

Children's / Friendships / Bullying
Ages 4–8

Wagenbach

Big, Brave, Bold
SERGIO

Swimming with the Snappers makes Sergio feel **BIG, BRAVE,** and **BOLD.**

But sometimes the Snappers' idea of fun gives Sergio "squishy" feelings. He doesn't like it when they start picking on a minnow named Gil...but it's hard to stand up to your friends!

Includes a **Note to Parents and Caregivers** by Julia Martin Burch, PhD, on bullying, friendship, fitting in, and ways to discuss these issues with your child.

Big, Brave, Bold Sergio

Magination Press

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Published by the American Psychological Association
www.apa.org/pubs/magination



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Sergio liked swimming with the Snappers.



He felt **BIG** when they scattered the minnows.



He felt **BRAVE** when they played soccer with the snails.



He felt **BOLD** when they plucked tail feathers from the ducks.



Lately, though, Sergio noticed how others quivered when the Snappers swam by. This bothered him, but when he mentioned it to one of the other Snappers, Big Clay nipped at him.



“Don’t let any squishy feelings stick to your shell, Sergio. You are a Snapper and Snappers hate squishy feelings. Squishy feelings will make you soft and weak!” Sergio did not argue, but he wondered more and more if this was where he fit in.