

NO Is All I Know!
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – 2

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Read the title and say to students, “Have you ever said no to something? In this story, Oliver McSnow only says no so he never tries new things. Let’s read to find out what happens to Oliver and his gigantic NO.”
- This book is fun to make interactive for students. Before you begin, cut out a speech bubble with the word NO! in red and a speech bubble with the word YES! in green. Read each speech bubble to your students and have them practice saying “NO!” and “YES!” as you hold up each speech bubble. Throughout the story, pause and hold up the speech bubble to let students read along with you.

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- Why do you think Oliver always says no?
- How does Oliver feel when he says no? How do Oliver’s parents feel when he says no? What details in the pictures and words make you think that?
- What does Jess like to say? Do you think Jess can help Oliver learn to say yes? Why or why not?
- How does Oliver feel when he says yes with Jess? What details in the pictures and words make you think that?
- What does Oliver learn in this story? Why is it important to try new things?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- Ask students, “What did Oliver learn by saying yes?” Give students the opportunity to make connections by sharing about a time when they did not want to try something new. Did they try it anyway? What happened when they tried something new?
- Use RIF’s [Trying New Things](#) activity guide to extend your students’ learning.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more books written by author Chris Grabenstein such as *No More Naps!* and The *Lemoncello* series.