



TITLE: THE DAY I FIGURED OUT THAT NO ONE IS PERFECT

BOOK: Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul

PAGE: 341

TIME TO READ: 1 minute

TOPICS: **Living and Learning**
Acceptance and belonging
Friendship and community

AGE LEVEL: Grades 1 to 6

SYNOPSIS: A young girl realizes that the friend she once thought was "perfect" was really rude and shallow, and that it is how someone treats you that is important.

NOTES TO TEACHER:

The follow-up worksheets attached to this story will focus on ways to overcome rejection, and to find the "loveable and capable" that is within each of us.

You may select one worksheet per week, or have students create their own positive thinking posters, then laminate each student's favorite before sending it home.

Another story students enjoy on the importance of having all information before making judgments in friendships is "Call Me," found on page 42 of *Chicken Soup for the Girl's Soul*.

Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul, The Day I Figured Out That No One Is Perfect

ELEMENTARY:

PRE-QUESTIONS:

Do worksheet S.

What does it mean to be “perfect” (to be complete or correct in every way)?

- Do you know anyone who is perfect?
- If so, who?
- Why do you consider this person to be perfect?

Read Story

POST-QUESTIONS:

What do you do when someone has hurt your feelings?

“When it comes to perfection, it’s how someone treats you that is more important than how they look.”

- Do you agree or disagree with this quote from the story? Explain your position.

Brainstorm important qualities in a friend.

Was this “perfect” girl truly a friend to Ellie, the author?

Is it okay to be “who you are,” and not to have to be “perfect?”

Suppose you could be “perfect” for a day. What would your day be like?

- How would that day be different from your day now?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

Write a fairy tale about a truly “perfect” friend.

Choose from worksheets T or U.

- Color or decorate the worksheets to personalize them.
- Display them in the classroom, or hang them in a prominent place at home, like a mirror, a closet door, or a bedroom wall.
- Look at them daily.
- Think about how it makes you feel when you look at them.
- Do the Mirror Exercise for the rest of the school year (see Appendix, page 313).

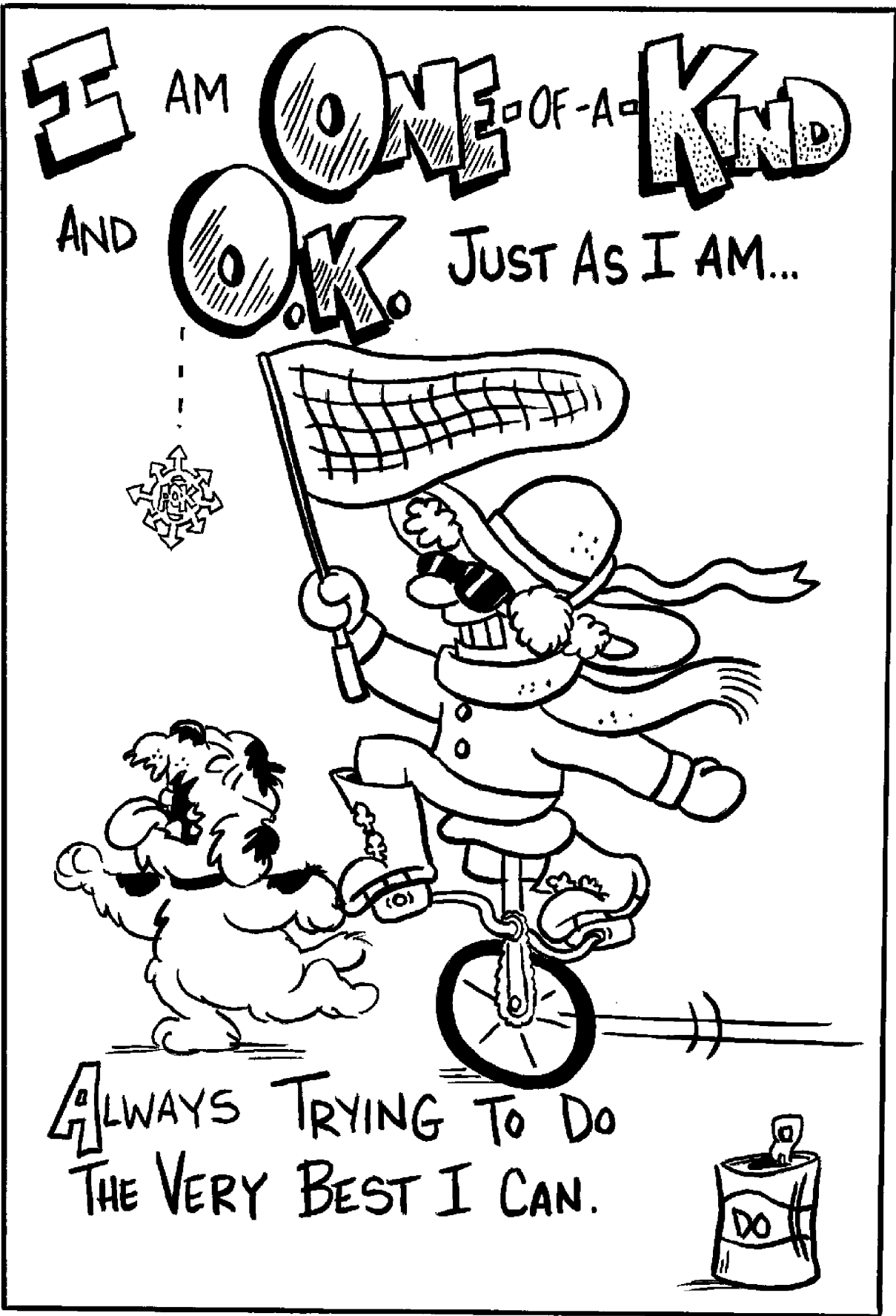
Report at the end of the year how it felt to do this.

LIST 3 PEOPLE YOU REALLY LIKE AND 2 THINGS YOU LIKE ABOUT EACH ONE

	THINGS YOU LIKE ABOUT THEM
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

IF YOU WANTED TO BE LIKE THESE PEOPLE,
WHAT WOULD YOU NEED TO DO?







The Day I Figured Out That No One Is Perfect

Once there was a girl in my class that I thought was beautiful and smart. I believed that she was perfect. When it came time for my birthday, I invited her to my party, and she came.

A few months later, it was her birthday. I got a special necklace for her. Thinking about how happy she would be to receive my gift made me so excited.

I asked her when her birthday party was going to be. She replied, “Why do you want to know? You’re not invited. You’re just a dork with glasses!”

I felt really bad when she said that. I just stood there looking at her. Everyone standing by her came to stand next to me. Then we all left.

That day, I figured out that even if someone looks perfect, there is a very good possibility that they aren’t. When it comes to perfection, it’s how someone treats you that is more important than how they look.

Ellie Logan