



Read to Me News

From Your Library & Idaho's Read to Me Program

Talking about *Amazing Grace*

Amazing Grace is a great book to talk about with your child. Here's a few questions and ideas to get the ball rolling:

Talk about some positive characteristics about Grace that made it possible for her to play Peter Pan.

Find another book that focuses on persistence and believing in yourself. Think of ways that the main character in this book is similar to and different from Grace.

How important is effort (working hard) and motivation to success?

If you were Grace, how would you have handled the peer pressure (like the other students' comments)?

In your opinion, is it okay for Grace to play Peter Pan? Why or why not.

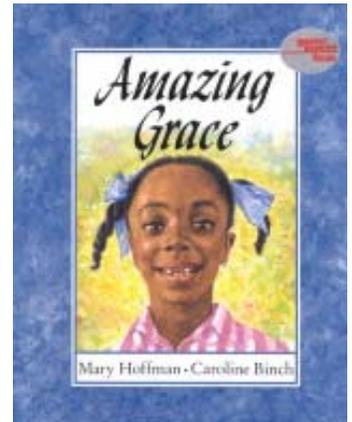
What did you like or dislike about the book? Would you recommend this book to other students? Why? What do you like or dislike about Grace? About her family?

Talk about one feeling that Grace had when classmates told her that she could not play Peter Pan. Talk with each other about how it feels to be treated unfairly. Find something (e.g., look on a face) in the story that suggests how Grace felt about the students' comments and talk about it.

What would you do if someone treated you unfairly?

Book of the Month

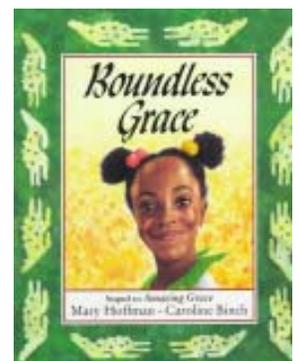
Amazing Grace, by Mary Hoffman.
Illustrated by Caroline Binch.



Grace loves to act out her favorite stories, taking every part. But when her class learns that they will be doing Peter Pan, the other kids tell Grace she can't have the lead: Peter's neither black nor a girl. Fortunately, Nana and Ma have confidence in Grace's ability, and at the tryouts the class also agrees that Grace is best.

Mary Hoffman has written more than 80 books. You can read more about her at www.maryhoffman.co.uk/. If you enjoy reading *Amazing Grace*, here are some other books that follow the adventures of Grace:

Boundless Grace. In this sequel, Grace is accompanied by her Grandmother for a visit with her father and his new family in Gambia.



Mary Hoffman has also written three chapter books about Grace.

Starring Grace (2000), *Encore, Grace!* (2003), and *Bravo Grace!* (2004) follow Grace as she gets older and goes through changes at home and at school.

