I am NOT a Chair!

Ariel Woodbury

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Woodbury, Ariel (2017) "I am NOT a Chair!," Children's Book and Media Review: Vol. 38 : Iss. 10 , Article 28.
Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol38/iss10/28
Book Review

Title: I am NOT a Chair!
Author: Ross Burach
Reviewer: Ariel Woodbury
Publisher: HarperCollins Children’s Books
Year: 2017
ISBN: 9780062360168
Pages: 40
Interest Level: Preschool
Rating: Outstanding

Review

All the other animals keep mistaking Giraffe for a chair! He tries to speak up, but every time he does something happens! So he tries a different approach: he decides to show them the difference between himself and the chair by making one. Unfortunately for Giraffe, the chair looks just like him! A hungry lion sits on Giraffe while he looks for an animal to eat. Giraffe stands still until he finally tells the lion that he’s a giraffe. The lion is so scared that his chair is talking that he runs away. The next day, Giraffe tells everyone what happened.

This book is great! It is witty and ironic and has fun illustrations. At one point Giraffe says, “Can’t they see? I have spots and ears and eyes and,” pointing to his ossicones, “whatever these things are.” The illustrations are a cartoon style with large googly eyes and exaggerated expressions. The book is a steady stream of silliness that sets up a classic resolution, in which the misunderstanding saves Giraffe from being eaten by a lion, but diverges at the last moment. This is a great read-aloud book for anyone who has been misunderstood.