



Shoe-La-La!

Karen Beaumont, LeUyen Pham (illustrator)

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Meet four girls who love shoes: SHOE-LA-LA!

"Shoes with zippers, Shoes with straps,
Shoes with buckles, Shoes with taps."

Prance from page to page in search of the perfect pair of party shoes. Girls of all ages will love to go on a shoe shopping expedition with these four friends, from "fuzzy boots for when it snows" to "ballerinas on our toes." The girls try on every shoe in the store, but "eeny, meeny, my, oh, my [they] just don't know which shoes to buy." With some feathers and glitter, a little bit of glue, and a LOT of imagination, the girls come up with the best shoes of all!

Shoe-La-La! Details

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Author : Karen Beaumont , LeUyen Pham (illustrator)

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From Reader Review Shoe-La-La! for online ebook

Danielle Zuhlke says

Opening: Show the students your shoes, and say, "Today, I wore my favorite shoes! These are my favorite, because they are soft and comfortable, and because they are my favorite color." Discuss your shoes with the students. Next, ask, "Do you have a favorite pair of shoes?" Listen to the students share about their favorite shoes, and discuss. Look at the different features of everyone's shoes; for example, laces, velcro, patterns, etc. Ask, "Do you have any other favorite clothes?" Again, listen to the students' response and discuss. Show the cover of the book, and state the title and point out the illustration. Ask the students what they see in the illustration. Point out the different shoes on the girls' feet and discuss. Say, "Today we are going to read a story about shoes!" Read the story, stop to look at the illustrations and to look for details to discuss. Focus on the different features of the shoes.

Opening Moves: 1) Prompt brief sharing of personal experiences related to the text. 2) Activate background knowledge. 3) Share a personal connection you have with the text.

Rationale for Book Selection: In the story, the girls are trying on a bunch of different styles of shoes at the shoe store. The book discusses different features of shoes; for example, zippers, straps, buckles, taps, laces, and bows. The story also discusses different patterns on the shoes; for example, rainbow pattern, polka dots, and leopard spots. One of the weekly investigations in our clothes theme, is "What are the features of clothes?" During this investigation, we look at all of the different features of clothes, and this story points out all of them we learn about. "Shoe-la-la" is a fun story and it goes perfectly with our investigation of the features of clothes.

(2011, January 14). The Children's Book Review. <http://www.thechildrensbookreview.com...>

Kara says

Abigail's most favorite book this week. She can't get enough of it!

Barbara says

Originally published in a different version in 2011, this edition includes prompts and activities intended to engage readers and prompt them to interact with the text or make predictions. The story itself concerns four girls who are getting ready for a fancy party. They know exactly the dresses they will wear and the hairdos they will fix, but they don't have the right party shoes. So what do Emily, Ashley, Kaitlyn, and Claire do? Well, of course, they go shopping for footwear, but after trying on every available shoe and driving the poor shoe salesman to distraction, they are too overwhelmed to make a choice. Readers need not fear, though, since these four friends are problem solvers, and they get right to work on embellishing the shoes they already have in the closet. The story is humorous, and the illustrations are filled with many different types of shoes, but most pleasingly, the girls use their own creativity and ingenuity to come up with what they need rather than asking an adult or older sibling for a solution. Not only do they all come up with their own party dresses, but they also create shoes that are unique for each one of them.

Melissa says

On the fence!

The rhyme and meter are good (Karen Beaumont, natch) and the multicultural pack of friends is welcome (thanks, LeUyen!).

I'm really, really not wild about adding to the girly shopping-as-recreation culture, though I do notice that they reject the super-pointy heels because they "hurt their toes." (Still--on the glamour girls page? They have heels on again, without comment.)

But I do like the ending, where the girls reject all the shoes in the shop and go home and decorate their own sneakers and Mary Janes to go with their appropriate-for-little-girls party dresses.

Amy Layton says

I love this book so much, and I love LeUyen Pham's illustrations so so much. I don't think I've ever held a book that teemed so much with happiness and excitement to the point that I felt like I was on some type of sugar buzz. And it was marvelous. The voices and the illustrations are bright, vibrant, and exude sweetness on a whole other level.

But on a more serious note, I think that this book does a great job at recognizing that femininity isn't bad or good or anything inherently positive or negative, and that it can be really, really creative. I know a lot can be said on that topic, so I'll leave it at this because in all honesty, it just really warmed my heart that this was a book that allowed these girls to be feminine without any negative connotations.

Review cross-listed [here](#)!

John says

"Where are the princess books?" "Mr. Schu, where are the princess books?" "Will you show me the princess books?" Do you have any princess books?" Typical questions from this year's kindergarten. Although Shoe-la-la! is not a "princess book," it has what the kindergarten students want: glitter, glamour, and girls. :)

My niece will receive a copy in the mail.

Laura says

Obviously Karen Beaumont is a fan of "The Office" since she has stolen Michael Scott's idea for a shoe store

named Shoe-la-la. Girly fun!

Shannon says

I absolutely LOVE LeUyen Pham's illustrations! The diverse set of girls are all adorable and energetic, and eventually readers see that they all have a creative side, as well! The story and rhymes are light and fun, although one can't help but feel bad for the poor man working at the shoe store.

Alyssa Becker says

This book is a story of four best friends who go on a hunt for the perfect pair of shoes for each of them. When they get to the shoe store they ask the salesman to bring out all of the shoes. Throughout the book, these four girls are portrayed as indecisive and glamorous. Finally, the four girls decide that none of the shoes in the store were the perfect pair. So they all went back to the house and made their own perfect pair of shoes. Each pair was made differently and had a different unique quality about them.

The themes in this book were about gender roles, but also that you might not always find what you are looking for. Sometimes the best things are the things we make ourselves.

This book reminds me a lot of when I am trying to look for clothes or shoes. I want them to be perfect and just what I imagined in my head but I know that I will not always find the perfect thing.

I would recommend this book because it is a cute story about a group of friends, and it shows how girls can be creative and glamorous, not just one or the other.

Wanda says

"Shoes with zippers, Shoes with straps,
Shoes with buckles, Shoes with taps."

a fun book

Cora says

Cute, rhyming book. More for girls than boys

Kristel says

Four best, ethnically diverse (blond, Asian American, African American, and redhead) friends are planning a party and need new shoes to wear to their party. The colors of the illustrations vary in pinks, reds, and

purples (and there is a shameless exhibition of glitter on the front cover). The little girls pretend to be grown up in a variety of arenas from rock star to bride-to-be—this is a story all about dress-up. The plot is not complicated and the girls do not grow or change, they just have fun; though you cannot say the same for the harried-looking salesman. They do employ some creativity towards the end, demonstrating that sometimes do-it-yourself ends up serving your needs better. The vocabulary is small, the statements are short. This is a good book for parents who perhaps are looking to get their children to transition from an “I want a PRINCESS book” only phase. Public libraries don’t have to purchase this book but if they did, it would assuredly circulate frequently, especially to kids ages three to seven.

The Library Lady says

Okay, I was prepared to hate this book.

Because I HATE Fancy Nancy --or at least, every book beyond the first one and the whole ensuing industry.

Because I HATE books with glitter on the covers.

Because I HATE,HATE,HATE books that buy into the "Disney Princess" sort of crap that we've been drowning in for years, the sort that made it hard to get clothes for my daughters that didn't look like it belonged on a sixteen year old starlet rather than on a pre-tween girl.

And because the names "Ashley" and "Kaitlyn" no matter what weird spelling is used (and I've seen plenty) make me wince.

But the ending of this book (the little girls, having rejected every pair of shoes in the store use their own creativity to jazz up the sort of shoes little girls SHOULD wear) was absolutely perfect.

And as a result, I am happy to have this one on my shelf!

Kimberly says

I give this book a 5 stars.

Shoe- La- La is about four girls who can't find their perfect shoes to wear with their party dress. They visit their shoe store and try on so many shoes. They shop till they drop! But at the end they couldn't find the one to buy, so they end up making their own kind.

Ways to use this in a classroom

- 1) Have students name their favorite shoe and why
- 2) Have students practice making outfits for themselves
- 3) Students could design their own shoe
- 4) Write a story about things the student may want to buy.
- 5) Learn the difference between wants and needs

Teah says

i really want to read this book
