



2018

Violet Mackerel's Natural Habitat

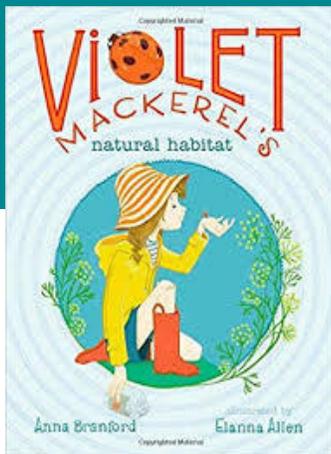
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Book Review

Violet Mackerel's Natural Habitat

Author

Anna Branford

Illustrator

Elanna Allen

Reviewer

Kristie Hinckley

Rating

Dependable

Level

Primary

Pages

110

Year

2013

Publisher

Simon & Schuster

ISBN

9781442435940

Violet is a seven-year-old girl who is fascinated by birds, bugs, and their habitats. She becomes interested in some ladybugs that she finds in her backyard. She makes what seems like the perfect habitat for a little ladybug that she names Small Gloria. When Small Gloria dies in the jar with a leaf and a pebble, Violet becomes discouraged. She goes to her older sister, Nicola, to find comfort, but her sister needs comfort and advice herself. Nicola has a big science project to complete but has absolutely no ideas for it. Violet gives her the idea of creating a small beaded life cycle of a ladybug exhibit. They work on it together and Nicola wins honorable mention!

This book is ideal for first or second grade readers, since the main character is around that age. However, there is complex vocabulary and cursive handwriting included in this book, which isn't exactly developmentally appropriate for children of those grades. It is a short read, with limited words on each page and small black-and-white sketch illustrations throughout the book. Children interested in science, living things, and habitats would love this book about a curious girl. There is a theme about families and growing friendships with siblings that is taken from this book too.