

Logical Larry

Jacqueline Vick

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Logical Larry, written by Jacqueline Vick and illustrated by Ramis Kim, invites the reader into a world of children and their logic. Larry Butterball has taken every sentence literally since the day of his birth. If someone said that a squashed worm on the sidewalk was as “flat as a pancake,” he would have made a pancake and compared its width to the width of the worm. With his newly made friend, Fyn Appleby, he goes out to test the literal meanings of common sayings. First on the list: “Wear clean underpants in case you get run over by a bus.” Wearing dirty underpants and a pair of loose shorts, he is determined to execute his brilliant plan to get hit by a bus. Through a series of coincidences, he is instead hit by a flying tricycle! His shorts fall off and he has himself a conclusion to his experiment: clean underpants are indeed necessary!

Logical Larry can applaud itself for having some of the most unique and strange characters. From their names to descriptions, their charming naivety provides the basis of a chuckle-worthy story. Although its plot is not exciting or entirely mesmerizing, it is certainly original. It is a simple and quick read for older readers, but the audience is clearly for ages 6 through 9. The book also includes a glossary of difficult words; the vocabulary is defined easier for children to understand. The lines are double-spaced and the big fonts are great for the eyes. The illustrations are simple but enhance the words beautifully. Borrowing the book may be the wisest choice; because it is such a short read, the reader will not find her or himself rereading this book many times.