

Foreword Review

Miles of Smiles Kids Pick the Funniest Poems Book 3

Bruce Lansky, Editor Stephen Carpenter, Illustrator Meadowbrook Press (September 1998) \$17.00 (128pp) 978-0-689-82183-7

Miles of Smiles is the third book in a *Kids Pick the Funniest Poems* anthology series. The first two books, *Kids Pick the Funniest Poems* and *A Bad Case of the Giggles*, combined have sold nearly 500,000 copies.

In the production of this series, elementary-age kids from around the country, along with their teachers, are used as "testers" to select only the poems that earn the highest marks. Therefore, the target audience determines the content. With this in mind...while parents are selecting this book with or for their child, they may want to check out the section under "Gross Out" poems, as they may not be appropriate for your child.

Bruce Lansky points out in his introduction that children love the poems that make them laugh. Poems on subjects like toilet seats, foul armpits, smelly diapers and burping do indeed pass the laugh test for most elementary kids.

Stephen Carpenter's illustrations make this book even more interesting, adding life and wonderful imagination to each poem.

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