

# I Always, ALWAYS Get My Way

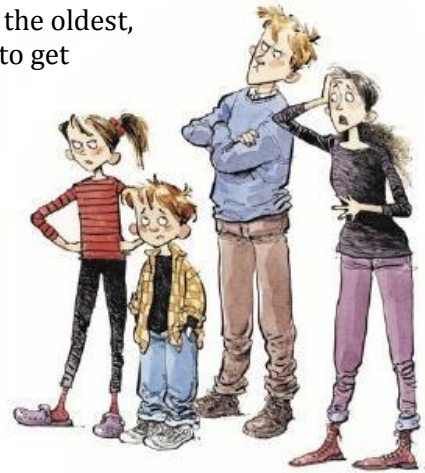
## PARENT/TEACHER ACTIVITY GUIDE

by Thad Krasnesky and David Parkins

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION: AGE, BIRTH ORDER & FAIRNESS

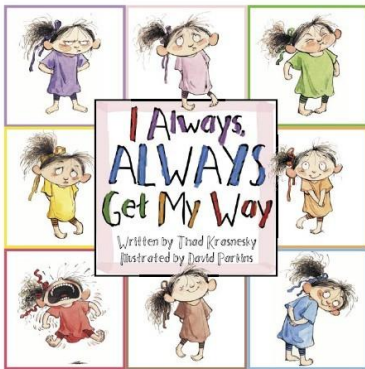
What did you think about the title *I Always, Always Get My Way*? Before you read the story, did you think that the character in the book was really going to always, **always** get her way?

Do you have any siblings? What are their ages? In your family, are you the oldest, the youngest, or in the middle? Are you an only child? Do you ever try to get your way because of your age or your place in the family? What are some of the good things about being your age? What are some of the difficult things?



Do you think it is fair for someone to **always** get their way? Are there times that we **should** let people get their way even if they might not deserve it? Should we ever let younger children get their way just because they are young? When?

### ACTIVITY: EMOTIONS & FACIAL EXPRESSIONS



Look at the faces that Emmy is making on the cover of the book and inside the front cover. Try to guess what emotion Emmy is expressing in each picture. Here are some words to help you:

- |             |         |           |
|-------------|---------|-----------|
| Angry       | Forlorn | Livid     |
| Annoyed     | Furious | Pleased   |
| Bashful     | Glum    | Sad       |
| Confused    | Happy   | Satisfied |
| Embarrassed | Hopeful | Sorry     |
| Frustrated  | Joyful  | Worried   |

What would happen at home or in school if you made some of those faces? What faces do you make when you are trying to get your way?

Make a face and have others guess what emotion you are trying to express.

### ACTIVITIES: RULES & CONSEQUENCES

- I. Use the table below to make a list of some of the rules in your house, classroom, or school. List the consequences you would face in each case if you broke that rule.

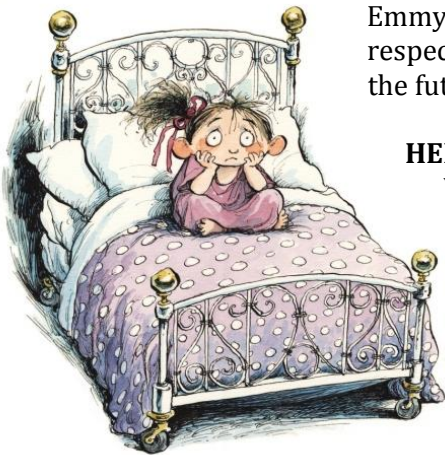
RULES IN MY HOUSE/CLASSROOM/SCHOOL	CONSEQUENCE FOR BREAKING THIS RULE

- II. In this book, Emmy made a lot of “messes”. Some were accidents and some were on purpose. Check ✓ one of the columns below to show if you think the situation was an accident or on purpose. Write the consequence that Emmy’s parent gave her in each situation (or write NONE). If you were Emmy’s parent, what consequence would **YOU** have given her? Discuss your answers.

What happened	Was this ...		The consequence...	
	an accident?	on purpose?	given by Emmy's parents	that I would give
Spilled orange juice				
Tripped on brother's toys				
Blamed brother after she tripped				
Used sister's stuff without permission				
Buried everyone's treasure				
Tracked dirt into house				
Made ice cream mess				
Played with and lost Steve				
Soaked sister's shoes				
Flooded bathroom and upstairs				

### MORE QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

At the end of the book, Emmy's parents send her to her room. What do you think Emmy learned that will help her in the future? About responsibility? About respect? About needing to get her own way? How can she act more responsibly in the future?



### HELP EMMY BECOME A HELPER

Write a letter to Emmy giving her suggestions about how to behave or how to use her manners. You might want to think about and include some ways in which Emmy could help someone else even though she's only three:

- care for a pet
- set the table
- help her sister or brother in some way
- help weed the garden
- plant her own garden



Even though this is a funny story, it can also teach important lessons. Do you know any children who act like Emmy? How would reading this book help them? How would it help their brothers or sisters? How would it help their parents?

At your age, what could you do to help others in your home, school, or community? Make a list, and then choose one helping project to do.