Ada hates everything about ballet class, yet she still has to go! Arabesques? Grotesque! And then one Saturday, Ada pliés right out the door and into the hallway, smacking into someone who thinks her ungraceful moves are great!

In the tradition of Kevin Henkes’s Lilly books and Russell and Lilian Hoban’s Frances classics, Ada is a plucky little kid with her own way of thinking. Through Ada’s stubbornness and emotional honesty, author/illustrator Elise Gravel shows her understanding of how kids feel and why. She shows us that anger is normal and feeling our emotions leads to growth! This short, funny, energetic book—full of word bubbles that enhance visual literacy and Gravel’s signature vibrant illustrations—is a great choice for both reading aloud and reading independently for emergent readers.

Children who love ballet—and definitely those who don’t—will delight in this clever, subversive tale about a kid who has to do what she doesn’t like in order to discover what she loves.

The Fly
The Disgusting Critters Series
by Elise Gravel

The first in a series of humorous books about disgusting creatures, The Fly is a look at the common housefly. It covers such topics as the hair on the fly’s body (requires a lot of shaving), its ability to walk on the ceiling (it’s pretty cool, but it’s hard to play soccer up there), and its really disgusting food tastes (garbage juice soup followed by dirty diaper with rotten tomato sauce, for example). Although silly and off-the-wall, The Fly contains factual information that will tie in with curriculum.

Head Lice
The Disgusting Critters Series
by Elise Gravel

Part of a series of hilarious nonfiction books about disgusting creatures, this book examines head lice. It covers such topics as head lice habitats (human heads only, dogs are gross) anatomy (his body is slightly see through, so he can always see what he ate for lunch), and parenting practice (the female louse sticks eggs to human hair and uses the leftover glue for her model airplanes). Although silly and off-the-wall, Head Lice contains factual information that will both amuse and teach.
I Want a Monster!
by Elise Gravel
ISBN: 9780062415332
Binding: Hardback
Publisher: HarperCollins
Pub. Date: 2016-03-15
Pages: 40
Price: $21.99

Winnie wants a monster! Some monsters smell like pirate feet and some might read your diary, but they are so darn cute! All Winnie's friends have one. But how much do Oogly-Wumps eat? Don't they ever sleep? Can monsters get lonely?

I Want a Monster! is a humorous, energetic celebration of the responsibility and joy of owning your dream pet, perfect for fans of Peter Brown's Children Make Terrible Pets or anyone who's ever longed for or loved a pet of any kind.

Includes a "Would You Like to Adopt a Monster?" activity at the back of the book.

Jessie Elliot Is a Big Chicken
by Elise Gravel
ISBN: 9781596437418
Binding: Hardback
Publisher: Roaring Brook Press
Pub. Date: 2014-05-20
Pages: 176
Price: estimated price,

It's Jessie Elliot's last summer as a child. In the fall, she'll be going to Hochelaga High - where the cool kids smoke, have piercings, and make out in abandoned parking lots. Jessie wants to be cool, but it's way more fun being uncool. That's why this summer she's going to get a high score in Tetris, draw her Super Pickle comics, read weird books at her best friend Julie's cottage, and daydream about her crush, Ben. But when Julie is suddenly BFFs with one of the cool girls, Jessie wonders what will happen to her perfectly nerdy and fun-filled summer.

The Rat
The Disgusting Critters Series
by Elise Gravel
ISBN: 9781770496590
Binding: Paperback
Series: Disgusting Critters
Publisher: Tundra Books
Pub. Date: 2016-07-05
Pages: 32
Price: $8.99

One in a series of humorous books about disgusting creatures, The Rat is a look at the black rat. It covers such topics as the rat's long, agile tail (it's good for balancing and picking noses), long teeth (they can chew through anything, including books) and disgusting taste in food (delicious electrical wires in tomato sauce, anyone?). Although silly and off-the-wall, The Rat contains real information that will tie in with curriculum.

The Slug
The Disgusting Critters Series
by Elise Gravel
ISBN: 9781770496569
Binding: Paperback
Series: Disgusting Critters
Publisher: Tundra Books
Pub. Date: 2016-07-05
Pages: 32
Price: $8.99

One in a series of humorous books about disgusting creatures, The Slug is a look at the land slug. It covers such topics as the slug's two pairs of tentacles, one pair for seeing, one pair for smelling (it can see you're a kid and smell like broccoli), its breathing hole (on the side of its head!), and its pretty gross mucous covering (in order to find a partner, the slug can follow another slug's mucous trail. True love!). Although silly and off-the-wall, The Slug contains real information that will tie in with curriculum.
Part of a series of hilarious nonfiction about disgusting creatures, this book looks at the spider. It covers such topics as the spider's habitats (pretty much everywhere but outer space), the silk it spins (it can trap prey and makes a nifty bowtie), and its parenting practice (female spiders carry around their eggs in a silk purse). Although silly and off-the-wall, The Spider contains real information that will both amuse and teach.

She's good for the environment... and she's disgusting!

Distinctive trait: Warts
Food preference: Bugs and worms
Special talent: Eating her own skin

Disgusting? Yes, but fun, too!

The Toad is the next installment of the Disgusting Critter series. Hilarious illustrated non-fiction about toads perfect for beginning readers. Humorous text and funny illustrations will leave young readers croaking for more.

The second in a series of humorous books about disgusting creatures, The Worm is a look at the earthworm. It covers such topics as the worm's habitats (sometimes they live inside other animals), its anatomy (its muscle tube is slimy and gross), and its illustrious history (worms have been on Earth for 120 million years). Although silly and off-the-wall, The Worm contains factual information that ties in with curriculum.