



2006

Alpha Oops: The Day Z Went First

Sandra L. Tidwell

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Tidwell, Sandra L. (2006) "Alpha Oops: The Day Z Went First," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 27 : Iss. 3 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol27/iss3/2>

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Kontis, Alethea. *Alpha Oops : The Day Z Went First*. Illustrated by Bob Kolar. Candlewick Press, 2006. ISBN 0763627283. \$15.99. 48 p.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Toddler, Preschool, Primary

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Picture Books;

Subject: Alphabet--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

This is no run-of-the-mill A to Z alphabet book. Z is tired of being last! He insists on beginning the alphabet this time. Other letters, also tired of their places in the alphabet string, debut in a unique order, interrupting the true Z to A rotation. But that just adds to the novelty of the book. Each letter has a personality that won't be forgotten!

The illustrations are boldly colored and the letters are in easily recognizable block Arial font. The illustrations of objects which the letters stand for are done in basic shapes and bold colors and would be easily recognized by preschoolers. At the bottom of each page is the alphabet in reverse. As the letters are introduced, the random colored letters are put over this reverse alphabet. This book would be enjoyed best by preschoolers or beginning readers who are very familiar with the A to Z alphabet sequence.