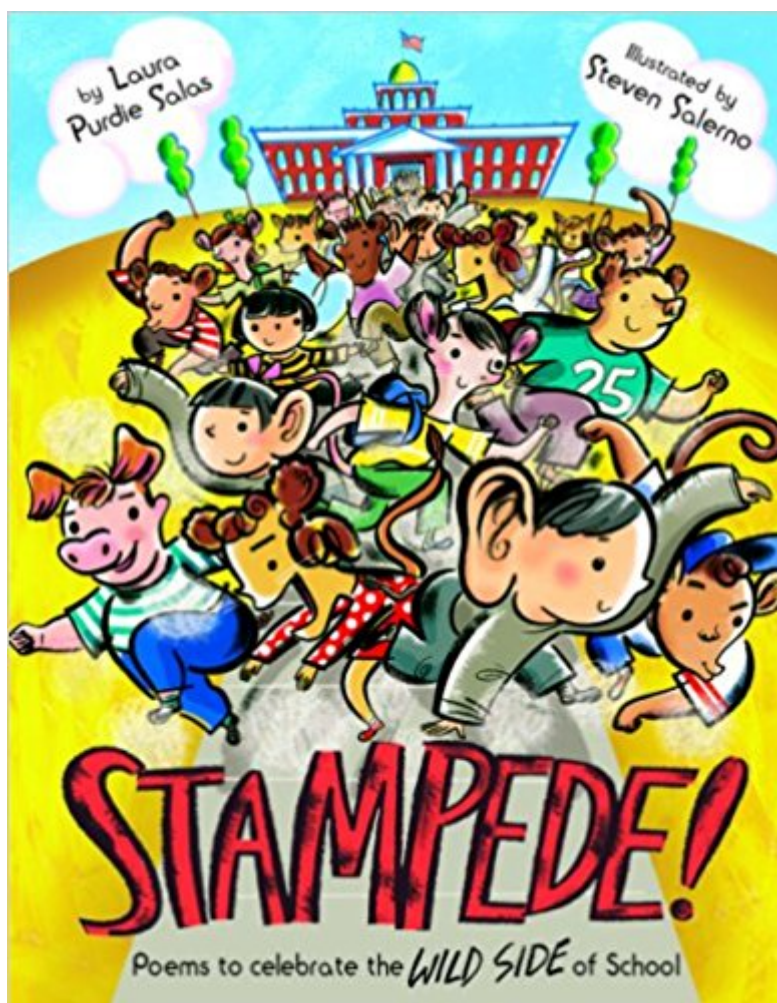


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Stampede!: Poems To Celebrate The Wild Side Of School



Synopsis

Finalist, 2010 Minnesota Book Award An inventive poetry collection that shows the wild side of first- and second-graders at school. These 18 funny and imaginative poems observe students in their natural habitat and reveal their unusual behavior, crazy communication, and very healthy appetites. Whether they're in the classroom, on the playground, or in the cafeteria, school brings out the animal in all of them. And if you look carefully as you turn the pages, you may even glimpse some of the wild side in yourself!

Book Information

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Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Grade 2
In 18 verses and whimsical pictures, the behavior of children is likened to that of animals as hunger transforms them into ravenous beasts, a new girl is turned into a mouse lost in a maze of hallways, and the final bell sets off a stampede of thundering elephants. In "Here, Boy," for example, a hungry youngster becomes a dog racing to get his food in the cafeteria: "Lunch bell starts ringing,/down the hallway I bound./I'm a dog who's just heard/the can-opener sound." The cartoon illustration depicts him with floppy ears, a collar round his neck, and his long belt looped behind him like a leash. These child-friendly verses may induce a wry chuckle or two, but overall, they're not memorable. Salerno has a great sense of composition, but his busy illustrations often distract from the simple imagery. Stick with stronger collections of school poetry, such as Jack

Prelutsky's *What a Day It Was at School!* (HarperCollins, 2006).
Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

No need to visit the zoo to see animals, young scholars just look at your classmates. From the buzzing bees swarming over the playground to the starving pre-lunch bear with the rumbling tummy and the blazing / cardinal, / winging / away from the rumor of a crush, school is well populated with wild creatures. Salas captures 18 of them in very short, first-person rhymes, and like fugitives from *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, the children in *Salerno's* supple, loosely drawn cartoon illustrations sport an array of evocative animal ears, tails, patterned clothes, and altered facial features. The wild verses are positively shot through with simile and metaphor, and young readers will run just as rampant, flocking to these pitch-perfect portrayals of their peers and selves. Grades 1-3. --John Peters

Arrived in new condition and love it.

My 6-year-old son's face turned beet red when I read the poem "Blush" from Laura Salas's new book "Stampede" to him. Turns out he has a crush on a classmate. I enjoyed reading "Stampede" with him. We laughed out loud reading "King of the Jungle (Gym)". I call Brandon "my little monkey" because he's been climbing and swinging before he could walk. And that's what's so unique about Laura Salas's book. She uses poetry to portray incidents that happen at school that children can relate to, but with an unusual twist - the kids are depicted as animals. I'm sure every reader will relate to one or more of Laura's poems. I liked "Turtleneck" because it reminded me of all those times I wanted to crawl into a shell and hide because I didn't want my teacher to call on me. The illustrator, Steven Salerno, make the words jump off the page through his illustrations. My son laughed at the spiked hair in the poem "Prickly" and the duck that was out of line in the poem "Ducks in a Row." I recommend adding this book to your collection. You'll have fun reliving your school days and may feel like a red cardinal when you remember your first crush.

A children's poetry book about an entire school year
From start to finish the allegories quite dear where else could you see children all around running and playing situations abound? From stampeding elephants to swarming like bees the kids swoop like sparrows and swing like monkeys A whirlwind of laughter to hearts ever breaking eighteen poems you'll remember and keep your sides

aching Kids will see that all their woes and fears happen to everyone at some point in their school careers. Adults will reminisce of their school days past brought vibrantly to life the memories ever last

Stampede is a fantastic and funny collection of poems for kids of all ages! The poems and art work beautifully together, and kids will have no trouble relating to their favorite animal images. The poems cover situations and emotions ranging from laugh-out-loud to poignant, and will no doubt inspire your young readers to also try their hand at becoming young writers. The collection would also be perfect for kids to memorize and act out their favorite entries, perhaps with puppets or their own stuffed animal friends. Don't monkey around: buy one now for your favorite "honey bunny."

Stampede looks, on its face, to be funny. And it is -- poems like King of the Jungle (Gym), Counting on Me, and Hike and Peek are all charming and amusing. But the strongest poems in this book are tender, compassionate portraits of kids struggling in the zoo-like world that is school. New Mouse, Tomorrow is Picture Day?, and Turtleneck are especially strong, and will comfort young readers while entertaining them.

This is another great collection of Laura Purdie Salas's poetry for kids. She perfectly captures the wild side of school in the primary grades. From lining up to busting loose, these poetry critter-kids live in me and in my school. Great for read alouds or memorizing. Children and adults will love these poems!

From the start of school to picture day to ducklings in a row, Laura Purdie Salas writes eighteen winsome poems, celebrating the highs and lows of school. With playful rhymes and bright illustrations, this book of poetry is perfect for first grade.

Laura Purdie-Salas's poems rollick across the pages, combining two of my favorite topics, school and animals, into a fun-filled, romp of poetry. Full of sensitive and lovely images and word-music to my ears. Bravo!

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