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# The Secret Zoo: Raids And Rescues



## Synopsis

The fifth book in the fast-paced and imaginative series about four adventurous friends and the secret world hidden in their local zoo. Ella, Noah, Richie, and Megan are in troubleâ" and so is the Secret Zoo! A captivating series for tween readers praised as "action packed and breathless" by Publishers Weekly, and "a fast-paced mix of mystery and fantasy" by School Library Journal. The Secret Zoo is an incredible world hidden beneath the regular Clarksville Zoo, where animals and humans peacefully coexist as equals. It is full of marvels. But even in the Secret Zoo, there are dangers . . . and forbidden places. When the scouts&#39; friends are held in the off-limits sectorâ" a never-ending maze of aquariumsâ" Noah, Megan, Richie, and Ella must be at their most courageous. This page-turning mystery and adventure is perfect for reluctant readers!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820 (What's this?)

Series: Secret Zoo (Book 5)

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Greenwillow Books; Reprint edition (September 23, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062192299

ISBN-13: 978-0062192295

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ"Â" See all reviewsÂ" (361 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #60,287 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 inÂ" Books > Children's Books > Animals > Zoos #209 inÂ" Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #1527 inÂ" Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Just a caution. My 11 year old was enjoying this book, until he came to this part: page 198: "...his mother fell down the stairs... [she] was hurt so badly that she couldn't move; she'd broken her legs and an arm, and she had other internal damage. Little Frederick was the only person who could help. but being so young [9] and frightened, he didn't know what to do. He simply held his mother at

the bottom of the stairs and screamed. By the time they were discovered, Frederick's mother had died."I felt that was a little unnecessarily traumatic. If your child is a gentle soul, or a hero-type like mine, this may be a little disturbing. It gave him bad dreams. I would have liked to have known about this before he started reading it, so maybe another parent will benefit from the fore-knowledge.

I am a third grade teacher who is still reading this book to my class...and we are ADDICTED to it! It is one of the best books I have read to my class in a long time. The book is filled with descriptive language, suspense, and a lot of action and adventure. My students beg me to read more and more each day. We have had a lot of great discussions and have applied the story to many of our literacy lessons...especially with vocabulary. I can only imagine that with more exposure, this book is going to be a hit. I can even see it becoming a successful movie! We are looking forward to the next book in the series!

Although this book is aimed at the 9-12 year old range I can't put it down myself! I bought it as a read-aloud for my children but have gotten so wrapped up in the characters and story line that I haven't gotten around to reading it to my kids yet. If you think the cover is beautiful wait until the experience of the mental pictures the author provides with his detailed and exquisite writing. I can't wait to pick up the book and start the next chapter!A wonderful addition to anyone's household!

I lead a book club with my son's class each year. He is in 4th grade. Our group read The Secret Zoo this winter. All 7 kids loved it! I assigned pages each week and they complained every week about having to wait to read on. They stopped me in the halls to discuss what they thought was going to happen next. Their story is unique and very well told. While some parents may be put off by the "missing child" in the beginning of the story, we must remember that adult imagination is far more dark than a child's imagination when it comes to that topic - it never occurred to my group that she wouldn't be found, safe and sound. They were more excited about how she would be found. The vivid descriptions get the kids started in the right direction, but then let imagination take over. The 4 heroes of the book have traits with which every kid can identify. The characters bring a lot of humor to the books, especially Ella and Richie. My son was laughing out loud at times. The resolution is intense, but the humor and quick pace keeps it from getting too frightening. The concept of the story really intrigued my group. I know when I took my son to the zoo a couple weeks after reading it, he found all sorts of potential "secret zoo" entrances. So, I have 7 kids anxiously awaiting the start of

book club next year so they can find out what the Adventure Scouts are up to next. They've passed the book on to friends so my book club may be a little larger next year! Kids excited about reading - isn't that every parents dream?!FYI - I also read The Secret Zoo aloud to my 1st grader and she loved it, too!

This was a great read! This adventure series seems like it will be as good as or even better than the Narnia series. I can't wait for the next one! It captured your attention from the beginning to end and is perfect for boys or girls. I ended up buying several more copies as gifts for my nephews and Godchild.

The Secret Zoo is a fun read for the whole family. I first purchased it as an audiobook that my family listened to on a road trip, and we loved it. Fantasy is not my favorite genre, especially for children's literature...and not for my kids either, who prefer action/outdoor adventure books. This story has enough elements of mystery and adventure that we were all able to get past the idea that's its completely unrealistic. I guess that's what fantasy is all about, which is why I don't generally choose it. We dreaded our gas stops because we didn't want to stop, and my husband made us pause it when he would go in so he didn't miss anything. We liked it enough to come home and pre-order the sequel, hopefully we'll like it as well. My eight year old wants to dive right in, but we will probably read it as a family as well, since its a tough read for the younger kids. I gave 4 stars only because some of the magical elements in the book are pretty far fetched, with no plausible basis in the real world, but if this doesn't bother you, and even if it does, its definitely worth a try.

I got this book for my 8 year old daughter with intentions of reading it out loud to her. The trouble is, when she goes to bed or school I find myself reading ahead to see what happens next! This story really pulls you in and makes you want to know what happens next. I'm ready for the next book in this series!

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