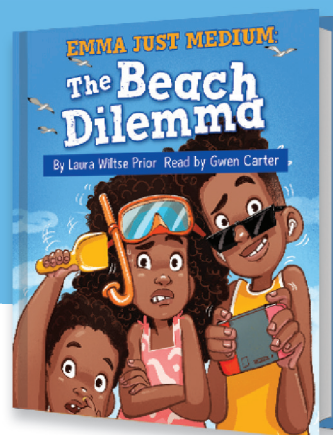


**EMMA JUST MEDIUM:**

# The Beach Dilemma

by Laura Wiltse Prior



## Discussion Guide

1. Nicknames are very important in Emma's family. Do you have a nickname? If so, how did it become your nickname, and why is it perfect for you? If not, what would be a good nickname for you and why?
2. Do you have any siblings? If so, are you the oldest, the youngest, or in the middle? What is that like for you?
3. A line on page 3 says, "Emma knew that the middle could be an extra hard place to be." Do you think that's true? Why or why not?
4. Think of a time when you felt like you were in the middle. What was hard about being in the middle, and how did you handle it?
5. A line on page 5 says, "Emma wished she had a separate place to live from her brothers." Do you have a special place you like to go to be alone? If so, where?
6. Emma tries to act big like her older brother, then little like her younger brother. What are some things you miss and don't miss about being younger? What are some things you do and don't look forward to about being older?
7. If you could pick, would you choose to be younger, older, or the same age you are now? Why?
8. On page 28, Big and Sara make a trap that causes Emma to fall in a hole at the beach. Did someone ever play a mean prank on you? How did it make you feel?
9. On page 46, Emma's dad says she's been acting "out of character" on the vacation. What does it mean to act out of character? Have you ever acted out of character? How and when?
10. At the end of the book, Emma is trusted with two responsibilities—placing the lobsters in the tank and holding baby Beth. What are some responsibilities you've recently been trusted with? What are they, and how does it make you feel to be trusted with them?



An imprint of Red Chair Press LLC  
[www.redchairpress.com](http://www.redchairpress.com)

### Book Details

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-947159-600

E-book ISBN: 9781-947159-617

BISAC: JUV013070, JUV039140, JUV019000

72 pages, 6,854 words, Lexile: 580

## About Laura Wiltse Prior

Laura Wiltse Prior went from writing tales starring “Laura the Great” in her dad’s studio office, to crafting short stories when she was supposed to be working in a business office, to writing books for kids in her very own office. She loves reading anything and everything. When she isn’t writing, Laura’s ferrying her kids around, hiking with her dog Cody, or hanging with Casper the family cat. She lives in Connecticut with her husband and three kids, the inspiration for her stories.

## About the Book

Even though her family calls her Emma Bemma, Emma knows she is really just a dilEmma because she is just medium. That’s because she’s the middle kid between her two brothers, who everyone calls Big and Little. Big thinks he’s the coolest kid on the planet now that he’s 10. That means he doesn’t want to play anything with Emma anymore. And everyone thinks Little is just adorable even when he picks his nose! What’s a middle child to do? Sometimes Emma feels like the only one who understands her is her Japanese fighting fish, Star, whose tank is stuck in the middle of his two brothers. And as usual, Emma has to ride in the middle seat as her family heads out on a weeklong beach vacation with friends, where being just medium will only get worse! Then Emma has an idea. What if she could get out of being in the middle by taking on a new role? What if she acted BIG? Or even bigger than that? Will things go as planned? Or will she have another huge dilEmma?

## What Others Say:

“Emma is at a loss as to what she should do next when assistance with her “dilEmma” comes from an unexpected corner. The solution is fairly simple and predictable, but it teaches a valuable lesson about embracing one’s personality and learning to appreciate what makes one unique, and it holds together well.”

–Kirkus Reviews



An imprint of Red Chair Press LLC  
[www.redchairpress.com](http://www.redchairpress.com)