

This Is a Story

The 2024 CLEL Bell Award Book for Read

by John Schu, illustrated by Lauren Castillo

ISBN 9781536204520

Candlewick Press, 2023

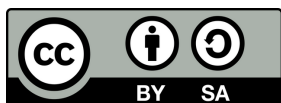


This Is a Story is about a child who discovers the library, the joy of finding the perfect book, and how the act of reading can connect us to other people and the world. The book demonstrates great reading practices, like reading with friends. It also encourages readers to visit the library. The beautiful watercolor illustrations feature an array of books you might find at the library. We encourage readers to find the titles in the pages and on the shelves of their local libraries.

Activity Ideas for *This Is a Story*:

- Practice identifying parts of your books and stories at home. You and your child can look for parts of a story, like “word,” “page,” “title,” and “author.” You can also look at the illustrations and talk about who wrote and illustrated their favorite books. This helps build print awareness, an important pre-literacy skill.
- Take a visit to your local library. This can help build awareness of libraries as a community center, as shown in *This Is a Story*. Local libraries often offer free programming to help with pre-reading skills, such as storytimes and other activities. These activities give both of you the chance to develop literacy skills and connect with others in the community.
- This book features many real children’s books that you can find at your library. Work with your child to identify some of the titles and see if you can find them at your library. Showing children how the library works and how they can get a card and check out books helps them build confidence and get to know their library and friendly librarians! If you can’t visit the library, it may be possible to find these books online. Many authors and storytellers record videos of them reading their stories online.

The CLEL Bell Picture Book Awards are given to books that provide excellent support of early literacy development in young children. For more information and for other activity sheets, visit <http://www.clel.org> and select the CLEL Bell Awards tab.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.en_US.