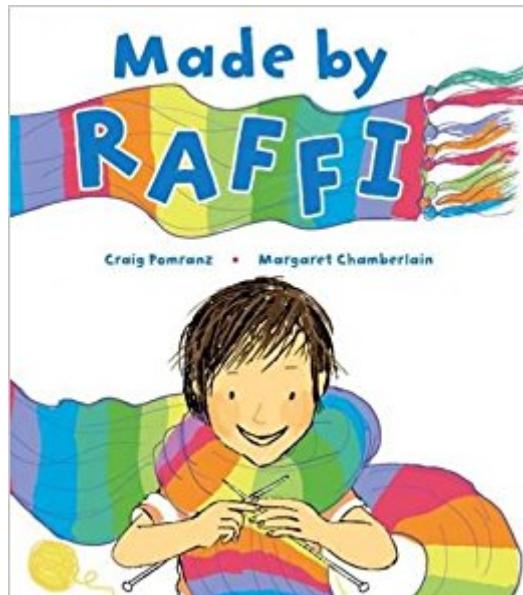


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# Made By Raffi



## Synopsis

Raffi is a shy boy who doesn't like noisy games and is often teased at school. But when he gets the idea of making a scarf for his dad's birthday he is full of enthusiasm, even though the other children think it is girly to knit. Then the day draws near for the school pageant, and there is one big problem - no costume for the prince. And that's when Raffi has his most brilliant idea of all - to make a prince's cape. On the day of the pageant, Raffi's cape is the star of the show.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #707,694 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts #713 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #967 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 •Raffi is a shy boy who prefers quiet over rough-and-tumble games. At recess, a teacher offers to teach him to knit. Raffi's enthusiasm burns as brightly as Chamberlain's digitally colored drawings of the myriad colors of wool at the yarn shop. The boy knits an enormous rainbow scarf for his dad while on the bus, at breakfast, everywhere. Raffi offers to make a cape for the school play's prince; a spread gives instructions for readers to replicate. Raffi's skills are admired by family and friends and he knits many new items with their encouragement. Readers learn that the child likes to sing and draw and knit, but it's a bit of a stretch that he somehow knows how to sew and easily figures out how make a velvet cape. No matter. Chamberlain's energetic illustrations are creative and fun, just like Raffi's designs. •Gay Lynn Van Vleck, Henrico County Library, Glen Allen, VA --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"This book is for every child who has ever felt different." - Juno"This picturebook should find a place on school library shelves. It provides useful material for individuals or small group discussions on diversity, as it celebrates diversity." - Jane Loder, The School Librarian"A theme that has been tackled before of course, but Raffi wears its message lightly without resort to mawkishness or sentimentality. A delightful book to share with a KS1/younger KS2 class which should provoke interesting discussion." - English Association"Vibrant, affectionate and inclusive, this is a book which celebrates difference and shows that being creative is cool. A positive story to share with a group of children, it doesn't labour the message that everyone should be valued, whatever their talents." - Reading Zone"Looks special, very special indeed!" - Rhino Reads"It's an excellent story, perceptive and thoughtful, about being confident with yourself, about not being swayed by others and doing what you think is right and handling opposition; family love is shown as vital too. It's good to be different!" - Parents in Touch"looks special, very special indeed!""It's an excellent story, perceptive and thoughtful, about being confident with yourself, about not being swayed by others and doing what you think is right and handling opposition; family love is shown as vital too. It's good to be different!""Vibrant, affectionate and inclusive, this is a book which celebrates difference and shows that being creative is cool. A positive story to share with a group of children, it doesn't labour the message that everyone should be valued, whatever their talents." "This book is for every child who has ever felt different." "This picturebook should find a place on school library shelves. It provides useful material for individuals or small group discussions on diversity, as it celebrates diversity." Shortlisted for Little Rebel's Children's Book Award"A theme that has been tackled before of course, but Raffi wears its message lightly without resort to mawkishness or sentimentality. A delightful book to share with a KS1/younger KS2 class which should provoke interesting discussion." "It is a funny colorful book with a serious message and will interest those who care about promoting diversity and embracing our differences, as well as all children seeking to fit in." - BroadwayWorld.com Shortlisted for Little Rebel's Children's Book Award"This book is for every child who has ever felt different." "It's an excellent story, perceptive and thoughtful, about being confident with yourself, about not being swayed by others and doing what you think is right and handling opposition; family love is shown as vital too. It's good to be different!"

Such a delightful story about creativity and being different, supporting the idea that any kid can follow any dream they have. And it encourages the arts, teamwork, and self-confidence. So great!

Much to be learned here in this lovely simple tale....for the Raffi's of the world who have tastes & interests 'outside the box' of expected behavior....for their playmates & schoolmates to be open and accepting...and certainly for adults: Raffi is blessed with the type of parents we should all have: loving and supportive of the unique individuals they bring into this world.

This is a very sweet book for anyone to read. As a third-grader, my entire class learned how to crochet; so I feel a personal resonance with Raffi's creative impulse in this book.

A very charming story that doesn't hit you over the head with a message. The author and illustrator bring you into a school kid's world and gently show the joys of creativity and understanding. Nicely done. Makes me want to knit!

Made by Raffi: Craig Pomranz and Illustrated by Margaret Chamberlain Not every child is sports oriented. Not every child wants to tumble, throw things or even scream and yell during recess. Sometimes their interests gear in other directions like art, science, crafts or even music. Does that make this child odd or different? Raffi considers himself not exactly fitting in with his classmates. He is the smallest child in the class or smallest boy. He loves to wear bright colors. They are cheerful. Thinking to himself he says, "Maybe everyone is different." You are right about that we are all different and have different interests, wear different clothing and even like different foods. Does that mean we are all odd? It is what makes the world and people so unique and different: our differences are the best things about making each one of us unique and special. During playtime Raffi likes to be alone sitting by himself or find a teacher to have some peace and quiet. While the other kids were playing outside he found a spot neat Miss Fernandez who was busy knitting and having some quiet time of her own. Being a great and understanding teacher when Raffi appeared to show interest in learning to knit check out what she shows him and the smile on his face when he masters the skill. What do you think happens when he comes home all excited and tells his parents about learning to knit? "Miss Fernandez showed me how it knit and it was really easy," he told them. But, will they get him knitting needles to knit on his own. When parents embrace their child's differences and their desire to develop a skill or hobby on their own then look at the colorful hanks of wool that he finds at the wool store and check out what is wants to make for his father's birthday with all of the colorful wool that he bought. Raffi was absorbed in his project and anywhere he could he would knit. His

father's surprise grew to four meters long and trailed all down the aisle of the bus. Check out the reactions of the other kids. The color photos are priceless and the facial expressions of each child and Raffi make the story come alive for all readers. Emotions are hard to define at times and writing them and their reactions would pale in comparison to their faces in the illustrations in this book. At bedtime he had more questions for his mom that you might not think a child would ask: Like: Am I strange or weird? Why do I like to sing and draw and knit? Am I girly? Great questions that are often asked but when his mother responds his feelings change and he realizes that not everyone plays football, and that he is a wonderful young boy with interests in areas that I find more exciting than football or sports. Snuggling in his bed he falls asleep. The next day in school would change his life and the perspective of the other students when Mrs.

Donnell comes into the class and says that they were going to put on a play and announces who would play the major roles. Raffi realized that the teacher and the school had little time to create costumes so he enlists the help of his mom to create the right cape for the child playing the prince to wear. The author shows Raffi creating the cape, outlines the procedure and in detail and wait until you see it you won't believe how magnificent it is. But, what will the kids in school think and the teacher? Wait until you see Mrs.

Donnell's expression and wait until you hear what the students say! When you check out the reaction of the boy playing the prince and the other students there are many valuable lessons to be learned. Their facial expressions really hit the mark and what they say really makes Raffi take notice. Will the other students accept him? Wait until you see his father's face when he gives him his present? Wait until you see his designs? Maybe he will star on Project Runway Junior with Tim Gunn? So move over Ralph Lauren, Christian Dior, Armani, Versace and even Donna Karan and Coco Chanel and make way for everything MADE BY RAFFI! A story that shows embracing your differences, acceptance, understanding and talents just might make you noticed as someone special and unique. Check out all of his designs and hopefully one day Raffi will make this reviewer a Raffi sweatshirt with a book on the front.

Raffi is an introvert who prefers quiet to the noisy games the other children play at school. He wonders why he is different. When he sees his teacher quietly knitting, he takes an interest and starts to love making a scarf. So when he gets home he asks his parents if they will buy him some supplies so he can make his dad a scarf. This is only the beginning of his creativity. Soon he also learns to sew and makes a magical cape fit for a prince. The other children at school want him to make something for them too. This is a colorful and fun book for kids who might wonder why they

are different or for kids to teach them the concept of accepting differences. I like that the parents supported their child in what he really wanted to do instead of forcing him to conform to their dreams.~The Rebecca Reviewl received a free copy of this book for review purposes.

I received a copy of this book for review and am under no obligation to share my opinion, though I am choosing to do so.I LOVE THIS BOOK!!!! It explores feeling a little bit different, which is something many children can relate to on some level. And it highlights unconditional love from parents, which is something we all need to keep in mind as one of the very greatest gifts we could ever give our children. When given support and encouragement, little Raffi is able to positively SOAR and let his interests and talents bring out extraordinary results. Every kid has that capacity within them when their gifts and unique characteristics get nurtured instead of suppressed. I highly recommend this book for every library (public and personal!).

Growing up as something of a "tomboy" myself, I love the idea of a "tomgirl" - but even more so the idea that activities don't have to be gendered. Made by Raffi supports the idea that boys and girls can all do the same things, no matter what, and that's such an important lesson to teach kids. I will definitely read this story to the preschoolers I work with. I wish there were more kids books out there like this one!

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