



# Learn to be Buddies

Building resilience and strengthening friendships through story-telling.

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## What is *Learn to be Buddies*?

*Learn to be Buddies* is a series of picture books being developed for children aged between 3 and 6 years. Each book uses realistic pictures and true-to-life storylines to demonstrate specific values or social skills in a fun and engaging way.

Activity plans, games, songs and the book read aloud will be available for each book (sold separately or as a pack). The activity plans provide discussion points and activity ideas focusing on each book's core values or skills with the aim of helping children use these in everyday life. All other products are designed to reinforce this. The supplementary materials are provided on CD and/or DVD.

## *Dave is Brave*

*Dave is Brave* is the first book in the *Learn to be Buddies* series. It tells the story of Dave as he defends himself and his friends from Golly, who is being a bully.



"Golly was a bully when  
He didn't act like a friend  
He'd ride around and knock kids down.  
He didn't care he wouldn't share...."

But Dave was brave... and he had had enough.

" He made a stand,  
held up his hand,  
put up his head  
and said...  
STOP!"

Golly then realises what he has been doing. He says, "Sorry"... and they all play happily together.

To find out more, visit [www.learn2bebuddies.com.au](http://www.learn2bebuddies.com.au)

To read articles by Amanda, visit  
[www.learn2bebuddies.blogspot.com](http://www.learn2bebuddies.blogspot.com)

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## *Dave is Brave* is for all children

The pictures and text of *Dave is Brave* were designed for children of all abilities. They work together to explicitly model social, emotional and language skills.



From it children can learn to say "stop!" to defend themselves, or "Can I play?" to join in games. They can learn to tell the difference between rough and assertive behaviour. They can also learn about body language, facial expressions and empathy.

These skills are important for all children. But for children with disabilities such as Autism, Down Syndrome, ADHD or hearing impairments they need to be explicitly taught. This is the value of *Dave is Brave*.

## Feedback from customers

A customer working in early intervention services said: "This is a great resource and very economical. I felt the story was very appropriate for 4-7 year olds and I liked the song."

Of course, *Dave is Brave* can also be read just for fun. When introduced to the book, my little nephew asked for it to be read again and again.

A special education teacher said:

"My kids loved the *Dave is Brave* song and story. I think we will wear it out!"

## The author and illustrator

Amanda Gray, the author, educates undergraduate teachers about including children with disabilities in mainstream classrooms. She worked as an early childhood and special education teacher for a number of years before moving into teaching at University.



Daniel East, the illustrator, is also a teacher. He worked in primary schools until several years ago when he set up his own business to follow his passion for the arts.