



## Hats Off to Mr. Pockles!

*Sally Lloyd-Jones , David Litchfield (Illustrator)*

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**Hats Off to Mr. Pockles!** Sally Lloyd-Jones , David Litchfield (Illustrator)

A *New York Times* bestselling author and a rising-star illustrator present an utterly hilarious, oh-so-silly tale about Mr. Pockles, an odd little dog with a big hat collection--and an even bigger heart.

For Mr. Pockles, going without a hat is as unthinkable as going around without any pants on. He has millions of hats, for every occasion--an Eating His Cornflakes hat, a Drinking Cups of Tea hat, and even an In the Bath hat--but for some reason, he doesn't have any friends. One day, when Lady CoCo Fitz-Tulip--a Very Important Panda--finds that her hat has been gobbled up by some hungry bunnies, Mr. Pockles knows just how to help. Overflowing with silliness, here's a charming celebration of friendship, inclusion, and the joy of sharing.

## Hats Off to Mr. Pockles! Details

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Author : Sally Lloyd-Jones , David Litchfield (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Hats Off to Mr. Pockles! for online ebook**

### **Edward Sullivan says**

A pooch with a hat for every occasion. Amusing and attractively illustrated.

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### **Erin says**

Nice message of meeting and helping friends but gosh, a bit too much text and the bright pictures are a little overwhelming.

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### **Jana says**

This clever picture book has a terrific message for young readers about friendship and kindness. Mr. Pockles is crazy about hats and has a huge collection of them. But he's also very shy and has no friends. When he is too afraid to approach the PandaPolitan Club to inquire about their upcoming Hat Day, he goes to the local Treat Shop to indulge in the Bun of the Month. When an unfortunate mishap leads to the destruction of Lady CoCo Fitz-Tulip's special hat, Mr. Pockles sees an opportunity to share his special hat and make new friends. This would be a great way to talk about extending grace to our neighbors and how that helps build relationships and community. It also could be a great way to encourage young writers to share their own stories of giving and friendship.

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### **Robin says**

Delightful! Recommended for ages 5-7.

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### **Stacy says**

An extra star for the bright, beautiful illustrations. I love Mr Pockles, but the story is slightly lacking.

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### **Abigail says**

A hat-loving pooch with no friends to speak of, Mr. Pockles longed to attend Hat Day at the PandaPolitan Club. Unfortunately, only pandas were allowed. Then, while out buying himself a treat, he encountered Lady CoCo Fitz-Tulip, and stepping into the breach when that lady's hat was ruined, won both a coterie of friends and an invite to Hat Day...

A fun, engaging tale of a lonely individual who finds a way, through his favorite article of clothing, to

connect with others, author Sally Lloyd-Jones' story in Hats Off to Mr. Pockles! is paired with bright, colorful artwork from British illustrator David Litchfield, whose own picture-book debut, The Bear and the Piano, was such a winner. I loved the illustrations here, quite a bit more than the text (not that the text was poor, mind you), and it therefore annoyed me that on a number of the two-page spreads the artwork was printed in such a manner that the gutter interfered with the reader's ability to enjoy the visuals. There were spreads where the gutter ran right through Lady Coco's face, for instance. This is a design flaw, rather than an artistic one, I think, but it interfered with my enjoyment a bit. Leaving that aside, this is a picture-book I would recommend, both to readers looking for children's stories about kindness and making friends, and to fellow fans of David Litchfield's illustrations.

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### **Pam says**

Delightful story with simple text for elementary readers.

Brightly colored illustrations draw the reader in to the story. Mr. Pockles has a hat for every occasion but he's shy and feeling lonely. He decides to venture out of his home and get a treat at the bakery.

Disaster strikes when the rabbit babies eat the Panda's hat so she can't go to the annual Panda party. Mr. Pockles saves the day with a hat for everyone and they all go to the "exclusive" party as guests of this panda. Use to talk about being brave and taking risks. Also talk about inclusion/exclusion.

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### **Molly Cluff (Library!) says**

A bit too texty to use in my preschool storytime, but I LOVE the unique hat collection, and the detail in the illustrations! A roller coaster hat! A bedtime train hat! Mr. Pockles has a bit of social anxiety, but loves hats. He inadvertently ends up needing to save the day by providing a hat for a famous panda, and gets himself and half the neighborhood invited to the panda's party. I thought it was darling!

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### **Sam says**

Mr. Pockles has a hat for every occasion which lets him swoop in and save the day for Lady Panda and get himself (and all his friends) invited to a cool Panda hat day.

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### **Pam says**

3.5\*

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### **Barbara says**

Mr. Pockles lives a quiet life in his house with his collection of hats, one for every occasion, even occasions that aren't occasions such as eating his breakfast cereal. He's content with his life until one day he realizes that something is missing. While waiting in line for a snack, he watches in amazement as a panda in a

resplendent hat breezes in, on her way to an important event. After her hat is destroyed, nibbled by hungry bunnies, Mr. Pockles is moved to offer his very best hat, one that he has never worn. He decides that everyone needs a hat, and lets each of the animals who had been waiting in line for buns, to choose one from his collection. The panda, Lady Coco Fitz-Tulip, invites him and all the other animals to the big bash. Although Mr. Pockles no longer has an enormous collection of hats, he is no longer doggone lonely now that he has plenty of hat-wearing friends. The illustrations, created with mixed media, pen and ink, watercolor and Photoshop, are filled with rich colors, smiling faces, and extraordinary hats. Readers will want to check out the array of headgear on the endpapers. Although this is something of a silly story, it contains a good example of compassion, kindness, and generosity. I wonder if Mr. Pockles feels any regret when he heads back home with hardly any hats.

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### **Rachel says**

Quite silly and fun, the illustrations are dense and rich, not quite sure how I feel about the story and some characterizations, but the array of hats are fun. Thanks to the publisher and Edelwiess for an advance look.

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