

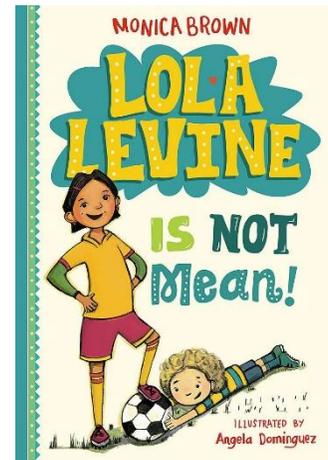


Kids Book Club Kit | Darien Library

Lola Levine is Not Mean! by Monica Brown

Recommended for grades 2 to 3

Summary: Second-grader Lola has a wonderful family, a great teacher, and the best friend ever. When she accidentally hurts a classmate during a soccer game – and is teased as well as forbidden from participating in team sports at recess anymore – Lola must rely on the support of the people she loves *and* learn the importance of apologizing.



Discussion Questions:

1. What problem did Lola have to solve in the story? How did she solve it? What did she learn?
2. Makayla tells Lola that girls can't be best friends with boys. Do you agree? Why or why not?
3. Throughout the story, Lola has trouble fitting in at school. How does she handle this? Have you ever felt like you didn't quite fit in? What did you do to feel better?
4. Think of all the times you noticed Alyssa and Makayla being mean to Lola. Why do you think they treated her this way? What advice would you give Lola to help her the next time someone says something mean to her? What would you do if you were Lola?
5. Like Lola, Monica Brown (the author of the book) is Peruvian and Jewish. What did you learn about Lola's heritage – her family's culture and traditions – in this story? How might Monica and Lola sharing a similar background have helped her write Lola's story?

Further Resources:

The Book Boys Debate: <https://dar.to/3t3h9dS>

Bullying Prevention Resources for Educators and Families: <https://dar.to/3sWl8sC>

Activities

1. Watch the Book Boys Debate video, and then hold your own debate as a group. Is Lola Levine mean or was it all an accident? Draw slips of paper to decide who will argue each side.
2. When Lola's having a hard time talking about something, she writes notes and letters instead. Think about something you've been having a hard time talking to someone about. Try writing that person a letter. If you feel comfortable, share the letter with them.