



A Different Kind of Safari

Helen C. Hipp , Paula Tedford Diaco (Editor) , Hilary Ann Love Glass (Illustrations)

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What do you need to feel happy about being different? Based loosely on real life experiences, this heartwarming and powerful book illustrates how self-awareness, and courage help a young boy named Raymond learn the difference between seeing things as they appear to be and seeing things as they are. Feeling "different and lonely" Raymond befriends a hippo while on Safari in Africa. Unlike other grey hippos, this hippo is pink. Ray is soon carried into a world beyond labels and challenging assumptions. You will never guess what happens next!

A Different Kind of Safari Details

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Download and Read Free Online A Different Kind of Safari Helen C. Hipp , Paula Tedford Diaco (Editor) , Hilary Ann Love Glass (Illustrations)

From Reader Review A Different Kind of Safari for online ebook

Renee says

Inspired by real events, A Different Kind of Safari takes the reader on a journey of self-discovery and self-acceptance through the eyes of a young boy (Ray) on an African safari who meets a pink hippo named Rosie. Rosie is unlike any hippo Ray has ever seen. Aside from her different color, Rosie is able to speak to Ray and to teach him valuable life lessons about accepting one's differences. The reader learns that Ray is also different from other children his age. He finds talking to other people difficult and prefers to be by himself.

Rosie takes Ray on a ride down the Mara River where he learns, literally, to "go with the flow" and where he meets up with a wise old crocodile, TLC (the Tender Loving Crocodile). TLC shares the legend of Eli-zee, the first zebra whose story teaches Ray the importance of knowing what we fear and why we fear it so we can learn to be happy with ourselves regardless of how we perceive our differences from others. This message is close to the lessons I try to teach my own children about the dangers of fear. The underlying messages in this book are so important and I love the "story within the story" approach and seeing how the main character, Ray, ponders the meaning of the story and integrates it into his own experiences and feelings.

The book features several colored illustrations which go very well with the accompanying text. I thought they were very well-done and were in a style appropriate to the text (I believe they are done with colored pencils). The text is quite lengthy for a book with this number of illustrations and with no chapters, but I think it would work well as a read-aloud book for older children either in a classroom setting or for homeschoolers as well as a bedtime book. There are several layers to this book as well as significant depth in the underlying messages and lessons. There are many potential points for discussion including Asperger's syndrome, fear, self-acceptance, tolerance, and more. I highly recommend this great book to children ages 5 to 10.

Lynda Dickson says

While on safari in Africa with his family, Ray meets Rosie, a pink hippopotamus who speaks to him! Rosie has learned that it's okay to be different. So, when Ray confides that he is different to the other children and that this makes him unhappy, Rosie decides to help him. Ray hops on her back and they take a trip down the river. Along the way, they meet a cast of animal characters, and Ray learns a few valuable lessons.

The illustrations by Hilary Ann Love Glass are simple yet perfectly suited to this gentle but powerful story. This is a wonderful book to promote self-awareness and to increase the self-esteem of a child who is not happy with being different. It is especially suited for sharing with a child who has Asperger's syndrome. You'll also find out the meaning of the Swahili word "safari" and how it relates to the story. And the moral: we need to "let go of our fear of being different so we can be happy just being ourselves."

An absolute delight.

I received this book in return for an honest review.

Full blog post: <http://booksdirectonline.blogspot.com...>

Naznin Azeez says

The book cover is interesting. The story begins with Ray sitting under a tree in Africa, while on a safari with his family, looking over at the animals. He then spots a Pink hippo who stands away from other hippos that are grey. Ray instantly relates to the loneliness in the Hippo and to his surprise the hippo , named Rosie, starts talking to him!

Ray asks him how he deals with the fact that he is different from the other hippos. Surprisingly, Rosie is comfortable being different and she tells him how she finally came to terms with that fact. Along the way, comes along a crocodile, who is named TLC which stands for Tender Loving Crocodile!. He is old and wise and he tells a story which makes Ray understand that even if you are different from others, you can accept it, move on and be fearless. This changes his point of view of life itself and he feels immensely happy.

This story has a powerful message that youngsters could find inspiring!. It helps you embrace your true self. At the end of the story, I felt emotional for some reason.. The story gives you hope. Kudos to the author who was able to convey such a strong message through a short story that is only about 30 pages!. I love the illustrations in it. They are simple sketches and it's simplicity is alluring.

I give this book 5 out of 5 which by Goodreads standards mean 'it was amazing'!

M.M. Hudson says

#Review: A Different Kind of Safari Check out my review of A Different Kind of Safari by Helen C. Hipp

Lola Havisham says

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

A Different Kind of Safari tells the story of Ray who is on vacation in Africa with his family. After a family safari, Ray finds himself sitting underneath a tree hears a noise in the brush, wondering what it is. After taking a look, he finds Rosie the pink hippo. Ray asks Rosie how she can be okay with being so different from all the other hippos and that's when Ray's personal safari starts as Rosie offers to take Ray along the Mara River so he can find the answers he's looking for.

Along their trip down the river they meet a crocodile, but not any regular crocodile. This crocodile is called TLC-Tender Loving Crocodile. Even after hearing this name, Ray still isn't sure, scared of the big teeth and what he thinks all crocodiles are like. They take a break in their journey and TLC tells a story about being different and this story makes all the difference to Ray and helps him change his way of thinking.

The illustrations in this book are absolutely beautiful. The wonderful illustrations really added to the story. The message in A Different Kind of Safari is a wonderful book not only for the pre-teen crowd, but for adults as well. Remembering that it's okay to be different and to celebrate those differences is a message that easily gets lost in a world where people are bombarded with messages to fit in we all need to look the same.

Reading this book actually made me tear up a bit because I remember oh so well being in Ray's shoes, desperate to fit in even though I knew I didn't. I would recommend this book to anyone because it's an important message for all.

Amy Miller says

A great story from the start. A young boy that is on a safari with family. He is not very happy though as he has many self doubts about his self and why he is so different. Then in an instant he is taken on a safari by the wild animals around. He meet Rosie a pink hippo. She explains that although she is different she learned to except this or she would miss out on things that she loved the most. Rosie takes Ray down the river where they meet an alligator. Ray was very reluctant to be around the alligator because he was scary and afraid he would eat him. What he learned was that although he was tough and mean looking he was a nice, sweet alligator and he enjoyed the story he was told about the horses/zebras. Finally done, Rosie takes Ray back to where they started. Ray has now learned that know one is the same, everyone is different and that it is ok to be like this. Waking up Ray goes to his grandfather and now seems happier and a little lighter, knowing that he can be who he is and all will be ok.

I really enjoyed the message the story put off to Ray and others about how different is a good thing and you should be yourself. Telling it through the mouths of a hippo and alligator was a great touch. The illustration were great and really gave you a true feeling for the story. A job well done!

Gregory Bray says

I normally read picture books with my 2 year old son. But this one was a little wordy for him. He did enjoy the illustrations immensely. I like the message of the book about not being afraid to be yourself. I wish I had an MP3 of the song to play for my son.

Tara says

This is a picture book story about Ray and Rosie. Ray is a young boy from Vermont who's visiting Africa with his family; Rosie is a different kind of hippo. She's pink instead of gray! Ray asks her if it bothers her that she's different, and her response is one that I would hope all young readers take to heart: at first it did, but not anymore. Ray is different too – it's difficult for him to talk to other people. He's more comfortable alone, but he wishes he were more like the other kids.

Rosie takes Ray on a trip down the river, and along the way Ray meets a crocodile who also defies his expectations, and hears the story of Eli-zee, a different kind of horse who discovers there are very important strengths to her differences.

Ray "wakes up" under an umbrella tree, and realizes that his "dream" was a different kind of safari (safari is the Swahili word for "long journey," Ray's Grandpa explains). By the end of the story Ray has started to understand that you can feel happy about being different, and shares his thoughts with his Grandpa.

I think this is a great story for kids at an early-to-mid elementary level. Many kids have something that makes them feel different, in particular kids on the autism spectrum. I have two children on the spectrum,

and they've always struggled to fit in with their peers. The older of my two in particular badly WANTS to fit in and be accepted, but recognizes that he's "different" from other kids his age. A story like that can help children like my son understand that it's okay to be different – and sometimes (oftentimes) it's even BETTER to have your own unique differences!

I received a complimentary copy of this book for review purposes; all opinions are my own.

Stacie says

A Different Kind of Safari is a brilliantly written journey of a young boy who learns things aren't always as they appear.

Ray is on an African Safari with his family when he decides to rest under an Umbrella Tree. As he peers out at the vast land before him he notices a pink hippo. Intrigued by her unusual color he can't help but stare. The hippo introduces herself as Rosie and now Ray is even more surprised since hippos don't talk. Or do they? As Ray begins to question Rosie and her pinkness, she invites him on a Safari unlike any other.

I loved this story and its beautiful and timeless message. Children (and adults) often assume to know people or situations only to find out they were entirely wrong. We all know what it means to assume and we are all guilty of doing it, but the damage and hurt caused by assuming can be unforgettable. As Ray learns on his Safari, we must see things as they are, not as they appear to be. The story is creatively written and the characters are unique and captivating. How can you help but adore a pink hippo and a loving crocodile?

I highly recommend picking up a copy.

Kim Propp says

HoaP would like to thank Helen Hipp for gifting us a copy of her book in exchange for an honest review.

This review was first seen on Heart of a Philanthropist blog.

Ray is on safari with his grandfather. They are sitting under a tree taking a rest, when all of a sudden Ray notices a pink rhinoceros amongst the myriad of gray rhinoceri. Rosie (the pink rhino) is personified in the story. She has a conversation with Ray and takes him down the river. They meet a friendly crocodile who also has a lesson to teach Ray. This safari is one Ray will never forget. Ray learns that being different is a good thing.

There are notes in the back of the book that will help teachers and parents to use this book as a resource as well as a fun story. There is a song that goes with the story as well. I loved the line drawings. On each page is a work of art that I would be happy to hang on my wall at home. I loved the story line which is based on a realization that the author's son had on his own safari experience.

HoaP received a copy of A Different Kind of Safari in exchange for an honest review. If you would like HoaP to review a book or product for you, please contact us at philanthropicHR@yahoo.com. Thank you for

your support and God Bless!

Kimberly says

I thought the children's book *A Different Kind of Safari* by Helen C. Hipp was a really cute story. It definitely has a great message for children. Ray is a young boy on an African Safari with his parents, and on this safari he meets a talking pink hippo named Rosie. Rosie and Ray are able to relate to each other, because they are both different and afraid of being judged by their peers. Ray is a lonely boy, because he chooses to spend time away from other kids his age, rather than be nervous trying to speak to them. Rosie lets Ray know that the Mara River helped her to learn to deal with being different, and she tells Ray the Mara River can help him too, and she offers to be his "boat" as he travels the river. It's a great adventure where Ray meets many different animals, who are all "special" in their own ways and not afraid to be different. Ray is able to learn many different lessons from the Mara River and its inhabitants while on his journey with Rosie.

I loved the illustrations, yes, they could have been brighter and more colorful, but I liked that they were semi-realistic illustrations. Overall I thought this was an awesome book for kids, and I definitely will read it to my twins when they are a little older! They are only 18 months old now, and I think this book would be better for children who are at least 3. I would definitely recommend it to other parents, as well. I give *A Different Kind of Safari* a FIVE out of FIVE stars.

Majanka says

Book Review originally published here: <http://www.iheartreading.net/book-review-a-different-kind-of-safari/>...

A Different Kind of Safari is certainly, like the title suggests, quite different. Ray is a young boy who is on safari with his family, visiting Africa, when he runs into a pink hippo named Rosie. The hippo tells him a few things about herself, like how she always used to cover herself up, and how she wasn't happy with herself, things that Ray can easily relate to. Ray doesn't look different, but he is. He has trouble talking to other kids his age. Sometimes he feels lonely and sad.

Rosie decides to help him, and together they travel the Mara River, while they search for a way to make Ray happy. Along the way, Ray learns more about the other animals through stories and through meeting them, and at the same time, he learns more about life.

This isn't just a kids book. It is, in fact, a great and inspiring read about a young boy who struggles to be happy – something all, or most of us, can relate to. It's told through stories with animals in a way that kids can easily understand, but the message is an important one, and not always easy to get across, although this book manages just fine.

The illustrations are absolutely gorgeous, and that alone would make it worth reading. It offers slightly more than other children's books, providing insight in difficult themes in a light-hearted way instead of just telling a story.

T. Clary says

Note: I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

BRIEF RECAP:

Ray, a little boy that we learn has “differences”, falls asleep and dreams about a “pink” hippo named Rosie who is all alone and not with the rest of the gray herd. Ray questions why the pink hippo is all by herself and to answer Ray’s question Rosie proceeds to take Ray on an adventure that teaches him life lessons about self-acceptance through the use of a river, a crocodile, and a story about a zebra named Eli-zee. The river taught Ray about growing and changing and doing things in his own way; while the crocodile convinces Ray not to look at the outer self, but rather the inside of a person (or in this case, a reptile). The crocodile eventually convinces Ray that he is actually a tender loving crocodile (TLC) through the use of a story about a Zebra named Eli-zee—who was originally shunned by black and white horses—that metaphorically illustrates the importance of looking on the inside of a person and finding out who they really are before passing judgment. The crocodile also teaches Ray about accepting and embracing his own differences and being happy with who he is. Ray awakens to find his grandpa and proceeds to tell his grandpa all about his dream and what he learned.

PROS:

The story had a great message (as described above), and the illustrations were beautiful.

CONS:

I felt the story itself was a little disjointed, as I found several different stories being told in one that really did not blend/flow well enough for me. The story also felt a little cursory, and seemed as though rushed to bring the message/lesson to a conclusion (i.e. the pacing of it was a little off in my opinion). I also found it a tad bit wordy for a younger audience.

Storywraps says

In 2001, Helen Hipp went on a safari in Africa, led by her father. She took along her 14 year old son Ray, who had special needs.

One day Ray spots a pod of hippos cooling themselves in the Mara River. He notices one that is quite unusual standing away from the pod all by herself and she is pink!! He names her Rosie and Rosie has a wonderful life lesson to share with Ray.

Rosie takes it upon herself to connect with Ray and converse with him about being different from your peers. She enables Raymond to learn the difference between seeing things as they appear to be and seeing things as they really are. She introduces him to a scary crocodile, who once Ray gets to meet him, finds out he isn't scary at all, but very clever and smart. Together they listen to a story of Elizee, a horse with stripes who doesn't look like the other horses, and who shares how she overcomes her fear that she too is different from the other animals.

This unique and heartwarming story allows kids to make personal connections with animal characters who are handling similar concerns and challenges with acceptance.

"A Different Kind of Safari" is a creative book that can be used as a teaching tool for parents, caregivers, teachers, and children who may at some time in their life felt that they were different from those around them. The colourful illustrations draw you into the story and enrich the text. I highly recommend this book.

Esperanza says

In the book A Different Kind of Safari by Helen C. Hipp, Ray a young American boy is visiting Africa with his grandfather and is confronted with a strange happening that causes him to question certain aspects of his life. A hippo and crocodile help Ray to a new understanding and confront a long lasting problem in his very own life. The hippo and crocodile are characters that are built to last any storm and help any being in their journey of life. Hipp created these two miracle like characters just so that an issue that causes confusion in a shy boy's life can be dealt with in a positive way. I really enjoyed the way that Hipp leads her readers into a short journey and was pleasantly surprised at the end! Hipp gives her young readers a reason to be proud of who they are and encourages them through her characters that it is definitely fine to be different than the crowd. If you are a parent with a child that seems to be different from the crowd or may stick out or if you are interested in teaching children not to stereotype or bully then this is a book for you. I recommend this book to all of our homeschool families and others. I also urge those that are interested in confronting any issue that causes a child distress for being different, to use this book for a pleasant way to discourage bullying and help to build up confidence and self esteem in a weary child.
