



Julie

Learning Guide

Learn about equality, protecting the environment, and facing change through the stories of Julie, a girl growing up during the 1970s.





Julie

About the Julie Books

Julie Albright is growing up in 1975, a time of change. For Julie, life after her parents' divorce holds as many ups and downs as the hilly streets of San Francisco, where she lives. Moving to an apartment above her mom's shop is just one of many changes she must get used to. She misses her dad and her best friend, and finding a way to fit in at a new school is hard work.

But Julie begins to see that change can also bring new possibilities. In America in the 1970s, girls are starting to claim the same rights as boys to play on sports teams. For basketball-crazy Julie, this is exciting news! It isn't always easy getting other people to be open to new ideas, though. As Julie tries to find out just where she fits into these changing times, she learns important lessons about believing in herself and respecting the world around her.

The core theme of Julie's series is change. In the 1970s, American society was reeling from profound social changes, from Watergate to the women's rights movement. Julie's efforts to understand her family and find her own place in it after the divorce are a girl-sized parallel to the changes that rocked America in the 1970s—and are still shaping the country today.

The six books of the core series are:

Book 1: *Meet Julie*

Book 2: *Julie Tells Her Story*

Book 3: *Happy New Year, Julie*

Book 4: *Julie and the Eagles*

Book 5: *Julie's Journey*

Book 6: *Changes for Julie*

Instructions for Teachers

Assign or read aloud to your students some or all of the books in numerical order. As needed, print copies of each work sheet you would like to use in class. Before assigning the work sheets to your students, consider the talking points and discussion questions for each work sheet provided below. Note: It's not essential to read all six books in order to complete the work sheets.

Talking Points and Discussion

Equality

In the 1970s, many people didn't think that girls could do the same kinds of things that boys could do, such as play sports or become doctors or lawyers. Other people believed that girls and women should be able to do everything that men could do. So Congress passed a law that included a section called Title Nine, which forbade sex discrimination at public schools. This new law gave girls and women more opportunities in sports, education, and careers.

Title Nine required schools to provide athletic teams for girls or else let girls play on the boys' teams. In *Meet Julie*, Julie finds that some people, like the basketball coach at her new school, haven't yet accepted the changes taking place. She must fight for what she believes in to create opportunity for herself and other girls. *Discussion questions:* What does it mean to have "equal rights" for men and women or boys and girls? In your experience, are things equal between boys and girls today?



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Protecting the Environment

In *Julie and the Eagles*, Julie finds an injured baby owl in Golden Gate Park. She brings it to a wildlife rescue center, where she meets two bald eagles that are being rehabilitated. For Earth Day, Julie goes on television to tell her community about the eagles' plight.

Like Julie, many other Americans were growing concerned about the state of the environment in the 1970s. Serious problems such as air and water pollution made Americans realize that their activities were harming the natural world, and Congress began passing laws to protect the environment. In 1970, Americans celebrated the first Earth Day with fairs and activities to clean up and educate their communities. *Discussion question:* What are some things people are doing today to protect the environment?

Facing Change

Julie faces a series of changes all at once—her parents' divorce, moving to a new apartment, going to a new school, and leaving her best friend. Sometimes she feels angry about these changes because she has no control over them, but she learns to focus on things she can gain some control over, from getting on the basketball team to helping save a pair of bald eagles to running for school president. Julie's stories are about facing change with optimism and creativity. *Discussion question:* Are there things in your life that you would like to find a way to change?

Answer Key

Equality

1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers should convey three of the following points: Julie asks her parents if she can play on the team; she starts a petition; she gives the petition to the basketball coach; she shows the petition to the school principal; she practices a lot; she doesn't give up.
3. Answers will vary.

Protecting the Environment

1. Answers will vary.
2. T-shirt designs will vary.

Facing Change

1. Answers should convey positive school experiences, such as: Julie could make new friends; she could have nice teachers; she could have interesting classes; she might like the cafeteria food; the school might have a great basketball team; etc.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.



Julie

Puzzle

C	T	H	L	D	E	S	O	I	H	E	L	R
M	O	U	E	Y	T	T	A	D	S	S	E	P
C	L	H	E	S		O	O	L	T	H	E	
	O	A	E		A			E	H			
	S	H	E		T	O	L	D		H	E	R
C	L	A	S	S		S	O		T	H	E	Y
C	O	U	L	D		R	A	I	S	E		
M	O	N	E	Y		T	O		H	E	L	P
	T	H	E		E	A	G	L	E	S		

Illustrations by Robert Hunt and John Andrews



Julie

Equality

1. In *Meet Julie*, Julie’s father supports Julie playing basketball, but he’s not sure she should play on the boys’ team. He is worried that Julie will get hurt. Do you think that’s a good reason to keep her off the team? Why or why not?

2. Sometimes people have to take action to gain equal rights, because other people don’t want things to change. What actions does Julie take to get on the school basketball team?

Title Nine

In 1972, Congress created a new law called Title Nine. The law says that no one in the United States can be stopped from participating in any school program because of gender. The law made it possible for girls to play on more sports teams and take part in other school activities that used to be for boys only.

3. In *Changes for Julie*, Julie runs for student body president and chooses her friend Joy to be her candidate for vice president. Many students think Joy will not be a good vice president because she is deaf, but Julie believes Joy deserves a chance. What do you think—should Joy run for vice president? Why or why not?



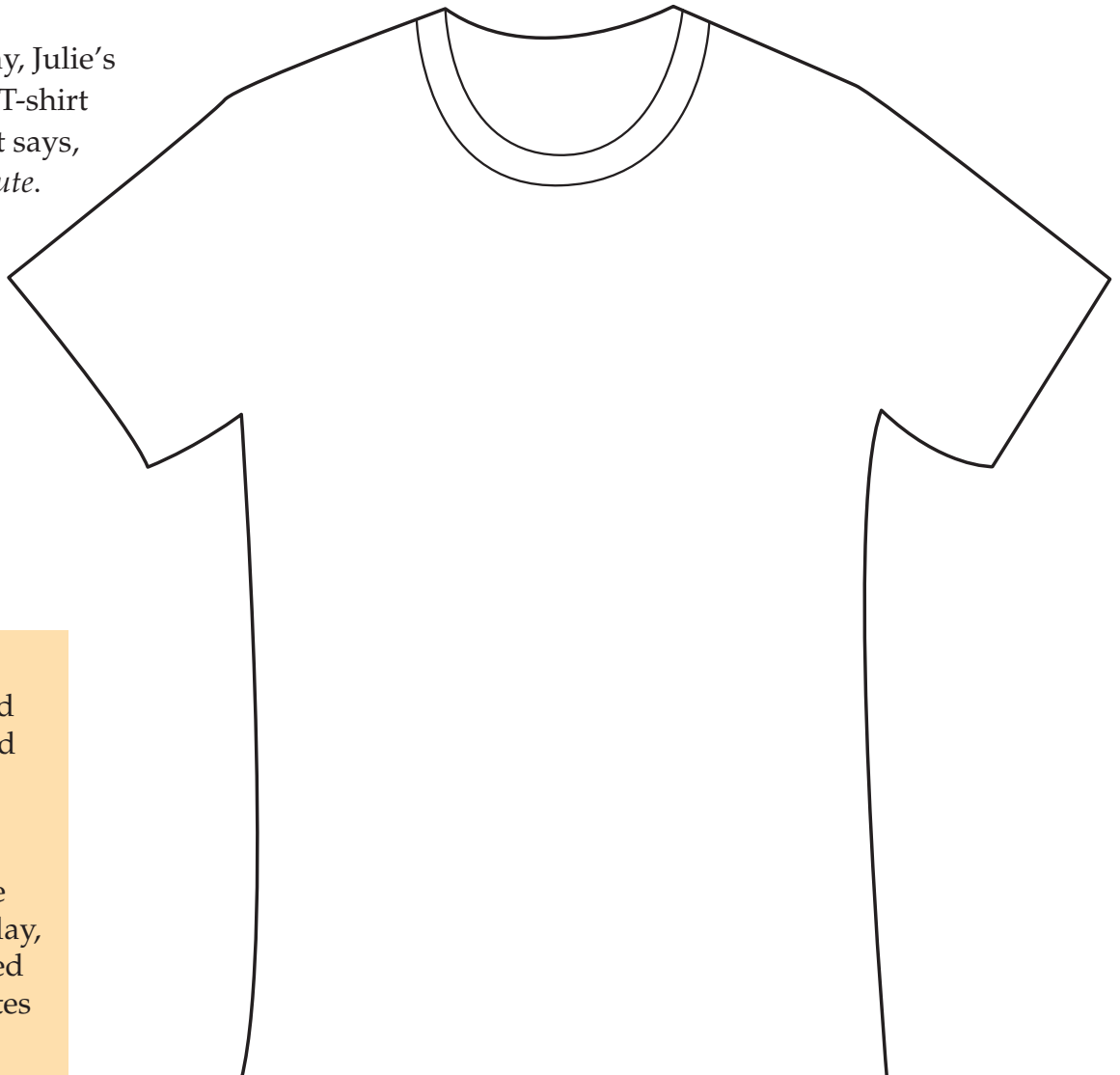
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Protecting the Environment

1. In *Julie and the Eagles*, Julie sees builders clearing land for houses. Julie tells the foreman that his crew is cutting down trees where eagles make their nests and that soon there will be nowhere for the eagles to live. What is an environmental issue that you care about? What would you say to someone to help that person understand the issue?

2. To celebrate Earth Day, Julie's friend Hank wears a T-shirt with an owl on it that says, *Give a hoot. Don't pollute.*

Design your own T-shirt for an environmental cause you care about.



Earth Day

Earth Day was created to raise awareness and appreciation for our natural environment. The first Earth Day celebration took place on April 22, 1970. Today, Earth Day is celebrated across the United States and in Canada.



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Facing Change

1. Julie worries about what it will be like when she transfers to a new school. Instead of worrying, she could focus on the good things that the change to a new school might bring. What are three good things Julie could hope for at her new school?

2. Julie's dad tells her that when a broken bone heals, it becomes even stronger, which makes Julie wonder if the people in her own family might be stronger, in some ways, once they heal from the divorce. Describe a difficult change that you've experienced. Did it make you stronger? Explain your answer.

3. The change of the calendar year is viewed as a new beginning in many cultures. In *Happy New Year, Julie*, Ivy's family celebrates Chinese New Year by cleaning the house and wearing new clothes to make a fresh start. Many Americans make New Year's resolutions, which are specific changes they want to make to improve their lives. Write your own resolution in the blank below. Then write three things you can do to help make the change happen.

<p>I resolve to</p> <hr/>
<p>Things I can do to help make the change:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



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Eagle Rescue

When Julie learned that bald eagles were losing their homes and their lives all across California, what did she decide to do about it? To solve the puzzle, place the letters above the purple line in the boxes below the purple line to form words. The letters in each column can be used only in that column. An orange square indicates the end of a word.

C	T	H	L	D	E	S	O	I	H	E	L	R
M	O	U	E	Y	T	T	A	D	S	S	E	P
C	L	H	E	S		O	O	L	T	H	E	
	O	A	E			A			E	H		
	S						L					
			S									Y
						R						
		N								E		
							G					

