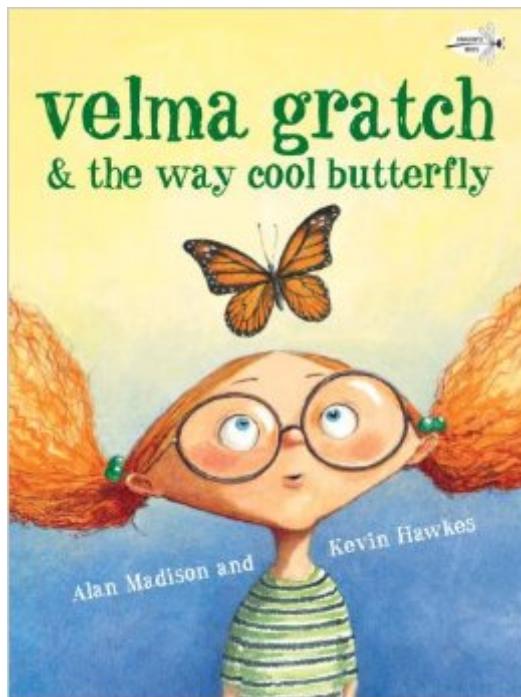


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# Velma Gratch And The Way Cool Butterfly



## Synopsis

It's hard to be Velma, the littlest Gratch, entering the first grade. That's because everyone has marvelous memories of her two older sisters, who were practically perfect first graders. Poor Velma—“people can barely remember her name. But all that changes on a class trip to the magnificent Butterfly Conservatory—a place neither of her sisters has ever been. When a monarch roosts on Velma's finger and won't budge for days . . . well, no one will forget Velma ever again. Acclaimed and bestselling illustrator Kevin Hawkes and author Alan Madison celebrate everything butterfly—from migration to metamorphosis. Watch as Velma Gratch metamorphosizes from a timid first grader into a confident young scientist!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 750L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; 7.8.2012 edition (August 7, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307978044

ISBN-13: 978-0307978042

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.1 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars—See all reviews (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #40,912 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #113 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders #274 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #305 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This is my kids all time favorite book. They ask me to read it to them over and over again. They just can't get enough of Velma Gratch. I think that we all have a little bit of Velma in us, and that is one of the things that is so appealing about it. I highly recommend it.

I read this book to my first grade students during our butterfly unit, and they loved it. The language is rich, using expressive adjectives, beautiful pictures, and weaving butterfly facts into a wonderful

fictional story. I understand the reviewer who was surprised by the second visit to the principal, but it facilitated a wonderful dialogue in our class about what our own principal's reaction might be. The class predicted that he would be thrilled to see Velma's way cool butterfly!

For anyone with children (or, who has been a child), who felt their siblings had special gifts and that they may not: Read this book! It so solidly informs us that we all are unique and special, and is beautifully written and illustrated in tune with this message.

**Velma Gratch and the Way Cool Butterfly** We purchased this book for our 5 year old grand daughter based on the reviews. It exceeded our expectations. A sweet story of a younger sister just starting school and finding her niche is charmingly told and illustrated. It has been a popular choice for bed time reading, and I suspect it will continue to charm other little girls for many years to come.

This book is awesome. We read it initially at the natural history museum and enjoyed it so much we purchased our own copy. The story is about a little girl, the youngest of three, who is having trouble standing out as she enters the first grade. Without any spoilers, Learning about butterflies helps Velma through the adjustment period. The book is relatable, well written, nicely illustrated, and contains unusual vocabulary ("metamorphosis!"). My child is three and loves this story, but I could see older children liking it as well. (Mommy likes it as well, so it's not a chore to read this slightly lengthy story before bedtime.)

This is a really cute book. One of my daughters (age 4) was all into monarch butterflies and I bought it for her, she really likes it. I like that the message of the story teaches all kids to embrace their own talents and passions and not to be disappointed if they turn out different than the older siblings.

My second grader likes this book quite a bit. She is a very good reader and this book she enjoys reading herself and having someone read it to her. There are a few challenging words for early readers here but that is great as it prompts the child to discover these new words and put them into their vocabulary. All done in a heartfelt story about a young girl who wants to be remembered and stand out from everyone else.

We read this book at the end of the year- after our butterfly unit but before our field trip. It was a good way to explain field trip expectations and to build on our butterfly unit. A bit long for a read

aloud for 2nd graders, but they liked it anyways.

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