



# Bailey

*Harry Bliss*

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Meet Bailey, a dog who surprises and charms his fellow human classmates with his irrepressible antics.

Follow Bailey the dog as he gets ready and goes to school. Should he wear the red or blue collar? Both are so fashionable! Will he be late? That squirrel is a distraction! And what about Bailey's homework? Would you believe he ate it? That is what dogs do, after all.

In this funny new book from the best selling children's illustrator Harry Bliss, school proves to be an unexpected place for Bailey to do all sorts of things he loves: reading, fetching, painting, digging, singing - and making friends!

## Bailey Details

Date : Published August 1st 2011 by Scholastic Press

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Author : Harry Bliss

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## From Reader Review Bailey for online ebook

### **Karen says**

Bailey is adorable, not because of the novelty of a dog attending school, but the normality of a dog attending school in this book. And my son was quite taken with the "Champlain Elementary School".

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### **Brooke says**

#### Children's Choice Award

The children's book "Bailey" by Harry Bliss is about a dog that gets ready for school, attends school, and arrives home from school. This is a perfect book for school aged children because it is a fun twist on what happens during a typical school day. Because Bailey is the only non-human classmate, it helps young readers to understand what to do and what not to do in the classroom, such as eat their homework as Bailey does. The light humor in this favorite children's book helps prevent young students from falling into bad habits in school.

This picture book is mostly in a school setting. The book starts off in Bailey's house as he is getting ready for school, and then transitions from his house, to the school bus, to Bailey's school. Bailey is characterized as a top-notch dog that is well liked at Champlain Elementary school. The children learn from Bailey what they should and should not do while in school. The plot of this children's book is that of a typical school day. Bailey is getting ready for school, and then misses the bus because he is distracted by his stick. After arriving at school, Bailey puts his belongs in his cubby. He then explains to his teacher that he ate his homework, and later has to go to the nurse because he has a stomachache. Bailey participates in lunch, math class, art class, recess, music class, and reading class. Throughout the day there are things that a typical dog would do, but is not appropriate for children to do in class. The theme of "Bailey" is what is normal for a dog to do in school may not be appropriate for a student to do. However, some of the things Bailey does while in school are plausible. The point of view in the children's book is third person, because the storyteller does not participate in the action but lets us know how the characters act and feel.

This book can be easily incorporated into a classroom and can be effective in instructing new students on what goes on in school. This book will give children a feel for what their typical days will now be like before, during, and after school. It shows students the behavior that is expected in school while adding humor so they enjoy and are interested in the book "Bailey."

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### **Dachokie says**

Bailey Rocks!

This book was reviewed as part of Amazon's Vine program which included a free advance copy of the book.

I don't know what it is about dogs, but they always seem to generate endearing children's book characters and just when you think there are more than enough animated dog celebrities ... along comes BAILEY. Graphically pleasing with a unique story-telling method, Harry Bliss warmly and entertainingly introduces a new furry canine for kids in the aptly titled book, BAILEY.

BAILEY is the story of a lab-like yellow dog that lives like a human but can't let go of his dog-like tendencies. Readers will follow Bailey as he faces the typical dilemmas children face on a normal school day, like finding the right clothes (collar?) to wear or missing the bus. Once at school, Bailey is center of all attention amongst his human classmates as his dog-like antics (such as using bones instead of numbers for math equations, his tendency to dig holes on the playground and rummage through garbage). All the kids adore Bailey regardless of his doggy-ways and we see their thoughts about him as he faces one problem after another. The book culminates with the school day ending and Bailey heading home on the school bus ... if he doesn't miss it!

BAILEY is a very nicely illustrated oversized hardcover book that should be pleasing to most kids, as an early reader book or simply a picture book for younger kids who have yet to start reading. The character of Bailey has a lovable quality to him and his struggle through the school day is something kids can relate to and laugh about. I like the fact that the focus was on Bailey and we see thoughts as opposed to spoken words ... something different. The quality of the art work is a big plus as well. I really hope Harry Bliss has BAILEY doing more things in future volumes.

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### **Shannon says**

This was a fun read. Bailey has some struggles with regular school, but he tries his best and the other students seem to have a lot of patience with him and really seem to like him.

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### **N says**

Again, love the niceness of this. And yet the reality-- so many people do, in fact, think nice things or think conciliatory things. Maybe it's just me, but I sadly all too often worry that people are thinking negative things around me. If there are kids out there like me, this could be helpful to them.

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### **Natasha North says**

The quirky humor of Bliss is summed up nicely when the dog eats his own homework. What's not to love?

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### **Kelly says**

Bailey is a dog who goes to school. Simple. But what I like about the book is that it is a fun story book to be read to children.

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### **Melki says**

I love that even though Bailey is smart enough to attend school, he's still very much a dog. He needs someone to fill his water bowl, he wants to play fetch at recess, and he rummages through the trash at

lunchtime. He even, gulp, eats his *own* homework. Bliss has thought of everything in this wonderful tale of an educated pooch!

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### **Steve Holden says**

I realized yesterday upon reviewing Henry and Mudge that I've yet to review one of my favorite dog-as-a-lead picture books. Years ago, I was gifted this adorable book from a student/family who loved hearing stories of the antics of my former four-legged friend of the same name. Obviously, this one packs a sentimental punch for me and I love reading this one, as I do believe Bliss perfectly captures the sweet, funny innocence of dogs in this book for kids.

The illustrations hold most of the humor, while the story is pretty straight forward about Bailey trying to get ready and get through a day in elementary school. Fun read, and one that'll remain in my classroom library for years to come!

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### **Jason says**

What I love about this book is how unremarkable Bailey is in his environment. Normally a book about a dog in school would be about how special it is that there's a dog in school, but Bailey causes his classmates to raise their eyebrows on account of most of his behavior. And yet, nobody questions that Bailey belongs there. What's also brilliant is how all of the humor is in the illustrations. The text and the pictures do an Abbott and Costello, where the text is the straight man. One of the funniest scenes is when Bailey is standing in front of the teacher remembering eating his own homework. Despite all this, Bailey loves school and is really happy to be there. In addition, kids who maybe feel off the beaten track can find a hero in Bailey and inspiration in his enthusiasm for school and life, despite not always getting things quite right.

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### **Tatiana says**

A cute story about adorable Bailey, a doggie who attends elementary school with mixed results. Bailey rises to greet the day, taking his grooming seriously. As he runs to catch the school bus, he's tempted by a squirrel and a fetching stick, but he barely makes it to class on time. What ensues during the day are his adventures with his classmates, teachers, recess and the best time of day - lunch. Recommended for ages five and up.

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### **Garrett says**

I don't like the way Mrs. Smith looks at Bailey.

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### **Judie Dooley says**

a cute book about Bailey the dog when he goes to school. Easy to read for a young reader. colorful pictures. I

got this for my granddaughter, but of course I had to read it first. I'm sure she'll love it.

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### **Sarah says**

Something about this book just didn't click for me. I find it very odd that Bailey is a sentient animal in a school full of human students.

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### **David says**

Bailey by Harry Bliss is a picturebook about a dog that attends school.

Bailey gets ready for school in his doghouse, which has a bedroom, bathroom, and closet. He runs to catch the bus, then travels with his head out the window. At school Bailey puts everything in his cubby, gives the teacher a bone, but has no homework because he ate it himself. Bailey tells about his favorite things, then does math counting bones. After lunch, where he eats garbage, Bailey gives a report on Fala, and has art class. At recess he bites the kickball and gets stuck on the slide. Bailey digs holes for planting in the school garden and howls during music class. Bailey dances, then enjoys book time, though he falls asleep and nearly misses the bus home.

It's a cute book, but didn't fully grab me. I found the comments and thoughts by the students to be too obvious and forced, and a nearly constant overt wink at the reader. I did enjoy the use of word balloons for people's and Bailey's thoughts.

The illustrations are well done. I especially enjoyed humorous details like the books in Bailey's bedroom: Clifford, Snoopy, To Fetch Sticks, and The Cat. Other fun bedroom details included the chewed stick, a cat calendar, and a skeleton picture titled Boney! In music class they are singing Hound Dog by Elvis Presley. A yellow crossing sign near the school shows a boy, a girl and a dog walking, all with backpacks! I was less pleased with pictures of Bailey looking directly at the reader when chasing the bus: it's just a bit too overt for my taste.

I would recommend Bailey for use in preschool and Kindergarten rooms.

For ages 3 - 5, dogs, school, friendship, fantasy, humor, and fans of Harry Bliss.

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