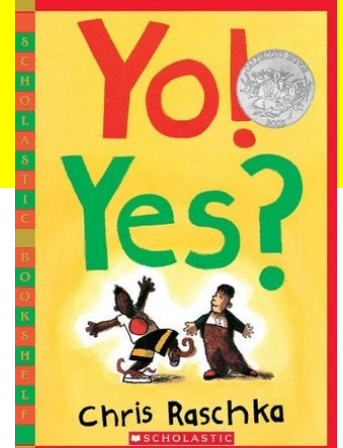


## Pre-K Essential Literature

### Yo! Yes? by Chris Raschka



- Share a time in your past when you were new to a group and made a new friend.
- Act out how to make friends with someone or how someone made friends with you.
- What would happen if someone walked by and ignored you? How would you feel?
- Make up gestures for Yo and Yes and do them each time you hear them in the story.
- Notice the size of the print changes along with the color. Why is that?
- Make a another word to express joy of having a friend.
- Draw a picture of something you would like to do with a friend.
- What is if your friend makes friends with someone else? Draw how you feel?
- Come up with some other words that can mean yo and yes.

#### What's Up— Math Measurement

- Music and rhythm teach children to recognize patterns. Recognizing patterns is one of the first steps in learning to read and an important early math skill. As the children to look at sizes on and volume of sounds.
- Invite children to sing and see how loud and quiet they can get. Measure the sound and how loud or quiet they can become.

#### Yo My Friend— Music

- Write a song about being a good friend and what makes a good friend.
- Make a friendship circle and talk about what that is. Talk about letting new friends in and sing *Make New Friends* in the circle.

#### You Are My Good Friend

- Making friends is a skill that all children are constantly learning to do. Often times the easiest lesson comes from learning how treat others. Discuss how to treat others and how to make friends
- Sometimes it is hard to make friends when you are new to an area. Discuss with your child how to welcome a new child to the neighborhood and group of friends.

#### Friends

Friends come in all different sizes, colors and shapes. Trace several body shapes and have the children to make different types of friends.

## Looking beyond the cover: Yo! Yes?

### About the Author

Caldecott Honor-winning author and illustrator Chris Raschka likes to take chances. Employing only thirty-four well-chosen words in his book *Yo! Yes?*, and artwork that *Publishers Weekly* contributor Diane Roback dubbed "brash, witty, and offbeat," Raschka manages to convey volumes about not only the process of making friends, but also about race relations and the subtle nuances of emotion. His *Charlie Parker Played Be Bop*, constructed like a jazz piece with its text forming the rhythm and cadence of be bop, "stretched the definition of picture book," according to Roback in another *Publishers Weekly* review. Raschka is a chance-taker in his private life as well: accepted to medical school in the early 1980s, he made an eleventh-hour decision to forego the financial security of a doctor's life for the risk and reward of being a freelance artist. It is a decision he has never regretted. Raschka credits Vladimir Radunsky, a picture book artist with whom he later collaborated, with having been the inspiration for moving to New York to be nearer opportunities to illustrate children's books.



### More Interactive Read Alouds

Interactive read alouds are amazing for emerging, reluctant and non-readers. The music, call and response, repetition, simplicity and other techniques empower children to read these books even before they can really read. They are outstanding for story time.

For close reading, ask children to describe what happens to the friendship with the two boys? Will other friends be allowed to join their group?

Here's a list of some of our favorite interactive read alouds:

*Jump, Frog, Jump!* By Robert Kalan

*Yo! Yes?* By Chris Raschka

*Down by the Cool of the Pool* by Tony Mitton

*Go Away Big Green Monster* by Ed Emberley

*Press Here* by Herve Tullet

*Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock* by Eric Kimmell

### Check it out!

Like *Yo! Yes?* Here are some other great books to check out at Nashville Public Library about friends:

- The Best Friends Book*
- George and Martha*
- Toot's Puddle*
- Hunter's Best Friend at School*
- Making Friends*

