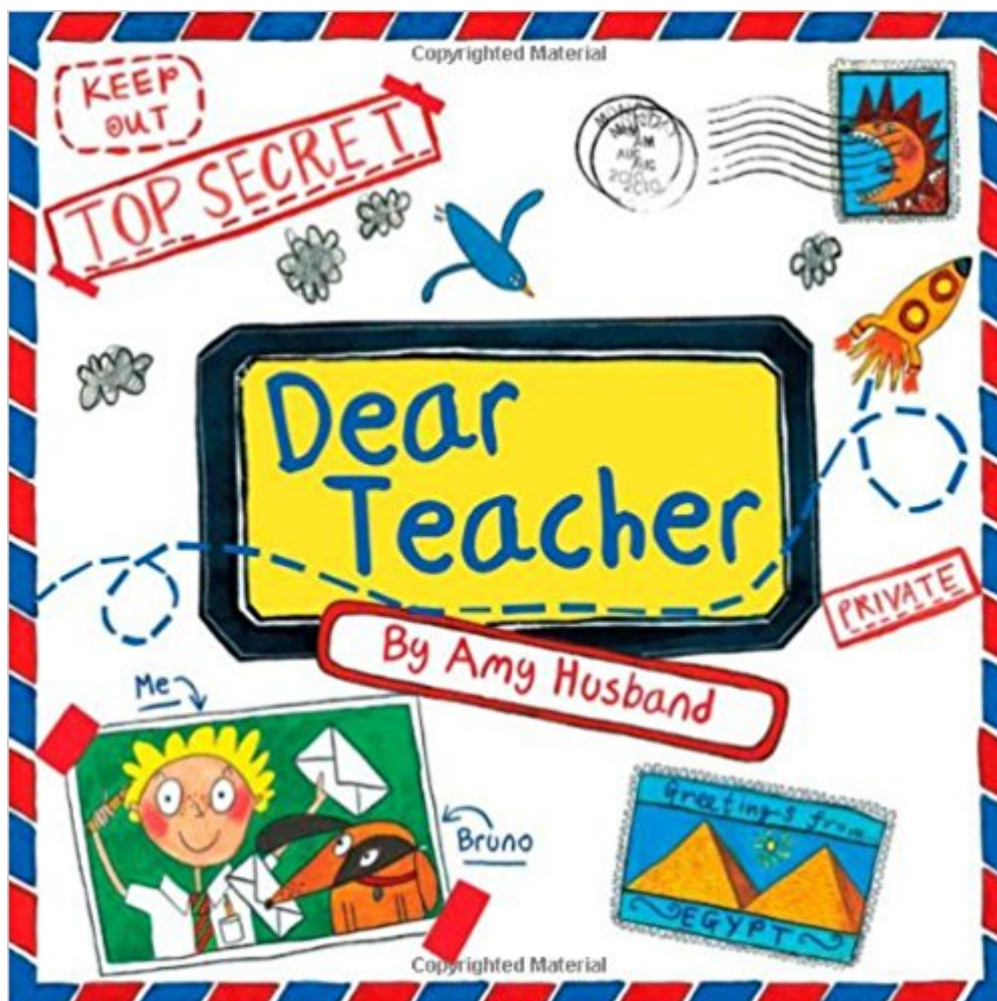


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# Dear Teacher



## Synopsis

This hilarious collection of letters from Michael to his new teacher comes packed with alligators, pirates and rocket-ships, and much, much more. Can Michael's imagination save him from the first day of school?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 640L (What's this?)

Paperback: 24 pages

Publisher: Sourcebooks Jabberwocky (July 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1402242689

ISBN-13: 978-1402242687

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.8 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #14,377 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > First Day of School](#) #236 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School](#) #762 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 **4.7 out of 5 stars** 9 customer reviews  
This humorous back-to-school book begins with a letter to a student from Principal N. T. Grindstone welcoming him back to school and promising lots of hard work in the year ahead. Following is a series of notes to his new teacher from the highly imaginative Michael, explaining the reasons for his lateness and subsequent absence; "The head of the secret service turned up. I did mention the math test, but he said the future of the country depends on me." Readers follow Michael on the hunt for a missing explorer from the top of Mount Everest through the Egyptian pyramids and the , by way of a rather sinister pirate ship. The child ends up not returning to school at all, but instead finds himself on another mission of epic proportions. Or does he? The illustrations and text look as if they are the work of Michael himself, and the postscripts are often laugh-worthy ("P.S. It's probably best not to mention this to Mom if you see her in the supermarket again.") This book is well positioned for the back-to-school crowd and is a fun

choice for children who are a little young for Jeff Kinney's "Wimpy Kid" books (Abrams) but enjoy a similar format. The illustrations will empower readers to believe they can write a similar story. This one is more enduring than most back-to-school titles. Alison Donnelly, Collinsville Memorial Public Library, IL © Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Each vertical, double-page spread in this inventive title is a letter from young Michael to his new teacher explaining why he may be late for the first day back at school: the Secret Service is sending him with his dog on a mission, in which he must rescue an explorer stuck on Mount Everest, race on a motorcycle to the pyramids, walk the plank for pirates, and much more until, finally, NASA decides to send him to the moon. The wild, colorful illustrations show the imaginative play, and kids with back-to-school panic will find comic relief in these over-the-top scenes. Grades K-2. --Hazel Rochman

I love this book! Perfect to read at the beginning of the year, as an introduction to have students write a letter to me!

Great book for teachers to use with students. You can have them create their own Dear Teacher letters. Very cute!

Very cute!

I read this book at the beginning of the year with my students then had them do a writing assignment.

Great book

I read this at the library and thought it was great. I decided to add it to my own personal library and have found it is a great read aloud.

This is such a cute book for the start of the school year! It was released this month, so if you're a teacher, librarian, or otherwise involved with school age kids, you may want to check this one out. I was hooked at the cover, which is made to look like a large envelope, with postage and all! It even

opens like one...what kid wouldn't love that?! Once inside, it reminded me a lot of *The Jolly Postman*, which I used to enjoy sharing with my kindergartners. The difference with this one is that the letters/post cards are the story, don't come out of the book, and are all written by the same person, until the end. Michael writes to his teacher before school starts, in response to her "Welcome" letter, that many teachers today write to their students. He uses different correspondence forms: letters, a telegram, and a post card. The book even shows Michael mailing the letters in different mail boxes. Most of the book is made up of letters from Michael, so it would be a good book to use when teaching letter writing as well. Michael always includes a P.S., which is something that a lot of kids don't know about. Michael's whole intent, is to let his teacher know why he will not be at school on the 1st day, and what an imagination he has! He talks about travels to other cities, countries, climates, etc. Amy Husband does a wonderful job of not only telling about the places Michael travels, through his letters, but also illustrating the highlights of that place. The illustrations are child like, so it really looks like Michael has added drawings to his letters to help his teacher understand where he is and what he's doing. Very eye-catching, bright, vivid illustrations that children are sure to love! I'm sure there are many children who feel like Michael, not wanting to go to school on the first day, the end to summer vacation, and having to let go of all they have been doing. What a great way to express those feelings, through letter writing! Wouldn't that be a good lesson/activity for the first day/week of school? Write a response to your teacher's welcome letter. You could use any correspondence format: post card, letter, etc. I can see a whole slew of ideas coming from teachers with this book! May be I'll challenge my teachers to see what they can come up with? There's so much: letter writing, geography, story telling, etc. I'm always on the look out for books to start the school year with, and will definitely be sharing this one with the teachers on my campus!

*Dear Teacher* is an adorable read with high emphasis on the imagination. This is definitely a read that would be perfect for children either going back to school, or fearful of returning. The novel follows Michael as he is getting ready to return for another year of school. While it seems that Michael is very excited about his new year of year... life has a way of interrupting. For me, *Dear Teacher* was a blast to read. Very quick. Very humorous. And just plain cute. Michael was a fantastic character. I loved following him on his adventures. In addition, I absolutely fell in love with the set up of this novel. It was very colorful and kept my attention throughout the whole novel. If you are a parent or a teacher will students who reluctant to return to school, I definitely recommend that you should them this novel. It shows school in a really fun and exciting way that is sure to please

both adults and children alike.

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