



Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School

David Mackintosh

Download now

Read Online →

Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School

David Mackintosh

Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School David Mackintosh

Marshall Armstrong is new to school and definitely stands out from the crowd, with his pale skin, perpetual hats, and special “space food” lunches that come in silver wrappers. He doesn’t play sports, and he doesn’t watch television. So when he invites everyone in class over for his birthday party, it’s sure to be a disaster. Or is it? Marshall Armstrong might have a trick or two up his long, “sun protective” sleeve. David Mackintosh’s story, with its bold design and sharply humorous observations, is a highly original take on the popular theme of the difficulties of being the new kid and making friends.

Praise for *Marshall Armstrong is New to Our School*

« “Mackintosh’s beautifully underplayed text and genial drawings manage to be empathic to both the leery narrator and the serenely outré object of his misapprehension. Without a whiff of pedantry, Mackintosh (*Rex*) skillfully dismantles the narrator’s defenses and bonds him to Marshall Armstrong, all the while proving that fun doesn’t always fit within the confines of one’s comfort zone.” –*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School Details

Date : Published August 1st 2011 by Harry N. Abrams (first published March 28th 2011)

ISBN : 9781419700361

Author : David Mackintosh

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Academic, School, Humor

 [Download Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School David Mackintosh

From Reader Review Marshall Armstrong Is New to Our School for online ebook

Amy Forrester says

Marshall Armstrong is the new kid at school and his desk mate, the boy narrator of this book, thinks he's different. Marshall Armstrong eats "space food" at lunch. He reads during recess because his doctor says he can't play. Marshall Armstrong doesn't even have a TV at home, instead he prefers to read the newspaper. But everything changes when the class is invited to Marshall Armstrong's birthday party. Marshall Armstrong turns out to be a great new kid, even if he's different from the rest of the class.

The artwork grabbed me from page one with stunning layouts and humorous juxtapositions. Marshall Armstrong is a delightfully unique fellow, showing up to the first day of class in a straw boater and a striped blazer. Mackintosh blends traditional and digital techniques; the characters look hand drawn, but their world is accented by college and found object elements. The text is humorous as well and I especially love the wonderful descriptive phrases: "Marshall Armstrong's ear looks like a shell. His hair reminds me of driving in the countryside to visit Grandma." The text and illustrations support one another very well and each heightens the descriptive power of the other.

Full Review at Picture-Book-a-Day: <http://picturebookaday.blogspot.com/2...>

Jala Collins says

Text-to-World Connection:

"Marshall Armstrong doesn't look anything like us!" Sounds a bit familiar? This prejudgement gesture is commonly thought about quietly and even said sometimes aloud. People tend to treat others bad or keep a stand-off approach around things that seem unfamiliar or strange to them. This is a great book to show grasp the concept that, "books shouldn't be judge by it's cover." It was certain that Marshall didn't look like the average kid but his "weirdness" actually turned to be " the coolest" after all. All it took was some time of interaction and getting to know him.

Meghan Collins says

I really liked this book and overall thought it had a good message to young readers. The illustrations were good; very detailed to match the style of writing.

I liked how the illustrations were simple, and looked as though they were done with colored pencils. To a young reader this seems as if someone their age could have done the drawing, which I think makes a younger student connect with the story more. The book was written in the point of view of a young student, and the illustrations truly matched. I felt this was the strongest thing that resonated with me while reading this book.

I was most drawn to how the young student described Marshall, the new student to his school. His descriptions were extremely detailed, and in child friendly language. He described everything from his

glasses to the freckles on his face. He even described his glasses as being owned by a different person because of the brand "Ray Ban" written on them. He uses other descriptions of Marshall like this one, which I thought made the writing in this picture book very unique.

I would recommend this book to teachers and parents because of the unique style of writing, unique method of illustration and the overall message of the book. While not necessarily dealing with bullying, this book addresses the importance of not judging someone before you get to know them. Marshall was unique, and different from the other students. Knowing the other students did not like him, he invited everyone to his birthday party anyways. As it turns out, all the students loved Marshall after they got to know him. At the end of the book, the students in the class welcomed the another new student to the class. The end of the book displays the lesson that the students learned through Marshall coming to the new school.

I would use this book in my classroom for a moral lesson. I cannot think of any other use to relate to subjects, but this moral theme is very important. I can see myself using this in the beginning of the year as students are meeting people they have never met before. As we all know bullying is a huge issue in schools today. Though this book does not directly deal with bullying, it is a small step to teach children to be kind to everyone and can help to at least prevent bullying in some way.

Geoff Battle says

If you have a child just about to start school, or moving schools early in their life then this book could be helpful. It covers, quite cleverly, the fact that children are quick to spot and be distrustful of differences between themselves and other children. Of course, by the end of this relatively short story the message is firmly stated - we are different and that's good. The illustrations are off kilter, their simplicity somehow offering children plenty to look at. This is a book you would label as odd and pass by, which does it an injustice. My little girl also decided that it looked odd after she finally (some three weeks later!) read it she said, "Again daddy" - which is all you need to know.

Kate says

Marshall Armstrong is New to Our School by David Mackintosh is a perfect book for the beginning of the school year for older elementary students (grade 2 and up), particularly if your class has new students. The narrator explains that the main character, Marshall, is quirky and very different than the other students in the class. In fact, Marshall is very strange. It seems that Marshall is at peace with his differences and not bothered by the fact that he does not "fit in." The narrator is invited to a birthday at Marshall's house where he realizes that Marshall is actually great and what makes him different is also what makes him so special. The book ends with an introduction to another new student, Elizabeth Bell, and it is clear that the narrator of the story has learned a lesson. He is now more than willing to welcome Elizabeth. A writing extension might be to have students write a sequel called "Elizabeth Bell is New to Our School" and think of how Elizabeth might be quirky and different, but also wonderful. This book is a celebration of individual differences and would be a good springboard for a class discussion about bullying or brainstorming ways to help others feel welcomed in your classroom.

Malika J. says

When I first starting reading this book, I didn't really like it. They picked out all the "weird" stuff about Marshall Armstrong. But in the end (very predictably, but I obviously didn't predict it), the other kids end up loving all the "weird" stuff Marshall has and does. The illustrations are great, and the message is very "Don't judge a book by its cover". The overall story and illustrations reminded me of Jonah Hill's cartoon "Allen Gregory". I really liked the book, as it had a lot for adults to chuckle at, but Sam didn't seem that interested. I would use this book to talk about being new to school or talk about treating people nicely.

Hannah says

This is a book with a message about tolerance and diversity and unusual in that rather than being about gender, race or sexuality, is in relation to being 'cool' or a 'nerd'.

Marshall Armstrong is an eccentric character who stands out for the 'wrong' reasons at school: he wears peculiar clothes, he rides a penny farthing, he is pale and stays out of the sun, he can't do PE, he doesn't have a TV and he eats strange food. The narrator of the book is tasked with looking after him at school and hates it, declaring that Marshall Armstrong "doesn't fit in".

That all changes when the children go to his birthday party. Our narrator expects the party to be dull but sees a different side to Marshall; the party is unusual and fun and he realises that Marshall's difference means they get to try new things and learn from him.

I didn't give this a higher rating because there are some parts I didn't understand the point of, for example "Bernadette has to go home early". Who is Bernadette? Why does she leave the party early? Does our narrator care? It seemed a weird detail in an otherwise carefully presented book.

The book doesn't show Marshall getting upset at the children's initial reaction to him and so he comes across as a kid from a Wes Anderson film - i.e. spunky, smart and cool, even if the other kids don't realise it at first.

A great book for discussion about not being judgmental!

Dimity Powell says

Unique illustrations paint a familiar picture of new kid in school-itis for Marshall Armstrong. What I love about this new-kid-on-the-block tale though is Marshall's seeming nonchalance and disregard for his differences. His state of self-possession and calm is exhilarating and turns out to be the perfect artifice to his true life. This is a great proclamation of not judging a book by its cover that celebrates friendships in the most beautiful way.

N says

The new kid at school uses a nib with ink instead of a pencil and has liquified poached eggs for lunch. That

alone is grounds for being put in a cage and stared at from a safe distance all day.

But Marshall Armstrong's classmates learn a thing or two about how to treat newcomers after getting invited over for a birthday party, where they discover that his house is made entirely of awesome.

Rachel says

The title and cover illustration let you know what's going on. Marshall Armstrong doesn't seem to fit in with his new classmates. He plays differently, eats differently, and doesn't look the same at all. Although the plot is predictable – Marshall's classmates learn to appreciate his different interests when they all come to his house for his birthday – the story is still sweet. Usually, books about tolerance focus on children of a different race, nationality, or ability level. In this one, Marshall's just a nerd. But the kids at his school come to understand that nerds can be the coolest kids of all.

Barbara says

When Marshall Armstrong joins the narrator's class, he is certain that the new kid will never fit in. After all, he's simply too weird in so many ways--weird in a bad way, that is. For instance, he doesn't play sports and prefers reading the newspaper to watching television as well as eating food that looks as though it belongs on a space craft instead of in the cafeteria. While the narrator lists all of Marshall's inadequacies, he seems blithely unconcerned about following the norm. When Marshall's mother plans a party for his birthday, the narrator is sure it will be a disaster and that no one will go. But what actually happens is delightful and reminds readers that sometimes individuals who are different from others are also quite interesting. This book would be a marvelous read aloud and a great conversation starter about individuality. The illustrations allow Marshall's uniqueness to be tested against the bland normality of the others in his class.

Tasha says

Marshall Armstrong is the new kid at school and he is very different from everyone else. His things are different. He looks different with his birdseed freckles and ears like shells. His arms are white with red bumps that he says are mosquito bites. He even eats "space food" for lunch! He can't play during recess. He stays out of the sun. He doesn't watch any TV. So when Marshall Armstrong has a birthday party, everyone is sure that it is going to be awful. But guess what, Marshall Armstrong's house is different too! Different in some great ways!

Read the rest of my review on my blog, [Waking Brain Cells](#).

Amrit says

I have seen a few of David Mackintosh's books but have not read one, but the title and illustrations on the front cover caught my attention. The title, 'Marshall Armstrong is new to our school' suggested that this may be a story about a boy and his struggles to fit into school, an issue many children can relate too. As I began to

read, I enjoyed the light humor of a very peculiar boy, who was the complete opposite to any other child. I enjoyed that Mackintosh created comparisons between the two extending to lunch, stationary and looks, but in a light hearted manner. The page that stood out for me was when the boy in the story was reluctantly on his way to Marshall's birthday party and discussed all these preconceived negative thoughts he had of the party. This soon changed. The layout and illustrations of this page, had such an impact and complimented the story.

However, I believe below the humor was a very serious message, of not judging children. Initially when children are introduced to a new setting it can be difficult for them to settle, and other children may judge them. This is particularly important in representing Britain, as it is home to a diverse range of cultures and to be tolerant of each other no matter of beliefs, religions, physical features and sexuality. I enjoyed this book and potentially this book and the illustrations can be a stimulus for discussions on being tolerant of each other.

Angela says

A book about being the new kid, but not from the perspective of the new kid. Fun illustrations and a good message about accepting others differences and connecting to those unlike ourselves. Recommended as a classroom read-aloud.

Mrs. Nelson's says

We know from page one that this kid is the one who will be the subject of everyone's disdain. The quirky artwork and simple text builds the case very gradually with narration from Marshall's disgruntled seat mate. The big surprise comes when they are all invited to Marshall's birthday party where they expect to be bored out of their gourds! Great for K - 4th read-aloud on the first few days of school!

--Review by Carol
