It Wasn't Me

"It Wasn't Me", by Dana Alison Levy was a good read for 5th or 6th graders. I enjoyed the message that the book conveyed while keeping it interesting with the mystery of who really did it. You ask, "who did what?" Someone has completely vandalized a student's artwork, and one of the teachers is having those that were there at the time of the incident participate in a week long Justice Circle to see if they can find out who destroyed the art. It teaches you a lot about how it is not always right to label people because they might surprise you. I would totally recommend this book It surprised me with it's heartwarming story line. Here is the Goodreads summary to give you more details:

When Theo's photographs are vandalized and trashed beyond all recognition, there are five kids at the scene: The Nerd, the Princess, the Jock, the Weirdo, and the Screw-Up.

All anyone will say is "It wasn't me."

Theo doesn't care who it was, he just wants to stop being the victim. The sooner the school forgets the whole humiliating thing, the better. But his favorite teacher is asking the six of them to spend vacation week together "learning to trust" and getting to the truth. She calls it a Justice Circle. He calls it his worst nightmare.

Theo knows everything he needs to know about his classmates, and he's sure this Justice Circle is going to be an epic and totally mortifying waste of time. But after a few days of sock puppets gone wrong, artificial flesh wounds, and dangerous candy reconnaissance missions, he's not so certain. As they share their secrets, Theo realizes that he doesn't know anyone as well as he thought, not even himself. And the truths they share might change their lives forever.

Hilarious, awkward, surprising, and ultimately heartwarming, IT WASN'T ME is a guessing game that keeps readers wondering: what lies behind the labels we wear?