

Ish

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Art, Creativity, Self-Expression

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: Ramon loves to draw until his brother criticizes his work. With the help of his younger sister, Marisol, Ramon learns to see things in a different way.

Author and Illustrator:

Peter H. Reynolds

Content Connections:

Art, Language Arts



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have your students make predictions about the book based on

the title and cover illustration. Who is the boy on the cover? What is he holding? What does the title mean? Is "ish" a real word?

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk through the book. What do students notice about the illustrations? Based on the pictures, what does the boy like to do?

Prior Knowledge: Do any of your students like to draw, write, sing, dance, act, or do anything else creative? Have they ever been told they weren't doing it "right"? How did that make them feel?

Vocabulary: crumpled, haunted, gallery, energized, inspired, savored

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about what it means to be *perfect*."



WHILE WE READ



MONITORING COMPREHENSION

◆ Why does Ramon love to draw?

- ◆ Why does Leon laugh at Ramon?
- ◆ Why is Ramon so upset that Leon doesn't like his art?
- ◆ Does Marisol like Ramon's art? Why?

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: "What does it mean to be perfect? At the beginning of the story, why is Ramon so worried about making his art perfect?"

Extending Our Thinking: Have a group discussion about the meaning of "ish." Ask students what ish means to them; keep track of answers on the board. Is ish just about art? In what other situations might ish apply? Brainstorm with students and ask if any of them have personal examples.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.