



Can I Play Too? (An Elephant and Piggie Book)

By Mo Willems

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Gerald is careful. Piggie is not. Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can.

Gerald and Piggie are best friends.

In *Can I Play Too?* Gerald and Piggie meet a new snake friend who wants to join in a game of catch. But don't you need arms to catch?

Mo Willems' Geisel Award-winning duo never fails to tickle readers of all ages. Like previous Elephant & Piggie Books, this adventure has been vetted by an early learning specialist and emerging learners themselves. It turns reading into play!

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Can I Play Too? (An Elephant and Piggie Book) By Mo Willems Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 2—This beginning reader focuses on differently abled animals as Elephant and Piggy get ready for a game of catch. Before they begin, Snake asks to join them. Simple gestures and facial expressions convey Elephant's embarrassment at Snake's inability to catch a ball. Piggy breaks the silence stating, "You don't have arms!" and Snake dejectedly slithers away. On the next page, Snake diffuses his rejection by saying, "Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! I know I do not have arms./I am a snake." Elephant asks, "But can a snake play catch?" The story moves from clever to cruel as Elephant throws the ball and hits Snake on the head, and the reptile's expressions indicate distress. Piggy follows suit, with the same result. Then Elephant decides, "Maybe we need more balls," and the next spread shows Elephant and Piggy bombarding Snake with balls, each one hitting him with a "BONK!" and Snake upside down in anguish. Then Piggy gets the idea to use Snake as the ball. Snake happily says, "Whee!" to which Piggy replies, "I love playing catch with my friends!" While all ends on a positive note, Jeanne Willis's *Susan Laughs* (Holt, 2000) and Grace Maccarone's *The Gym Day Winner* (Scholastic, 1996) offer more respectful treatments of inclusion. *Laura Scott, Farmington Community Library, MI*

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From [Booklist](#)

As is often the case in Elephant and Piggie's adventures, they start this one in bliss—happily planning to play catch. But then Snake shows up, and, boy, he'd like to play, too. Once again, Willems wrings maximum humor and melodrama out of spare pencil drawings and the simplest of setups. Snake, you see, is not like Elephant and Piggie—he has no arms—and this allows Willems to take on understanding differences, accepting shortcomings, and sticking up for friends. A minor entry into the series, perhaps, but a worthy one. *Preschool-Grade 2. --Daniel Kraus*

Review

The latest Elephant and Piggie book displays all the snappy pacing and wry humor readers have come to expect of the Geisel Medal winning series, with a valuable lesson in friendship and flexibility tucked inside. Gerald and Piggie decide to play catch, but when Snake slithers up asking to play too, they are a bit dubious. "You do not want to play with me?" Snake asks sadly. "No!" exclaims Gerald. "We do want to play with you. / But..." "We are playing catch," Piggie explains. "With our arms," Gerald elaborates. "So?" says Snake. This awkward moment resolves with the three friends trying to play catch, with predictable results ("BONK!"). More balls ("BONK! BONK! BONK! BONK!...") isn't the answer, but then Piggie has an idea (illustrated by a compact fluorescent light bulb) that provides the ideal solution. Page turns and placement of speech bubbles are customarily flawless, yielding multiple guffaws, but this story also provides much-needed guidance to kids who are navigating the etiquette minefield of friendship among peers of differing abilities. Brilliantly subtle and spot-on. *Kirkus*"

This beginning reader focuses on differently abled animals as Elephant and Piggy get ready for a game of catch. Before they begin, Snake asks to join them. Simple gestures and facial expressions convey Elephant's embarrassment at Snake's inability to catch a ball. Piggy breaks the silence stating, "You don't have arms!" and Snake dejectedly slithers away. On the next page, Snake diffuses his rejection by saying, "Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! I know I do not have arms./I am a snake." Elephant asks, "But can a snake play catch?" The story moves from clever to cruel as Elephant throws the ball and hits Snake on the head, and the reptile's expressions indicate distress. Piggy follows suit, with the same result. Then Elephant

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Minerva Garrison:

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Angela Strange:

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Carolyn Rodriguez:

The book *Can I Play Too? (An Elephant and Piggie Book)* will bring you to the new experience of reading a book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to read, this book very appropriate to you. The book *Can I Play Too? (An Elephant and Piggie Book)* is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Dennis Sellers:

In this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you must do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of many books in the top list in your reading list is *Can I Play Too? (An Elephant and Piggie Book)*. This book which is qualified as *The Hungry Mountains* can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking right up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

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