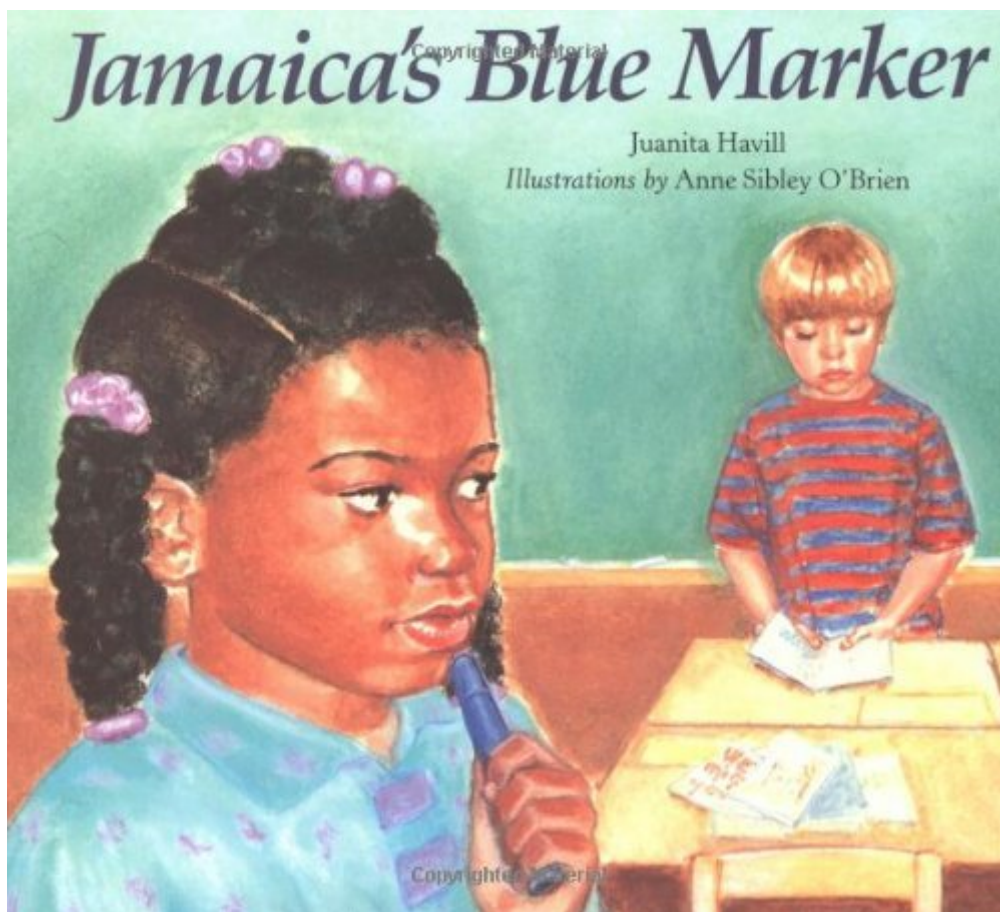


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# Jamaica's Blue Marker



## Synopsis

Jamaica was friends with everyone in school - except for Russell. No wonder: Russell was a mean brat. When they had art class, Russell borrowed her markers and spoiled her picture. At recess, he threw sand and chased little kids. Jamaica certainly wasn't sorry to learn that Russell was going to move away. She didn't even want to make a card for him, the way the others in her class were doing. But then something happened to change her mind . . .

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a good one to read to pre-schoolers and kindergarteners to help explore the feelings they have when they either meet someone like Russell or, at times, actually find themselves acting like Russell. Hey, we all do it now and then. Jamaica finds herself having to share her markers with Russell, who is neither well-behaved nor particularly adept at being prepared for class - he never has his supplies with him, and Jamaica pays the price by having to share her markers. She pays a heavier price when the picture she draws gets scribbled on by the dreadful Russell. When she tells her father of the day's events, he acknowledges her hurt feelings at having her work ruined, and

then springs a surprise on her - Russell is moving away, do you suppose his feelings are a little mixed up right now? Jamaica remains angry over the incident, to the extent that she won't join the class in making "Goodbye" cards to Russell; seeing how Russell behaves in the school yard at recess, one can find it difficult to blame her. The end of the story finds Jamaica empathizing, finally, with Russell. This is truly the moment of self-awareness and the moment when most children become cognizant of their own actions on others; by placing herself in Russell's shoes, just for a fleeting moment, Jamaica understands, or more importantly TRIES to understand, what has made Russell act this way recently. Again, sharing this book with the younger children opens up a museum of opportunities to see if we can learn from each other. Pat yourself on the back if you purchase this book.

Excellent book to add to my First Grade collection. This series is wonderful as Read Alouds for teaching Realistic fiction, and how character feelings change throughout the story. I am very satisfied with the product and the seller.

typical bully story, but nice. Just wish people would write more about how to deal with bullies than just having empathy for them. Not every bully out there turns nice when you show them kindness. I want to teach my daughter how to stand up to a bully, not just feel sorry for them.

Children can easily relate to Jamaica's feelings and may learn that sometimes people seem to be mean when really their feelings are just hurt.

It was just right for my six-year-old to read it to herself -- and she carried it around with her until she had finished it!

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