

*Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns About Sportsmanship:
Winning Isn't Everything
Reviews*

- *The athletes and the kids are loving Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns About Sportsmanship: Winning Isn't Everything. The book and the discussions have been great. Kurt W. Faust, President, S.T.E.P. UP*
- *Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns About Sportsmanship shows kids the importance of being a good sport, and not focusing so much on winning, in a non-preachy manner. Trophies are nice, but it's the joy of playing the game that counts, in the end.-Alice Berger, Berger Book Reviews*
- *This is one of the most exciting books we have received; since sportsmanship is the way we relate to each other. You hit a home run with this one. Everyone is excited. – Gayle Smith, West Navarre Primary, Navarre, Florida*
- *My son has been going through this stage where he gets very upset if he doesn't "get to win" any game we are playing. As soon as I started reading this book to my kids, I knew it was going to be a hit. In addition to the great story about how Howard learned to be a team player, and not just think about himself, there are suggestions and lessons in the appendix of the book showing how to use the story to help teach your own kids. –mommybunch.com*
- *Thank you for writing to us to be respectful for other people. –Ilia, First grader, Sherman Oaks, California*

- *My students didn't have a grasp of the word "sportsmanship" before we started reading the book. They thought it was just "play nice", "do your best," and even "try hard to always win." After reading the book, we had great conversation and they did a drawing/write about how they could be a good sport and use sportsmanship. They did some great work; we made a class book which they love to read. It's very important to teach them the correct vocabulary, like "sportsmanship" the word "nice" and even "fair" can be vague without good clarifications for children.* Teri Poulos, Golden West Elementary, Manteca, California
- *The kids made connections and stayed engaged while learning a lesson...Many of them said, "I know a Howard." I love all the Howard books. I have used them throughout the year to teach lessons.* -Kathy Navarra, Chalker Elementary, Kennesaw, Georgia
- *This is a VERY important book to be read and re-read- especially in elementary school! Many kids are very competitive and always like to win! They have a very hard time losing and either cry or blame someone else-they need to learn that you can't always win and that there is more to playing sports than winning!* -Erin Gaffney, Forest Avenue Elementary, Hudson, Massachusetts
- *Kids need to be reminded about sportsmanship and good behavior as it applies to so many areas in life and especially because it may not be taught at home.* -Leigh Fox, Sollars Elementary, Misawa Air Force Base, Japan
- *Children's sense of ethics makes this an appealing book; and their experience of sportsmanship (or lack of good*

sportsmanship) helps them understand the theme and character. Martha Gutierrez, Sherman Oaks Elementary, Sherman Oaks California.

- *Cooperating and working together, not just winning, are important concepts to discuss with young children. My students have a lot of difficulty with these concepts.* Lori Kotarba, Kincaid Elementary, Marietta, Georgia
- *The PE coaches thought that it was an important subject to go over and over again since competition is a difficult concept for some children to understand. It can be an icebreaker for a meaningful conversation about how to treat others. Some of the students made the comment that their dad or mom is like the one in the book that yells, or have seen it happen, even in the coaches.* –Gayle Smith, West Navarre Primary, Navarre, Florida
- *The story clearly reflects the importance of being a team player and the need to respect others. It tells a clear story* –JoAnne De Graaf, Peel Alternative School South, Mississauga, Ontario Canada
- *Students have a hard time learning how to be a good sport. This book helps. It lets students see how silly they look sometimes.* –Jenny Bondy, Iveland Elementary, St. Louis, Missouri
- *Wow! The children were very engaged and they understood the message with ease. Young children need to read books that teach these important values* –Shari Miller, Golden West Elementary, Manteca, California

- *Led to a discussion about self-respect and self-control. – Bobbie Francis, Garden Elementary, Venice, Florida*
- *Children need reinforcement with sportsmanship. They can tell you the correct thing to do, but “showing” the actions is more difficult. – Lori Stock, Glen Alpine Elementary, Morganton, North Carolina*
- *Absolutely love this book. Very much needed. -Renee Keeler, Lee Elementary, Los Alamitos, California*
- *This is a great story for all age to introduce the topic of sportsmanship and what it means to work together as a team. It is extremely appropriate in Kindergarten where children are learning to share, play nicely and fairly with each other. – Natalie LaBose,*

Walt Disney Magnet School, Chicago, Illinois

- *The children made connections to real life experiences on the playground. They were focused during the read aloud and laughed out loud frequently. One student learned a valuable lesson from this book. He has had a difficult time being a team player all year. Many of the behaviors that Howard demonstrated were similar to this boy’s behavior. This story helped him make connections and hopefully will change his behavior in the future. –Deborah Tenhove, Victoria Avenue Elementary, South Gate, California*
- *Students need to hear this message in story form. My students got it! Extremely appropriate as third graders still have problems playing well together in the yard. My students loved the book! They begged me to read it again.*

I think the reason they loved the book is because it deal with problems they face every day. -Pat Michel, Victoria Avenue Elementary, South Gate, California

- *Students were able to relate. It is a very common issue with students. They need to be constantly reminded on such topics (ethics). It focuses on the importance of ethics and how we as teachers must reinforce it. Martha Leon, Victoria Avenue Elementary, South Gate, California*
- *It teaches children how to be polite and kind. It's all about being respectful to others and not just winning. It is on target and will hold the child's interest. -Cheryl Williams, Victoria Avenue Elementary, South Gate, California*
- *Very appropriate because children have a difficult time working as a team. Young kids have a hard time being good sports and how you play the game and treat your teammates is an important lesson. -Laurene O'Malley, Sherman Oaks Elementary, Sherman Oaks, California*
- *The message is an important lesson for every grade. Shirley Sofer, Sherman Oaks Elementary, Sherman Oaks, California*
- *The book describes a character who is a poor sport. The examples of bad behavior catches the reader's attention. The use of an adult behaving badly shows the students that even adults get into trouble for being bad sports...I had a particular student who was having trouble understanding how he wasn't a good sport. I was able to talk with him and compare his behavior to Howard's He is more aware and is now trying to change. Susan Eden, Sherman Oaks Elementary, Sherman Oaks, California*

- *Thank you for making such wonderful books. I can read them for fun and teach a lesson at the same time. Perfect!*
–Mrs. Gulalian, Sherman Oaks Elementary, Sherman Oaks, California
- *You wrote an amazing story!* –Ella, second grader, Sherman Oaks, California
- *The story was totally rad.* –Hayley, second grader, Sherman Oaks, California
- *The good thing about your story is when Howard B. Wigglebottom at the end was a good sportsmanship.* – Marcell, first grader, Sherman Oaks, California
- *I liked the book you made. It was good thinking,* Roman, Second grader, Sherman Oaks, California
- *The message was clear...the kids were engaged...it sends an important message.* Megan Hankins, Iveland Elementary, St. Louis, Missouri
- *We have many issues with inappropriate attitudes. This book can easily be integrated into the curriculum.* M. Middel, Hartsdale Avenue Public School, Mississauga, Ontario.
- *These age children are still so egocentric and only think of themselves. It's nice to show the character change throughout the story.* -Amy Bontrager, Lamarque Elementary, North Port, Florida

- *Perfect-not too wordy-gets to the point-easily understood.* - Elaine Stewart, Lamarque Elementary, North Port, Florida
- *It is time children learn that winning is not everything and that it is okay to finish second.* –Suzi Shepherd, Lamarque Elementary, North Port, Florida
- *It is an important book because it keeps reminding us to use good manners and what we do and how we act is what shows our character.* Merrily Sproat, Kincaid Elementary, Marietta, Georgia.
- *Parents might learn from this too.* Kathy Rule, Garden Elementary, Venice Florida
- *Brought a lot of discussion with my students.* –Mrs. Nev, Garden Elementary, Venice, Florida
- *Students can be very competitive and need to understand the importance of teamwork.* -Julie Capron, Garden Elementary, Venice, Florida
- *I loved the book! It was an accurate depiction of how competitive children have become and the ways to handle disappointments in an acceptable way.* –Pricilla Cady, Garden Elementary, Venice, Florida
- *It taught sportsmanship through kid-friendly language and easy for kids to understand the message.* –Elissa Kinison, Chalker Elementary, Kennesaw, Georgia
- *Children are put in competitive situations all the time at home and at school. They need to understand that as long*

as they do their best and are fair with one another, it's a win-win regardless of 1st, 2nd or no place. –Mimi Savio,
Bossier Parish Schools, Bossier City, Louisiana