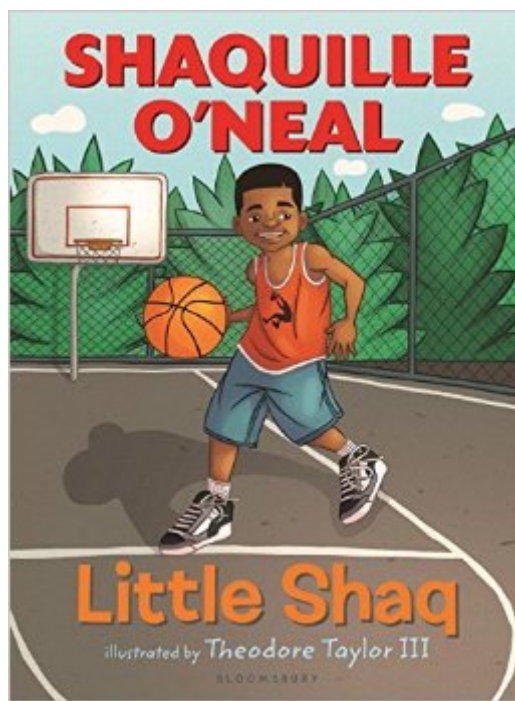


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# Little Shaq



## Synopsis

The start of a brand new series by Shaquille O'Neal and illustrated by 2014 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent award winner Theodore Taylor III, Little Shaq is sure to be a hit with young readers. When Little Shaq and his cousin Barry accidentally break their favorite video game, they need to find a way to replace it. That's when Little Shaq's science project inspires a solution: a gardening business. They can water their neighbors' gardens to raise money for a new game! Little Shaq and Barry make a great team both on and off the basketball court, but will their business be as successful as they hoped? Showing kids that anything is possible with the support of friends and family, Little Shaq will inspire them to love reading, play fair, and have fun!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520 (What's this?)

Series: Little Shaq

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens (October 6, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1619637219

ISBN-13: 978-1619637214

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.5 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #108,220 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Basketball](#) #1330 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Chapter Books](#) #1798 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers](#)

Age Range: 5 - 7 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 2

## Customer Reviews

[View larger](#)    A conversation with Shaq    Tell us about Little Shaq. What inspired you to write a book for children? Little Shaq is the start of a brand-new series based on some of my experiences as a kid. In the first book, Little Shaq and his cousin Barry accidentally break their favorite video game, and they need to find a way to replace it, so they start a gardening business together. But even though they make a great team, things don't go exactly as they planned. My

inspiration for the book is being a father of six. Being a role model. Being the guy who's looked up to. I want to use that power to encourage kids to love reading, and help them have fun doing it! Were you an avid reader as a kid? What was your favorite book? My favorite book was The House of Dies Drear. But when I was younger, I was intimidated by the smart kids. I didn't think I was smart, and I didn't think it was cool to be smart. It wasn't until I hung out with one of the "smart kids" and he helped me with my homework that I realized, I am smart. And that the smarter you are, the more all your dreams will come true. (Trust me.) That's why I believe education and literacy are so important for young kids. That's why I got my PhD in education. What do you think are the challenges parents, librarians, and teachers face in educating kids today? Our kids are facing a lot of distractions. Phones, Xboxes, apps, Facebook, Snapchat—we have to go against all of that, and it's tough. If we can keep a kid's attention, a page or chapter at a time, we're doing something right. I hope Little Shaq can be the book to help with that and keep kids on track. If you could describe the most important aspects of Little Shaq in five words, what would they be? Education, family, fun, community, and sports!

I've had the nickname "SHAQ" for over twenty years now. I'm called it by my friends, business associates, and twenty years later, I'm now sometimes called "Grandpa-SHAQ" by my beautiful Granddaughters, and that's the best of all. Along with the "other" "SHAQ's" basketball skills, there are two other just as important reasons I always loved "SHAQ": because like me, he was a kid that never grew up, and even after "banging" under the boards with the biggest and baddest in the NBA, he always openly showed so much love and respect for his parents, and it didn't matter where he was or who was there. And both those loving qualities are evident in this wonderful children's book. The story of Little "SHAQ" not sharing the ball with his teammate and cousin Barry, creates hurt feelings, temper tantrums, and damaging of a video game. Dad tells them they have to earn money on their own to replace it. They have to work together off the court as well as on. They find that the feeling they find in that process can benefit an entire community. I have bought this book for my youngest Granddaughter, and look forward to reading it to her, and know very shortly it will help her as she is at the age where she's starting to learn to read. I also like the way this story ties together some of the main

core values of our family—sports—school—reading—teamwork—on and off the court. The illustrations are large—colorful—and extremely accurately defined—so as to make it easy for an adult reading to a child—to have meaningful pauses on the pages—to point out a “picture” of what they just read—to emphasize a story point—and help insure the interest level is continuing. Thank goodness my namesake didn’t include any free throwing in the story!

My son and I just got finished reading Little Shaq. We thought it was Great!!!! I am so glad that we heard about the book after my son read the book he wanted to know were there more books from Shaquille O’neal and also he wanted to take an Accelerated Reader Test. These books should be added to Accelerated Reader ASAP!!! It was an easy read, nice illustrations and nice font lettering, especially for me. I love to read with my son but sometimes find it hard because of the font but this font was Great! Please write more books Shaquille! I am so happy to read children books written by an African American Male. Love It!!!!

I purchased this book for my 5 yrs old grandson. He loves this book. He cannot not read but he tells the story by viewing the pictures in the book. He enjoys hearing the story and makes comments about teamwork shown in the book! Great book! I look forward to the next installment of Little Shaq.

Little Shaq is an entertaining and amusing children’s story which emphasizes the values of sharing, good sportsmanship, teamwork, entrepreneurship, and the benefits of hard work. I read Little Shaq with my 8-year-old daughter and she loved it. My daughter asked me a lot of questions about Shaquille O’Neal and his basketball career. She wanted to know whether these stories were based on Shaq’s real life experiences. We did a little research and discovered that this story was indeed based on Shaq’s childhood experiences growing up in Newark. My daughter liked Little Shaq so much she wanted to read Little Shaq Takes a Chance the very next day.

The description for this item doesn’t state a reading level or age range, so I’m here to offer that information. I bought it for my 10 year old 5th grader and it’s way to easy for him and now is not a good gift item. I’d say this is best for a 5-7 year old.

Little Shaq is the story of Little Shaq and his cousin Barry. They’re the best of friends. They

love basketball, but Little Shaq does not let Barry shoot very often. Barry is upset when Little Shaq takes the shot to win the game when he is open but does not get the ball. They also love video games and Barry gets to choose the one to play. When Little Shaq shows Barry up in the game and again does not pass the ball, Barry gets upset and the game gets broken. They try to blame one another and Little Shaq finally realizes how Barry feels. Both boys accept responsibility of paying for a new game. They decide to work together to raise money to pay for it. They come up with the idea to water plants to earn money. They have fun and a few misadventures in their task but by working together and learning that hard work pays off they have enough for two games. Instead of buying the games, Barry and Little Shaq decide to use the money to help out their community by making a community garden, and get all their neighbours and friends to help out. Filled with great illustrations a quick and easy read. The language is simple and the story filled with a sense of community and friendship. A couple of great lessons to learn. The illustrations are cute and certainly add to the story.

My grandson loves this book! He is a huge basketball fan so the story captivates him. I appreciate the social lessons in the story. The illustrations are excellent also.

I still have the books, I have not given them to the boys I purchased them for yet, but I'm sure they will enjoy the read, because they all think they want to be Basketball Stars themselves!!!

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