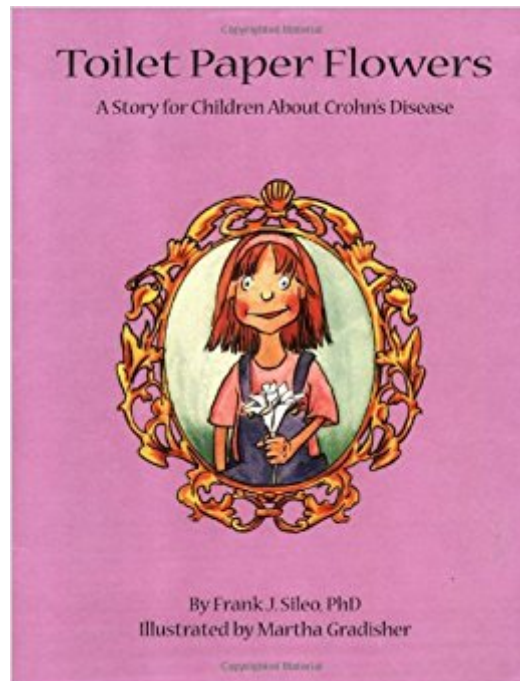




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Toilet Paper Flowers: A Story For Children About Crohn's Disease



Synopsis

Julia, who suffers from Crohn's disease, explains living with this chronic and sometimes debilitating illness to her new friend. Because she uses the bathroom so often, Julia creates flowers using toilet paper. By sharing her flower creations, Julia gains support and understanding from her friend. Toilet Paper Flowers has an introduction for parents, web resources, explanations of the disease and treatments, glossary, and instructions for making the flowers. This book offers hope and validates feelings of children struggling with Crohn's disease, as well as educating siblings and friends unfamiliar with this chronic illness.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 8.4 x 0.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #744,088 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Irritable Bowel Syndrome #224 in Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Pathology > Diseases > Digestive Organs #240 in Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Gastroenterology

Age Range: 8 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 1-3-Julia, a young girl with Crohn's disease, tells her friend that when she sits on the toilet for a long time she constructs toilet-paper flowers to make herself feel better. This launches a discussion between the two girls about how painful, depressing, and embarrassing the condition is. While the author, who suffers from the disease, is an expert in gastroenterology, his attempt to explain it to children is unsuccessful. The writing is stilted, and the illustrations are static, featuring two orange-tinted, very wide-eyed girls. While well-intentioned, this title misses the mark.-Christine A. Moesch, City of Tonawanda Public Library, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

... a message of openness and hope to children and adolescents who have Crohn's disease as well as their families. --Joel R Rosh, MD FAAP FACG, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, New Jersey Medical School
I heartily recommend it to all parents of children dealing with IBD. --Dr. Fred Saibil, author of Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis
This ... book will help ... children ... who suffer from Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis know they are not alone. --Mark Goldman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America

wonderful book! thank you!

I found this book to be wonderful for my 9 yr old daughter who suffers crohns disease. my daughter really enjoyed this book and she even took it to school to show everyone there. they read it in class and now all the children understand alot better of what my daughter goes thru daily. Its a very well written book and made it easy for my child to be able to read and also understand

this book was a gift to my 6 yr. old niece who has chrones. She said after reading it "Auntie I love this book now I don't feel so different"

I have an eight year old daughter with ulcerative colitis. She read the book and really enjoyed it. I think knowing that someone gets her day to day life made her feel better. It is very well written for both children and adults.

My young daughter (who has Crohn's) enjoyed it. Quick and easy read.

It is exciting that there is a children's book about Crohn's. The author is a doctor with Crohn's, so the information in the book is factual and there are great notes preceding and following the story. However, the quality of this book is pretty poor. It is unrealistic. The whole subject of Crohn's get brought up because the mother serves her daughter a different snack than she does her daughter's friend. No child is going to believe that a mother would do that. Also, the way the children talk to each other isn't credible. The pictures are also not very well done, but I guess they get the job done. It is nice that children will have a book available to them about Crohn's but it is poor literature. I was disappointed. Children with Crohn's deserve a well written, well illustrated book, and I am still waiting for it.

My mother bought this book for my daughter, who was recently diagnosed with Crohn's. It presents the topic of Crohn's disease in a way that is appropriate for a young audience. It includes medical terminology (e.g. "colonoscopy") and includes realistic details (multiple trips to the bathroom, lactose intolerance) but does not overwhelm with too much information. As other reviews note, the "story" is mostly dialogue between the characters and a little stilted; however, kids with Crohn's need models to help them find ways to understand and talk about this distressing and complex disease. I am grateful to find a book that provides that model, and my daughter enjoyed recognizing parts of her own experience in the book. I would recommend this book for kids, families, and teachers of children who are coping with Crohn's.

Toilet Paper Flowers isn't perfect, but then having Crohn's is a deeply personal disease that is difficult to share with others. I know because I live with Crohn's disease. It is an unwelcome visitor in my life, but one I must live with. So, how does one child explain her disease to another? Perhaps the story is a bit stilted, but a child with Crohn's is very informed of their disease and passing this information off to a friend can be difficult. The segway into the conversation is why one child has one snack and the other child has something different. I can so relate. Many is the time I have to eat something very different from the people around me and it is a great way to introduce the subject. So, if the conversations between the kids is a bit stilted, well, so be it. The introduction is superb as is the ending and while the pictures are sweet they are not very well done. However, making toilet paper flowers in the bathroom is a unique idea, one I will try the next time I am stuck in the bathroom. This is a good book for kids and parents. A unique idea was used to pull the story together and I, for one, appreciate it.

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