



2021 – 2022
Children's Book Award Finalist
Elementary Grade Levels K-2



Swing
Greenwillow Books



Michael Hall
Author & Illustrator

Summary

"It's recess! Four letters (O, V, E, and L) race to the playground to claim the swings. In several pages of recess banter and bullying, one letter is told it's too round, one is from the wrong end of the alphabet, and one is a vowel and therefore not welcome.

What does it take to save the day? Kindness . . . and a heavenly and joyful swing. And what do the letters—friends now because of their shared experience—spell when they finally come back to Earth? LOVE." (amazon.com)

Genre

Fiction

Book Conversation

After reading the story aloud, you may use the following questions to prompt a book conversation with students.

- What are some differences between you and your friends?
- What are some ways to solve issues with your friends?
- What do you think made the letters be nice to each other?

Florida Statute 1003.42.2 requires that K-12 public school instructional staff teach specific character education, cultural, and historical topics. This book may assist teachers in partial fulfillment of that requirement.

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1003/Sections/1003.42.html



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Extension Activities

1. Before reading, the students will have to describe the physical appearance of the letter characters of the story. In the middle of the book the students will write down what they think each character is like at that point in the story. At the end they would then write down how each of the letters felt towards each other.
2. The students will have a chart that reflects the beginning, middle, and end of the book. In each phase of the book the students will describe the feelings of the characters. They would then compare the attitude changes in the characters.

Websites

Meet the Author- Michael Hall: <https://www.michaelhallstudio.com/>

Read aloud: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HokAym7p_Zs

Diversity and Multicultural Features

Characters: bullying and acceptance are themes among characters