

Olivia Forms a Band

Ian Falconer

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Olivia has decided to form a band: a one-pig band, to be exact. And as we soon find out, Olivia is certainly capable of making enough noise to sound like an entire orchestra.

Olivia Forms a Band Details

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Author : Ian Falconer

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From Reader Review Olivia Forms a Band for online ebook

Taylor Wade says

Summary: The night has finally arrived where Olivia was going to get to see the fireworks. She could not wait to hear the band. But when she finds out that there isn't going to be a band, she can't understand why not. Olivia decides that she is going to put together a band. Using pots, pans, her brother's toys, and even her father's suspenders, Olivia forms a band spectacular enough to startle any audience.

Evaluation: This book would be a great cue to use to teach students that they can do anything they want to if they put their mind to it. Olivia is looking forward to the band, and when she finds out that the band won't be playing she decides to make her own. I could teach students about how they can take initiative.

Teaching Point: I would use this book for younger grades. I would read the book aloud to my students and then teach them the importance of making inferences and pulling out the main idea of the story. I would talk about how excited Olivia was to hear the band, and I would try to help my students make a personal connection about times when they were excited. I would then talk about how Olivia's dreams were crushed and how she took initiative to make sure what she wanted to happen happened.

Emily Livadary says

Am I the only one who thinks this series often fails to live up to the hype? Although I thought the original book was promisingly charming, I've been disappointed by each of the others I've read - this one in particular. The illustrations are always cute and expressive, but I find the storytelling a little lackluster and disjointed. The thing I really can't get behind, though, is that the books constantly show Olivia behaving badly or causing mayhem without any consequences or redeeming conclusion. I get it: she's supposed to be exhausting, in a charmingly realistic and whimsical sort of way. Great! But there are all these moments that could easily lead to great lessons that just...don't. For example, at the end of this book, her mom keeps asking her to clean up her band equipment, then almost breaks her neck stumbling over it in the dark when Olivia doesn't do it. She is already asleep - The End. What? So the takeaway is that it's ok to not listen to your parents even though you could cause someone actual physical harm by refusing to do so? Come on, Falconer, help a parent out!

Olivia also spends the first half of the book pluckily putting together an awesome one-woman band to play at the fireworks show - so cool! - only to completely drop the whole idea as soon as they leave for the event. What? I guess this is realistic - kids switch gears all the time - but it just felt like a missed opportunity to see Olivia precociously go for it and give the story a real climax at the same time. Instead, it just ends up feeling like an endorsement of not following through and makes the story kind of meandering and pointless.

Basically, the story sets up tons of great scenarios for inspiring or teachable moments, but it never follows through. So disappointing!

Abigail says

That imaginative and willful little pig Olivia returns in this fourth picture-book chronicling her adventures, this time determined to create her own marching band, when her mother informs her that the fireworks they will be seeing that evening won't have musical accompaniment. When her family members don't prove as enthusiastic as she is at the idea of participating, our porcine heroine decides she will have to do it by herself. After all, as Olivia reminds her mother, she alone can sound like five people, so why not form a band...?

Like its predecessors, Olivia Forms a Band is a superb picture-book, one that pairs a pitch-perfect narrative about a feisty and creative young girl with lots of energy and not a lot of restraint, with absolutely hilarious illustrations that are as beautiful as they are entertaining. Ian Falconer is at the top of his form here, adeptly capturing the droll expressions on the faces of Olivia and her family in his charcoal and gouache artwork. A number of photographs - a rock band, a marching band, the Supreme Court! - are worked into the artwork, in the thought bubbles. Highly recommended to anyone who has read and enjoyed other stories about Olivia, as well as to anyone looking for stories about feisty young girls and their imaginary inner worlds.

Tova says

Olivia is amazing. RTC

Ladiibbug says

Children's series

Loved the artwork on the inside front cover, one drawing from each previous book summarizing Olivia's adventures to date.

Olivia's family is going on a picnic followed by a fireworks display. She is puzzled that there will be no band. Our intrepid little piglet gathers everyday household objects to form her own band.

Olivia is like a breath of cool refreshing air on a hot day. Each book makes me laugh, and lightens my heart.

Bravo to the illustrator - I looked in two books, and found only the name of the author. I guess Ian Falconer writes the delightful stories and does the artwork as well.

Melki says

[Oh, how I *wish* someone with Olivia's brains would be appointed to the Supreme Cou

Kiera Turner says

I love the Olivia books! I love how independent and humorous Olivia is! I read this book to my class and they really enjoyed it! We discussed how you don't always need instruments to make music but how you can

use objects around your household like Olivia did in the story. This book helps children realize how creative they can be and helps us as teachers promote their creativity!

Lori says

An imagination is a valuable tool!! I think this book does a great job of showing the hours of enjoyment an imagination can provide and the self-esteem that comes from using ones imagination to create something fabulous!!

Mary says

When Olivia learns there will not be music at the fireworks display, she forms her own one-pig band. The visual humor, especially the illustrations of her gathering the instruments, is as strong as ever. Falconer also adds the color blue to the usual charcoals and reds. Olivia fans will not be disappointed.

Kaethe says

27 Novewmber,2006

Olivia is always fabulous! But at this point, she's starting to appeal to me more than to the kids. Sigh.

3 July, 2015

The kids come back around, FYI

Elisa Pereyra-Molina says

This allows children to make connection from animated characters to their real life experiences. Olivia that one man band and her family ended the day by nearly braking her mothers Neck.

Fernanda Espinosa L. (Entre tazas de té blog) says

Lo que más me ha sorprendido de este libro es lo gracioso que es. Realmente gracioso, el regalo perfecto para un niño... o algún fanático de los cerditos.

Mari says

audiobook! i want to in the band with olivia she seems nice hhh

Shorty says

Very cute. Audiobook narrated by Dame Edna herself. Enjoy!

Kara says

This installment in the “Olivia” series is one that is sure to bring about a room full of laughter for younger readers. The main character Olivia, is determined to create a makeshift band to compliment the fireworks at the Fourth of July celebration. When her parents and siblings express much disinterest in joining, Olivia is left with no other choice than to create a one-man-band starring only herself. Readers are taken on a journey in which they get to see Olivia’s process of creating her band’s instruments through the use of household items and her showtime makeup application. The variety of onomatopoeias such as clang, ding, and BOOM that are presented on the pages in differing font sizes add a fun element for both adult and children readers alike. Also, accompanying the delightful story are the entertaining illustrations that instill moments of visual humor. One of my favorite illustrations, for example, is where Olivia is getting ready to leave for the celebration and readers get to see a closeup of her showing off her bright red lipstick in the mirror. While most of the illustrations are done in black and white with a few accents of red and aqua present, there are a couple eye-popping pages in full color that represent how beautiful both the sunset and the fireworks are after the sun settles and the moment that Olivia had been waiting for finally comes. All in all, this is a charming story that I would recommend for younger readers up to age 8.
