

Dear J.K.Rowling,

In 5th grade I did not have many friends. I had about two real friends who were not in any of my classes. So, if our teacher gave us a choice to work with a partner or by ourselves, I would always choose to work by myself. Due to this, I did not interact with the other kids very much. This made me feel alone. At the same time, my mom bought me Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. I decided to read it – with all the free time I had, this was a way to pass some time.

Every day the hours flew by. At recess I would not play football or basket ball. I would go at a table and sit there for the 45 minuets of recess we had. I didn't want to even bother playing sports because they only picked the popular kids and I was usually picked last if I ever played it. I couldn't find anyone who liked the same things I did, so I never played or talked with the other kids a lot.....only rarely. I didn't think friends were important. Then I started reading your book.

Days flew by as I read your book. What seemed like minuets were hours as I was entangled in the words of this book. I read it day after day and enjoyed it. Finally I finished it. I had not gotten anything out of it at all yet except the enjoyment of reading. The day after I finished reading it I went to school the same way I always did. At recess I sat at the table again. Then I heard a yell. I looked in the direction of the scream. Some kid I didn't know was getting picked on by an older kid. I looked around to see if any adults were around, but there weren't. Then about three of the younger kid's friends came over and the older kid got startled and ran off. That night I skimmed through the book again in the middle of the book. I then realized that from the event earlier that day and from the book I realized that Harry did most of the things he did because of his friends. It would be harder for him to accomplish.

After these events I realized friends are important to a person's life. Friends are there to help you if you are struggling and sometimes to just play or talk about things. With friends I have more fun and I'm not alone anymore. I had always thought friends would not help me at all. I felt I didn't need them, but with friends i no longer feel alone.

I feel good knowing I have friends. I hang out with them every day. We play games and make jokes all of the time. Without friends there is a void in a person's life. My life has been improved greatly. I don't even know why I started to think friends weren't that important in the 5th grade. I hope I never do again.

Sincerely,
Mat Sylvester