

# I Just Don't Like the Sound of

# NO!

(How about MAYBE?)

My story about accepting  
'No' for an answer and  
disagreeing ... the right way!

Written by **Julia Cook**  
Illustrated by **Kelsey De Weerd**



Includes Audio Book  
read by Julia Cook

“Julia Cook understands the hearts and minds of children, and their struggles to develop appropriate social responses. Her books tell a story with fun and imagination. Julia makes addressing bad habits an exciting adventure for growing and changing, for becoming emotionally and socially healthy young people!”

– Diana Waggoner, Executive Director, The Kim Foundation



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Illustrated by Kelsey De Weerd

*To Austin and Mikala  
~ Julia*

**BOYS TOWN**  
Press

Boys Town, Nebraska

## I Just Don't Like the Sound of NO!

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(Book and Audio Book)

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(Best me I can be)

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Includes book plus audio CD read by the author.

Audience: grades K-6.

Summary: Shows readers the steps to the fundamental social skills of accepting "no" and disagreeing appropriately. When RJ learns to use these skills the right way, he finds that rewards come his way, instead of arguments.

1. Children--Life skills guides--Juvenile fiction. 2. Obedience--Juvenile fiction. 3. Conflict (Psychology)--Juvenile fiction. 4. Interpersonal communication--Juvenile fiction. 5. Frustration--Juvenile fiction. 6. [Obedience--Fiction. 7. Conflict (Psychology)--Fiction. 8. Interpersonal communication--Fiction. 9. Frustration--Fiction.] I. De Weerd, Kelsey. II. Series: Best me I can be (Boys Town).

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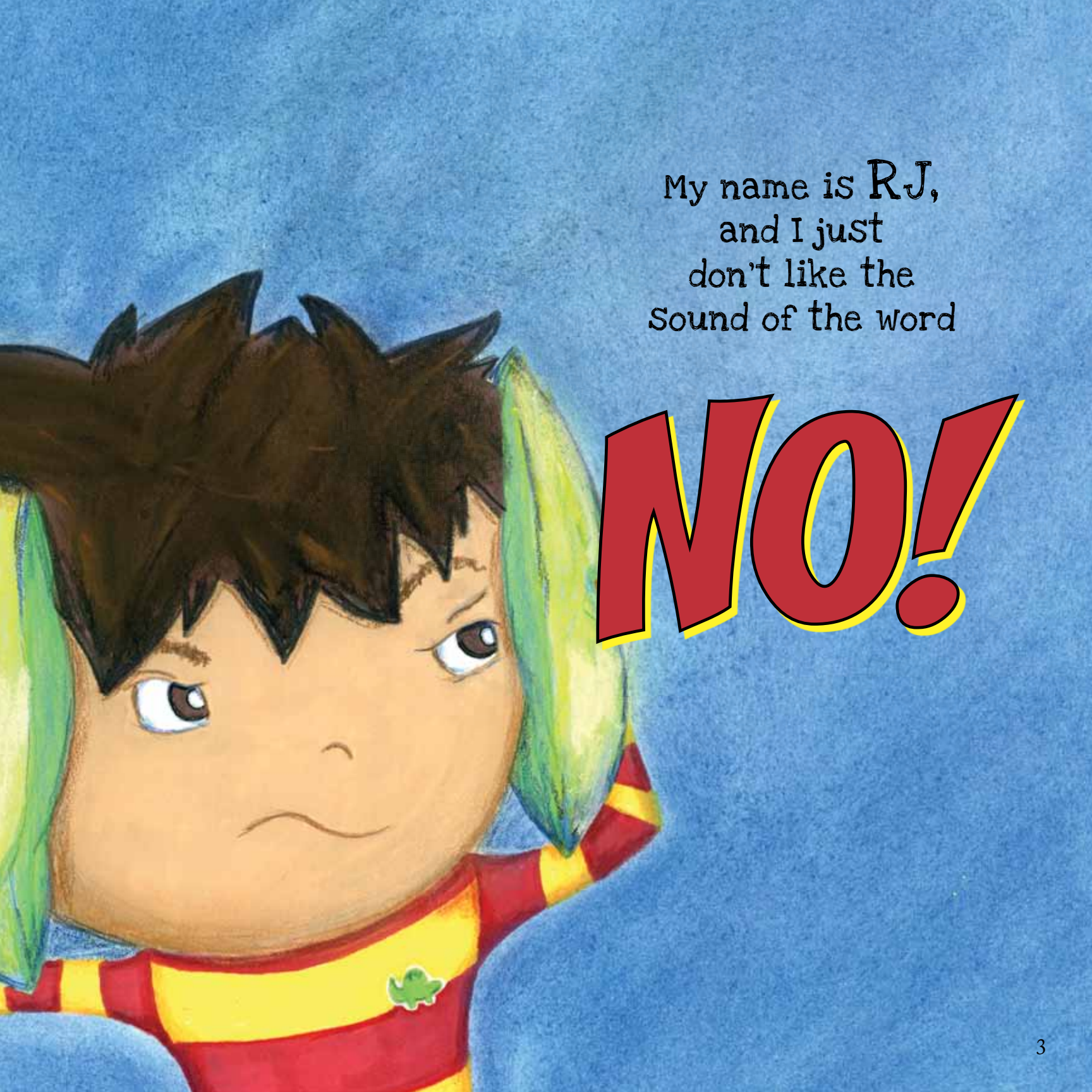
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My name is RJ,  
and I just  
don't like the  
Sound of the word

**NO!**






A few days ago, I was at the store with my dad. I saw a box of Smelly markers that I really, really wanted.



"Dad," I asked. "Can you buy these for me?"

"No," he said.

## Tips for Parents and Educators

-  Always try to give genuine verbal praise to children whenever they accept “No” for an answer or when they disagree appropriately.
-  If a child will not take “No” for an answer, and you reward this child by “giving in,” that child will learn that “No” doesn’t mean “No”... it means “Keep trying!”
-  When giving a child a reason for saying “No,” be concise and to the point. A long, drawn-out explanation is neither necessary nor productive. You can always explain your reasons at a better, more appropriate time, i.e., when your child is calm.
-  When a child disagrees with you appropriately, reward the behavior by actively listening to what the child is telling you.
-  Parents and educators need to set rules and boundaries for children, establish reasonable consequences when they are violated, and follow through with the consequences you have set.



Activity Guide for Teachers  
and Poster Set are also available!



Includes classroom ideas for teaching skills and CD with reproducible worksheets.

\$19.95

ISBN 978-1-934490-27-3



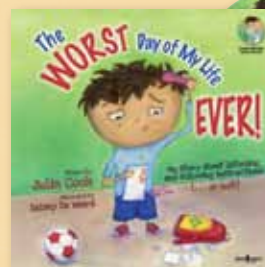
18" by 22" poster set reminds students of the steps to accepting “No” and disagreeing.

\$9.95

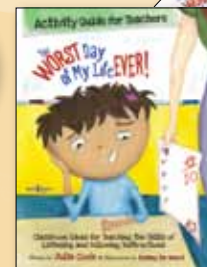
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## 'No' is RJ's least favorite word...

and he tries his best to convince his dad, his mom, and his teacher to turn "No" into "Maybe" or "We'll see" or "Later" or "I'll think about it." Even though he doesn't have much success, RJ keeps arguing until his teacher suggests that he try to join her classroom's *Say YES to NO Club*. If RJ can learn how to accept "No" for an answer and to disagree appropriately with his teacher and parents, he can add his name to the club's Star Board. RJ finds that lots of praise and some rewards come his way when he uses these skills the right way!

Author Julia Cook helps K-6 readers laugh and learn along with RJ as he understands the benefits of demonstrating these social skills both at home and in school. Tips for parents and educators on how to teach and encourage kids to use the skills of accepting "No" for an answer and disagreeing appropriately are included in the book.

*I Just Don't Like the Sound of NO!* is another title in the *BEST ME I Can Be!* series of books from the Boys Town Press to teach children social skills that can make home life happier and school more successful.

Children can also listen to the author's entertaining rendition of RJ's story on the accompanying CD. One track features the text only while a second track includes cues on when to turn the page for youngsters just learning to read.



"Julia Cook does it again! She uses her creative ideas to teach kids the skills they need to grow socially. This book teaches all people how to accept "No" for an answer in a non-threatening way. I'm excited to add this to my counseling library. Finally, the Boys Town Social Skill model is being brought to life and all of us will benefit from it."

– Laurel Klaassen, M.S., Elementary School Counselor



JULIA COOK is a former teacher and school counselor who has written more than a dozen books for children. Her light, humorous approach keeps kids laughing while they're learning good behavior skills. She has received the *Association for Educational Publishers Distinguished Achievement Award*.

KELSEY DE WEERD is a graphic artist and illustrator in Los Angeles.



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