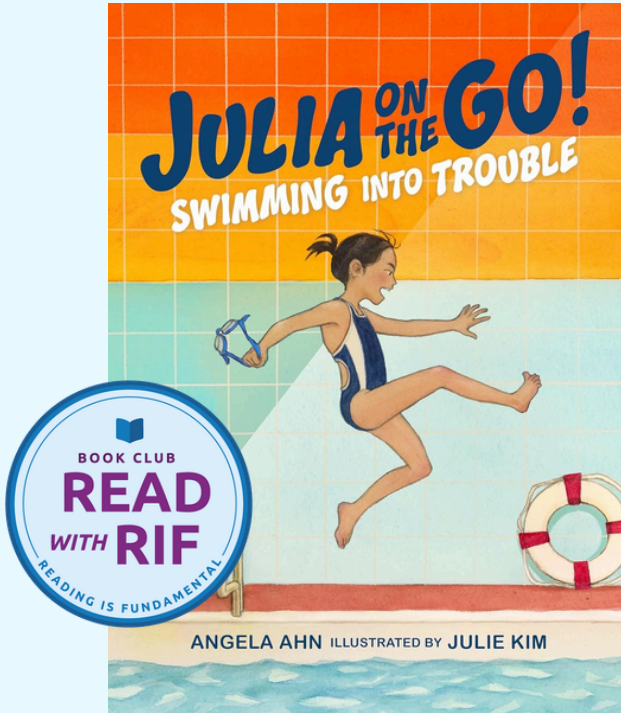


Angela Ahn

Swimming into Trouble (Julia on the Go!)

Why read this book?

Julia Nam loves swimming more than anything. As the youngest member of the Vipers Swim Team, she spends every chance she gets in the pool working toward her personal best. But when an ear infection forces her to stay out of the water for ten days, Julia worries she'll miss an important opportunity to qualify for a regional swim meet. Determined not to fall behind, Julia tries to solve the problem herself, but soon learns that sometimes patience, teamwork, and support from others are just as important as reaching a goal.



Great for readers who...

- Enjoy sports stories, especially swimming and other team activities
- Like books about setting goals and working hard to achieve them
- Enjoy realistic fiction featuring friendships, family, and community
- Are learning about perseverance, patience, and asking for help
- Like characters who face challenges and discover their inner strength



Looking for your next great read?

Check out all of the Read with RIF book club picks at rif.org/literacy-central.

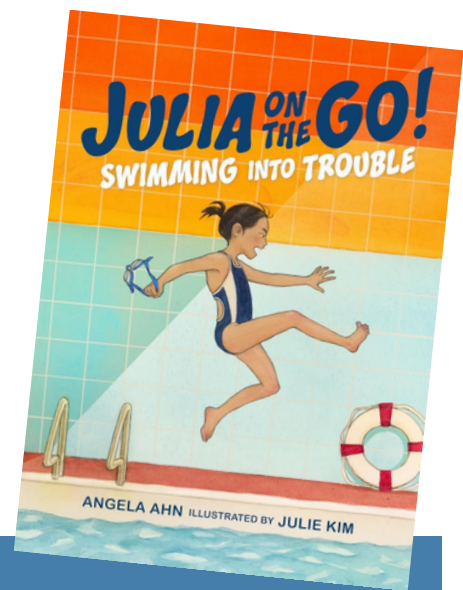
Swimming into Trouble (Julia on the Go!)

Author: Angela Ahn

Illustrator: Julie Kim

Themes: Perseverance, Teamwork, Friendship

Book Brief: When an ear infection keeps Julia out of the pool, she must find a way to handle disappointment and make good choices.



BEFORE READING

To activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Ask, “Have you ever worked really hard toward a goal? What was it? What happens when something unexpected gets in the way of your plans?”
- Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about how Julia responds to challenges, how her choices affect others, and what she learns about perseverance and teamwork.”

DURING READING

To engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

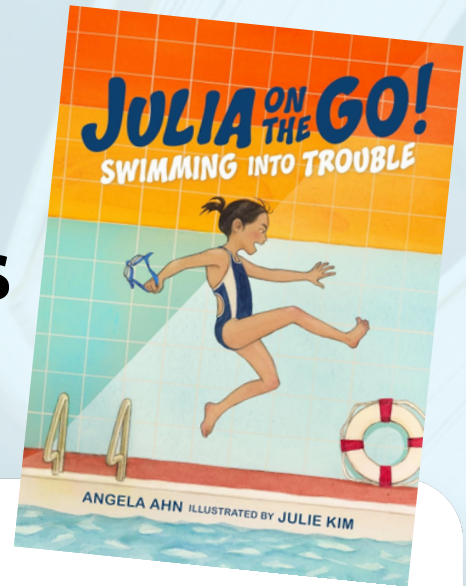
- What challenges does Julia face, and how does she respond to them?
- How does Julia’s family and culture influence her throughout the story? What does this show about the importance of family and community?
- What is Julia learning about perseverance, responsibility, and being a good teammate?
- What could Julia have done differently when she faced her challenge?
- How is Julia changing throughout the story? What shows her growth?

AFTER READING

To summarize, question, and reflect.

- Ask, “How does Julia respond to the challenges she faces, and what does she learn about perseverance, responsibility, and being a good teammate?”
- Have students design their dream team by creating their own sports or activity team. Students can choose their team name, mascot, colors, motto, logo, and team goal. Then, have students share their dream team with a partner or group.
- Use the questions on the next page to continue the conversation after reading. Talk together, share personal connections, and explore how the themes in the story connect to real life. There are no right or wrong answers, just thoughtful discussion and listening.

Beyond the Book: Conversation Starters



For the classroom

1. How can setting personal goals help us build confidence and perseverance?
2. In what ways can challenges and setbacks help us grow as learners and teammates?
3. How can this story support conversations about teamwork, patience, and supporting others?

For at home

1. Talk about a time you worked toward a goal. What challenges did you face, and what helped you keep going?
2. Discuss something you are working to improve. What steps can you take to reach your personal best?
3. Share ways your family can encourage and support each other when trying something new or challenging.

My Dream Team

Julia is part of the Vipers Swim Team. Now it's your turn to create your own school sports or activity team!

Sport or activity: _____

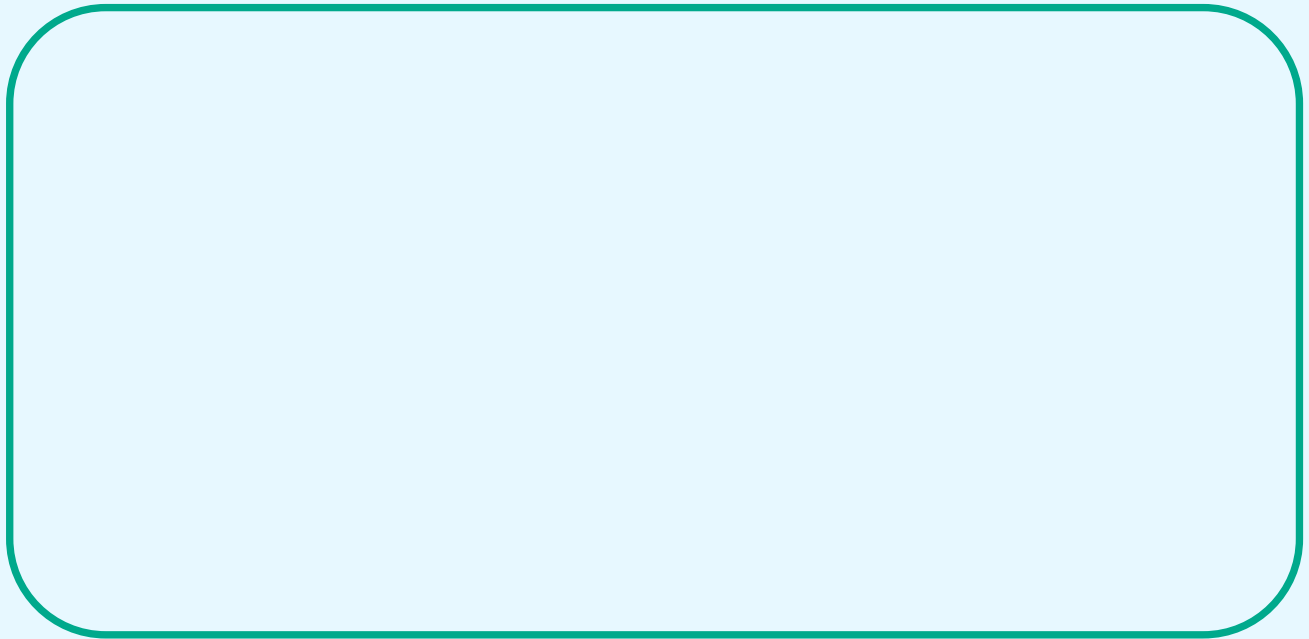
Team name: _____

Mascot: _____

Team colors: _____

Team motto/cheer: _____

Our Team Logo



Our Team Goal
