Spark

Karen Abbott

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Spark

His parents name their new little dragon, Spark, because right from the start he spouting some flame. Spark has fire in his heart and in his mouth and has a very hard time controlling the intensity of his breath. His Mom and Dad try several strategies and even read some books on the subject. Little Spark is quite willing to try everything they suggest but it is all to no avail. He just isn’t big enough yet. Then on his birthday, it works! He tries very hard and manages to light only his candles. He carries the cake home, candles aflame, because he is too proud of his achievement to blow them out.

The story has a cute premise but keeps sending overtones of potty training. A juxtaposition of fire and water and self-control was a bit confusing as the story progressed. The theme leads one to wonder if the book is actually written to parents who may be trying to teach their “wee” one too soon and who need to remember that potty training comes at its own pace. The strength of the story is most definitely the ending with Spark leading the party home with his birthday cake aglow in the dimming forest. Very cute and funny way to end the tale. Not the best potty training book, but a cute and humorous read.

**Author**
Kallie George

**Illustrator**
Geneviève Côté

**Reviewer**
Karen Abbott

**Rating**
Dependable

**Level**
Preschool, Primary

**Pages**
44

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2014

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