



Only You!*

We're all different from one another, thank goodness! It's important to let kids know they are each one-of-a kind and have greatness within them. Letting them know this doesn't cost anything, yet it's a gift that helps them flourish.

Here's a game to play:

- 1) This game helps kids to know exactly what's special about them and their interests and talents. You need two or more players, a small stuffed toy or ball, and one person who is willing to write notes as you play. Form a circle (sitting, standing, or around a table) and choose someone to start.
- 2) The important rule is that players can only make positive or nice comments. This keeps the game fun for everyone, so make sure all players agree to this guideline.
- 3) Round One: The starter tosses the toy or ball to someone, saying, "When I look at you, I see someone who enjoys ____." Fill in the blank with something the catcher enjoys—like art, pets, building things, reading comics, playing sports, running and jumping, eating macaroni and cheese, and so forth.
- 4) The person who catches the toy or ball says, "Thank you," and tosses it to someone else or back to the starter saying, "When I look at you, I see someone who enjoys ____." Make sure everyone gets a turn to catch and throw.
- 5) Round Two and on: Use other sentences, such as "What I like about you is ____," for example, your smile, the way you sing, your interest in basketball, your sense of humor, your bravery, your kindness, your intelligence, or your imagination. Round Three could be "I think you are good at ____."
- 6) Stop the game whenever you wish. Take one piece of notebook paper for each person and write "Only You! [Name]" at the top. Use the notes to create a little poster for each player. Put a photo or drawing of the person in the middle and the words all around it. Leave room for more words to be added when you play this game again. Preserve these posters in the **Our Treasures** section of your **WAY TO GO!** FAMILY LEARNING JOURNAL™ or post them on a wall.



"Children treasure words that show you love, value, and truly know them. Sometimes they remember these words all their lives, especially when they're feeling discouraged. It's fun for both the giver and receiver to exchange positive comments."

— *Grandma Anna*

*Only You! supports the English-Language Arts Content Standards related to identifying character traits in stories.

