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# Pipsie, Nature Detective: The Disappearing Caterpillar (Pipsie, Nature Detective Series)



## Synopsis

Pipsie loves everything wildâ”from dragonflies to oceans to tall, tall trees. She also loves solving mysteries. Thatâ”s why sheâ”s a nature detective! When she and her turtle, Alfred, notice that their new friend, Frannie the caterpillar, has vanished, Pipsie is on the case. She grabs her magnifying glass, goes to her tree-house headquarters, and begins to search for clues. Itâ”s time to make this mystery history! Bursting with personality, this engaging story introduces a spunky new girl detective, a scooter-driving turtle who loves to eat, and a string of simple scientific clues that will keep kids turning the pages until the mystery is solved. Two pages of nature fun facts at the end of the story offer even more information for young nature detectives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I absolutely love books that teach children something through the telling of a story. These were the kind of books I chose for our children when they were younger and the ones I go back to when giving gifts. Pipsie is a sweet girl who, along with her pet turtle, Alfred, share lessons about nature. Pipsie and her turtle meet a new friend, Frannie the caterpillar, who suddenly disappears. They are determined to find out the mystery of what happened to Frannie. As Frannie and Alfred explore

nature looking for clues about Frannie, children will learn about the wonders of nature. Children will be excited to turn the pages and find out the mystery to Frannie's disappearance. The illustrations fill the pages and are brightly colored. Pipsie, Alfred, and Frannie's personalities show not only in their conversations, but in the delightful creations on each page. I have no doubt children will love following along with Pipsie and her detective excursions. This would be perfect for preschool-elementary aged children. I could also see teachers using this book in the classroom for a unit on insects. I certainly hope that Pipsie continues to explore nature and share her stories with us.

Pipsie is the pint-sized protagonist of this children's science-based 'detective novel' and she's inspiring. Pipsie is an intelligent, energetic girl who, with her helpful sidekick, Alfred Z. Turtle, is determined to "make this mystery history". The fun begins when Pipsie and Alfred notice their new-found caterpillar friend has disappeared. Following their first clue, Pipsie and Alfred Z. Turtle begin their exciting outdoor adventure. Like any good detective, Pipsie researches the clues, consults with experts on the subject, and builds on both to come to scientific conclusions. Pipsie, Nature Detective: The Disappearing Caterpillar is educational in a fun, engaging way. It teaches children that nature science is interesting, gathering facts to come to conclusions is exciting, and learning new things is rewarding. This is a children's book that encourages intelligence, tenacity, and the importance of friendship and teamwork.

What happened to Frannie the caterpillar? That is the mystery that Pipsie, nature detective and her friend Alfred the turtle set out to solve. After searching all around the yard and house they find a clue: a chewed up leaf. This leaf leads them to a bug expert at the local zoo who tells them what to look for in order to find Frannie. This book makes a nice companion to a nonfiction book on monarch butterflies since it blends fact and fiction. The illustrations are adorable and make the book bright and appealing.

Cute book for younger kids. My 6-year old was bored to tears (and she loves books) since there was no mystery for her about a disappearing caterpillar that turned into a butterfly. I think this would have been more enjoyable for a 2-3 year old.

My grandson enjoyed me reading him the book. Also it gives out a lot of information about bugs, which he enjoyed learning. Also back of book has facts about butterflies. I recently purchased the

second book in the Pipsie series by Rick DeDonato

I purchased this book for my nieces and nephew. We all loved it. My nephew is in kindergarten and learning to read books on his own, and this book is at the perfect reading level for him. We learned some very interesting facts about Monarch butterflies as we read the story of Pipsie and her new friend Frannie the caterpillar. We loved little Alfred the Turtle and found ourselves looking for him on every page throughout the story, to see what he was up to. The story is well-written and fun to read, and the illustrations are bright and colorful. We can't wait to read about Pipsie's next adventure!

Pipsie is a nature detective. She is so inquisitive, so determined, and very savvy as a detective. Her mission is to find her friend Frannie. Now Frannie was an unexpected friend who showed up one morning on Alfred Z Turtle (not just her pet but her assistant, her partner, her catalyst)... "As sure as the shell on his back, there were Yellow and Black stripes on his head!" As their friendship "transforms," it is with dismay that seven days later Frannie goes missing. "Without a doubt," Pipsie and Alfred will search in "dark and icky places... sweet and sticky places... inside and outside..." there is no place they won't search! This delightful mystery is quite "snappy." Pipsie overflows with personality. The scientific explanation of a caterpillar's metamorphosis into a butterfly is detailed with perfected word choice, journal illustrations (of course a detective keeps a detailed notebook of inquiry), and factual information that matches the audience's sense of discovery. Leaving no learning unavailable, there is six fun facts for discovery, as well as a Pipsie learning link for "closer" inspection. The attention to detail, especially in the journal entries provides endless opportunities for reader's to discuss and choose to copy into their own "nature detective" notebooks. A must read... re-read... read again... and share adventure, MrsK <http://mrskbookstogo.blogspot.com/>

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