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) and how he handles situations, he doesn't feel very good about school. Through several events, the boys find out that life isn't always as it first appears.

Book Talk

Life isn't always what it seems at first glance. When Ravi starts in his new school, he wants Dillon as a new friend and thinks Joe is intentionally mean. Joe and Dillon see themselves very differently. As the story unfolds, the truth about each of the three boys comes to light. Read the book to see how the three boys change in one short week.

Book Trailer

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9Nyc8t6KLU&list=PLRNVHjkJ33nPhKKiuIX3L4km72hulxOS1>

Author on the Internet

- Website: <http://sarahweeks.com>
- Twitter: @AuthorWeeks
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Items to use in a library display

- Globe or map
- A copy of *Bud, not Buddy*
- Cricket equipment
- M & M's

Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics

- How do you see Ravi change from the beginning to the end of the book?
- How do you see Dillon change from the beginning to the end of the book?
- How do you see Joe change from the beginning to the end of the book?
- Choose any one scene from the book and describe it from each of the boys' point of view. How are their perceptions different?
- Describe an incident of bullying from each of their viewpoints.

First Line of the Book:

- "Most people in America cannot pronounce my name."

Non-Fiction Companion Titles

- *Bullying Is a Pain in the Brain* by Trevor Romain
- *I Get It! I Get It! How John Figures It Out - One Boy's Journey and Triumph with Auditory Processing Disorder* by Loraine Alderman and Yvonne Capitelli

What to Read Next

- *As Simple as It Seems* by Sarah Weeks
- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio

Other Books by this Author:

- <http://sarahweeks.com/books/>

Additional Resources

- Cooking: There are two recipes in the back of the book.
- Lesson ideas and an interview with the authors:
<http://sarahweeks.com/books/save-me-a-seat/overview>
- Discussion questions and craft ideas:
<http://readingtokids.org/Books/BookView.php?pag=2&bookID=00001304>