The Real Poop on Pigeons

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Book Review
The Real Poop on Pigeons

A man in the park mentions that he dislikes pigeons because of their messy habits, and in swoop the kids from Pigeon School 101, dressed as pigeons and ready to teach the man all about them. The rest of the book contains fun facts about pigeons, including how they feed their babies and Picasso’s great love of them - he even named his daughter Paloma (which is Spanish for pigeon)! After talking with the children, the man realizes that he did not know as much about pigeons as he had assumed.

Kevin McCloskey includes many great features in this book, the first of which is its format. It is essentially a comic book, with one-to-two panels on each page. It is designed for children in Kindergarten and first-grade and contains appropriate material for their age. The characters are multicultural and, while the storyline is fictitious, it is a great way to learn some interesting facts about pigeons. It contains a labeled diagram of a pigeon and fun details about different species of pigeons. Information in the back of the book teaches parents and teachers how to read comics with kids, the benefits of reading comics, and lists the reading levels associated with the book. Despite the unrealistic plot, the book is entertaining and a great resource for children.