2019

Adopting a Dinosaur

Lindsey Smith

Book Review

Adopting a Dinosaur

Author
José Carlos Andrés

Illustrator
Ana Sanfelippo

Reviewer
Lindsey Smith

Rating
Dependable

Level
Preschool, Primary

Pages
34

Year
2019

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9788417123635

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NubeOcho

Ali wants a dog, a cat, a parrot, an elephant, really any animal will do; but the pet that she ends up with is a baby dinosaur. When Ali's parents refuse to get her a pet, she is despondent, until she comes across a giant egg on her way home from school. Ali cares for her egg until it hatches into a dinosaur, then she sneakily convinces her parents to let her keep it. Playing with her new friend is fun until the dinosaur's parents show up to take it home, and Ali is left petless again. Yet, in true happy ending fashion, Ali's new buddy still stops in for visits, so their friendship is able to continue.

This is a sweet story about a girl who longs for a friend and gets a better one than she ever could have imagined. The storyline is charming, sprinkled with a bit of humor, though it does seem to move rather quickly. The illustrations in this book are marvelous and draw the reader in - with bright colors and retro artwork, they make the story come alive. Parents and teachers will appreciate the theme of friendship found in the story, which will lend itself nicely to discussions about kindness and inclusion.