

Butterflies in My Stomach and Other School Hazards

From Sterling Publishing



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You can bet your bottom dollar this funny story is the cream of the crop—and the best thing since sliced bread! Award-winning artist Serge Bloch will have kids laughing their heads off at this child's-eye look at idiomatic expressions like "ants in your pants," "homework is for the birds," and "cat got your tongue?" These commonly used sayings make sense in the adult world, but just imagine what a child pictures when she hears it's "raining cats and dogs!" With witty and wonderful images that mix whimsical line drawings with photographs of inanimate objects, Bloch gives us a unique and sympathetic perspective on a boy's first day of school where colorful butterflies flutter in our hero's stomach and a cloud rains on him when he's "under the weather." Even the "big cheese" Principal has a body cut out of a block of Swiss.



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Butterflies in My Stomach and Other School Hazards From Sterling Publishing Bibliography

Sales Rank: #1009431 in BooksBrand: Sterling Publishing

• Published on: 2008-08-05

Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: .42" h x 8.68" w x 6.64" l, .59 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 32 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 2–4—A nameless little boy braves the first day of school in this crisply illustrated picture book. The text is a series of idioms that take him through the day, from waking up "on the wrong side of the bed," to having a "long face" at lunch, to being "happy as a puppy with two tails" when he finally comes home to his dog. The illustrations interpret each idiom literally, often to comic effect: "we'd be in a real pickle if we missed the bus" is accompanied by a pickle-as-bus picture, while meeting the "Big Cheese" shows a principal wearing a dress made of Swiss cheese. Bloch's graphic style incorporates photographs of objects into pen-and-ink drawings, and the copious use of white space keeps the focus squarely on the words and their visual interpretations. Wallace Edwards's *Monkey Business* (Kids Can, 2004) covers similar territory, but with a much more elaborate illustration style that goes more for humor than understanding. Here, Bloch's simple though imaginative pictures and clean visual style invite discussion of the deeper meanings of these oft-used phrases, making this an ideal book for the classroom or for one-on-one sharing.—*Kathleen Kelly MacMillan, Carroll County Public Library, MD*

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From **Booklist**

Taking metaphors literally is always fun, especially for young kids, for whom the images are fresh. Bloch's clear pen-and-ink drawings with occasional photographic collage do a great job of juxtaposing fact and feeling in the wry scenarios that illustrate the literal meaning of common sayings. In one scene, for example, a young boy has ants in his pants and is laughing his head off, even as the teacher tells him to zip his lip. Whether beginning preschool for the first time or returning to grade school after vacation, readers will recognize the panic and the fantasy of being top banana, the joy of throwing the baby out with the bathwater, the need to bottle up your feelings, and the nurse who keeps an eye out. The slapstick fun with words and pictures will appeal to preschoolers, but it is older grade-schoolers who will enjoy exploring the ways that words work. Preschool-Grade 2. --Hazel Rochman

Review

"...back-to-school fun."--Kirkus

"Bloch's simple though imaginative pictures and clean visual style invite discussion of the deeper meanings of these oft-used phrases, making this an ideal book for the classroom or for one-on-one sharing."— *School Library Journal*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Deborah Mele:

Reading a book tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the books. But also they write about the data

about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to the book. One of them is this Butterflies in My Stomach and Other School Hazards.

Hilda Szymanski:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Butterflies in My Stomach and Other School Hazards, you are able to enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

Dan Fry:

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