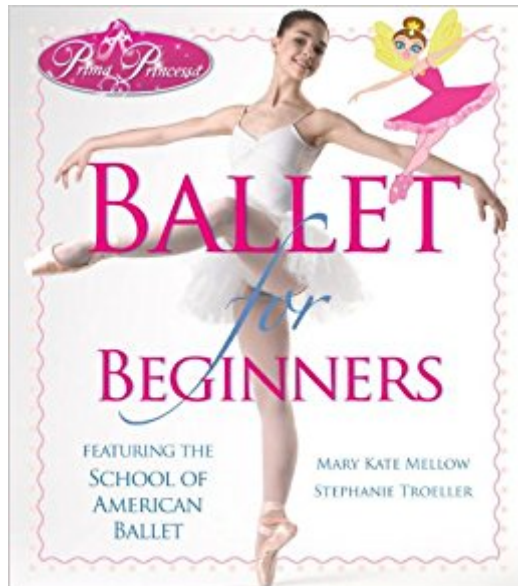




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# Prima Princessa Ballet For Beginners



## Synopsis

Prima Princessa invites budding ballerinas to explore the wonderful world of ballet! Is there any more enticing figure than the ballerina? Dressed in a fluffy tutu, wearing her pink pointe shoes, and dancing so gracefully, she's what every little girl longs to be. But what does it take to make that fantasy come true? Thanks to the charming, illustrated Prima Princessa, would-be ballerinas will enjoy a privileged peek into the dancer's world. The fairy-like Princessa ushers readers into New York City's famous School of American Ballet (SAB) in Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts--the finest dance academy in the U.S. and the starting point for most of the New York City Ballet's ballerinas. Through stunning photography, they'll enter SAB's classrooms and get an intimate look at how elite dancers train. The visit begins in a pre-ballet class, moves to SAB's Children's Ballet Division (11-year-olds), and finally arrives at the near-professional Advanced Ballet classes (16-year-olds). Along the way, newcomers to ballet will learn about the school's dress code; see close-up images of young students demonstrating all the basic positions; and find out what goes into performing each step. Just like a real dance class, the book opens with a barre--where dancers warm up--and then shifts to the center, where ballerinas can show off their balance, perform combinations, and eventually practice partnering. (There's also a glimpse at boy's class, too!) The on-the-page performance is absolutely inspiring, with every dancer in perfect, elegant form: all the photos and instructions have been checked by the teachers at SAB for accuracy. And most exciting of all is watching a girl get ready to go on stage for a dress rehearsal, applying her makeup, straightening her costume, and making sure every hair is in place. It's the stuff of which dreams are made, and the finest children's introduction to ballet ever published!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 990L (What's this?)

Series: Prima Princessa

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: Imagine (February 1, 2010)

Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-1936140015

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #652,390 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #101 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Drama & Theater #173 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Classical #360 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 2 - 3

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4 "The education of a dancer's body and mind is a long and complicated process, and this book tells that story with a lighthearted grace and brio. Movement class is often the first step for the youngest aspiring dancer, and moving to music is introduced in a relaxed, fun setting. Full-color photographs of girls twirling and leaping in all kinds of costumes capture their unbridled exuberance. Advancing to a real dance class in black leotard and pink tights is the next step. This learning process is described in the narrative and illustrated in crisp photographs of students at the New York City Ballet's School of American Ballet. The chapters progress through the complexity of technique and include a boys' class and a partnering lesson. Colorful cartoon ballerinas are highlighted throughout. Terms such as "musicality," "turnout," and "corps de ballet" are introduced in the text, bolded for emphasis, and defined in the glossary. A one-page index refers readers to the glossary definition as well as the illustrative page. A lovely look at the athletic basis of the often-ethereal beauty of ballet." Frances E. Millhouser, formerly at Chantilly Regional Library, Fairfax County, VA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

In this print offering, derived from two DVDs featuring cartoon character Prima Princessa, the authors (and Prima) introduce young readers to the intricacies of ballet. Using separate chapters to describe the expected activities for creative movement (for those under age 6), children's ballet (for ages 6-13), and advanced classes (ages 14 and up), the authors explain basic positions, steps, and jumps. Photographed at the School of American Ballet in New York, the pictures are well chosen and informative, although the superimposition of Prima onto almost every spread limits the book's appeal for older readers. Another limitation is the lack of male dancers, who appear only briefly, discussing their role in lifting females. Despite these flaws, this offers a concise introduction to a popular subject and should have great appeal to those just beginning ballet. Pair with Lauren Thompson's *Ballerina Dreams* (2007) for a different look at the benefits of dance. Grades 1-4.

--Kay Weisman

Great for a 6 or 7 year old. Lots of nice pictures.

I purchased two different used ballet books for my beginner. Both came quickly and in great condition. She loves them both equally and uses them both to practice her moves daily.

Skimmed it,

This is a very good for children who are beginners. My niece, she enjoys it a lot was worth the purchase.

This book is a great inspiration for my granddaughter, who is beginning her ballet training at 7 years old. The book is well illustrated and great information.

Fun book. Lots of great pictures and instructions. My daughter loves the Prima Princessa DVDs, and this book compliments them perfectly.

good

My daughter and I have had so much fun with this wonderful ballet book! She is currently in a creative movement class (she's 4) and of course dreams of being a ballerina! She loves looking at the pictures and practicing the positions. Prima Princessa takes you through the magical journey of becoming a ballerina. You learn about beginning and advanced ballet classes, all of the basic positions, leaps, turns and poses, and then how these are choreographed into dance. The photographs are lovely and the descriptions are very thorough and easy to understand. It's the sort of book she will love for years to come!

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Inside Ballet Technique: Separating Anatomical Fact from Fiction in the Ballet Class  
Ballet 101: A Complete Guide to Learning and Loving the Ballet  
Ballet Barre & Center Combinations: Volume II: Music (Ballet Barre and Center Combinations)  
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