## The Golden Rule

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Grandpa explains that the golden rule is a simple statement on how to live that can be practiced by people of all ages and faiths, then helps his grandson figure out how to apply the rule to his own life. 20,000 first printing.

llene Cooper is the award-winning writer of many acclaimed children's books, including Jewish Holidays All Year Round, A Woman in the House (and Senate), and Eleanor Roosevelt, Fighter for Justice. She lives in Highland Park, Illinois. Visit her website at ilenecooper.com and follow her on Twitter @Booklist\_llene.

Gabi Swiatkowska is an illustrator, author, and musician. She has received many awards for her work, including a Caldecott nomination, the ALA Notable Children's Book list, and the Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Award.Kindergarten-Grade 5-A nameless boy and his grandfather discuss the meaning of the Golden Rule, its universality, and ways to practice it. Grandfather points out that many religions and cultures, from Christianity to Hinduism to the Shawnee tribe, have their own variations, and he quotes six examples. The boy wonders what the world would be like if more people practiced the Rule, and Grandfather explains that "It begins with you." The rich, golden paintings and large format reinforce the importance of the topic. The cherubic boy and his old-fashioned grandfather gaze solemnly out of the pages, making eye contact with readers and inviting them into the discussion. Swirling patterns of animal shapes and symbols from various traditions are reminders that the topic is as abstract as the art, with much room for interpretation. This is less a story than a discussion starter, and teachers, parents, and religious leaders will welcome it as a clear introduction to an important subject. While there are more compelling examples throughout children's literature of characters practicing the Golden Rule, from Frances Hodgson Burnett's A Little Princess to Chris Raschka's Yo! Yes? (Scholastic, 1993), there are few titles that address the concept so directly.-Heidi Estrin, Feldman Children's Library at Congregation B'nai Israel, Boca Raton, FL

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