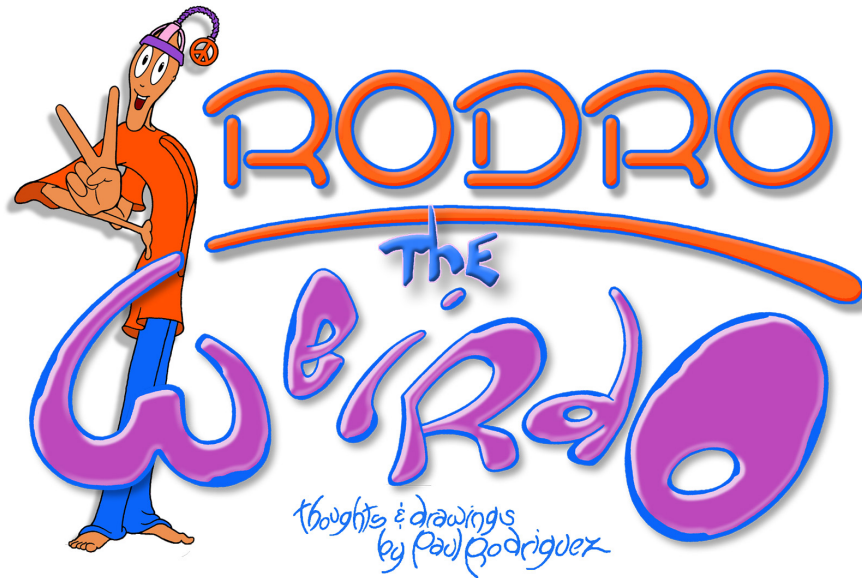


SEL Discussion Guide



SEL FOCUS • Self-Awareness/Mindfulness

- Positive Self-Talk
- Individuality
- Pride
- Courage
- Creativity

PREVIEW



©Rodro2021

RODRO THE WEIRDO

Here's why this book is important!

This book teaches our children to believe in themselves.

There are lots of days that make us say—

“It’s not easy being me!”

Whether it’s a bad day or a bully, we may not feel very special.
Our inner voice may say, “I’m not worth anything.”

And therein lies one of the great secrets of our happiness, we must overcome feelings of worthlessness with a superior sense of *value*.
We all need to feel VALUABLE.

In this story, Rodro is a weird kid with lots of talents that make him feel special. However, his true happiness lies in his acceptance and appreciation of the things that make him uniquely him.

Through friendship and recognition of the importance of simply being kind to others, he discovers and develops his *Positive Personal Value*.
Rodro learns to love himself.

The voice in our head can help us develop our *Positive Personal Value*. We just need to keep our self-talk positive. Then, as Rodro does in the story, we must take action to make that positive self-talk a reality.

We must strive every day to help our children do the same. They must discover their value through positive self-talk and then engage in actions that make them believe in their value.

This book teaches our children to believe in themselves.

However you are — shine like a star!



Dear Parent,

Thank you for purchasing this Rodro book and welcome to Rodro Books and Education.

When it comes to parents bonding with their children, the bedtime story is one of our oldest, most cherished, and valuable traditions. Throughout history, all parents, all around the world, have passed along life's lessons to their children through the wonderful and instructional stories of their cultures. Yet, within this tradition, we tend to take for granted the most important part— answering the questions of our children's endlessly curious brains. I recognize and value the vital role that discussing these questions plays in shaping their hearts and minds. This is what inspired me to design the Rodro book collection specifically for parents, educators, and children to share.

No matter who does the reading (child, parent, or educator), there is plenty for you and your children to share and explore together. Below, you will find Rodro's Discussion Guides with Convo-Questions about each story's character-enriching, social-emotional themes. As the name implies, it's more than just a question and answer; it's questions that stimulate conversations and lead to learning. The type of learning that enables our children to analyze, internalize, and utilize the knowledge they acquire.

One of the essential functions of the books is to provide a safe space to discuss issues that can be emotional or awkward. When children can refer to the experiences of the characters in a story, it is much easier to discuss embarrassing or uncomfortable events such as bullying. Then, careful observation and sensitivity to our children's input can lead to valuable sharing of their feelings. When you create a safe and trusting space for discussion, you may be able to alleviate traumas lurking beneath the surface and help

PREVIEW

Learning that begins with Rodro's stories and Convo-Questions and expands with Rodro's programs, educational materials, and learning tools. Rodro's educational resources help you provide your children with the essential character-enriching and social-emotional learning skills that they need to succeed.

Compassionately Yours,

Paul Rodriguez

Rodro the Weirdo



Story Summary and Analysis

This section is for parents and educators who are interested in learning more about Social-Emotional Learning and related topics. It is not essential to the Convo-Questions and the learning that goes with them. This analysis just adds more information to the “Here’s why this book is important!” page.

What is weird? Weird doesn’t mean wrong— it just means different. When Rodro weirds-out and wins, he realizes different isn’t bad; it’s what makes him matter.

The Rodro the Weirdo story addresses a combination of Self-Awareness, Mindfulness, and Positive Personal Value. As with all Rodro books, Rodro the Weirdo has been written not just as a delightful story of success but as a social-emotional education tool for parents and educators.

Children targeted by bullies often have an internal dialog of fear and doubt that they feel embarrassed or scared to be different. In this book Rodro does the opposite, and he feels confident and proud of his differences. He is not afraid to stand up for himself and to be different. He is confident and proud of his differences. He is not afraid to stand up for himself and to be different. He is confident and proud of his differences. He is not afraid to stand up for himself and to be different.

PREVIEW

They called me a weirdo for acting that way.
Is that nice — or mean? — What do you say?

In the story, I use repeating “Is that _____ or _____? What do you say?” phrases. These provide an opportunity to discuss positive and negative self-talk and a positive mindset that leads to positive actions.

In the following stanza, we find the *self-efficacy and self-confidence* of Self-Awareness, the *awareness of feelings* of Mindfulness, and just for good measure, the *cognitive flexibility* of Executive Function.

Maybe, I'll just have to call it a day?
Or— maybe I'll find a good friend and go play?
Just like the next kid, I love a good game.
Except, I get bored if it's always the same.
That's why I make up new games of my own;
they're more fun than any game you've ever known.

FOCUS QUESTION

How can the voice in your head help you stay positive?

CONVO-QUESTIONS

When provided, refer to book page(s) to use the text and illustrations to support answers. Model this process for your children. Encourage responses with explanations, then discuss the responses provided.

1. What was your favorite part of the story? Why?

2. What does the word “weird” mean?

Answer: *Weird means out of the ordinary. When something is different from what you usually see. Strange and unusual or unexpected.*

3. What does “cool” mean?

Answer: *Someone or something that you like or admire. Someone or something that you think is outstanding.*

Use this picture collage as a reference to answer the questions below.



PREVIEW