



THE ONLY ONE CLUB

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As the only Jewish child in her class, a young girl not only learns that each person is unique but is able to share this understanding with her classmates.

What a mature and healthy reaction Jennifer has to the realization that she is the only Jewish child in her class at school. She recognizes her different-ness and chooses to celebrate it! Most children want to be part of the crowd, yet wish to stand out. This first-grader manages both with pizzazz!

FAMILY DISCUSSION

The Only One Club lends itself to great family discussion. Here are some questions to explore:

- Why did Jennifer decide to form The Only One Club? Why didn't she want the other kids to be part of her club? Why did she decide in the end to include them?
- In Jennifer's class, everyone is the "only one" of something. What characteristics make you, your family, and your friends unique?
- Have you ever been in a situation in which you felt like the "only one"? How did you handle this?

UNIQUE AND VALUABLE

Central within Jewish thought is the concept that each individual is unique and of infinite value. While people can be remarkably similar, they are never the same; every person offers the world something uniquely his or her own. Recognizing this should lead us to treat each other with the highest regard, as well as teach us that no person is better than another. According to Jewish law, "This is why human beings are created as individuals: to teach us that anyone who destroys a single life, it is as though he has destroyed an entire world, and anyone who saves a single life, it is as though he has saved the entire world. And it brings peace between human beings, for no person can say, 'My father was greater than yours.'"