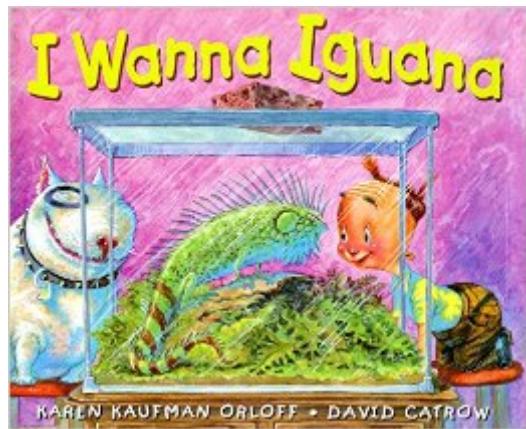


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# I Wanna Iguana



## **Synopsis**

Alex just has to convince his mom to let him have an iguana, so he puts his arguments in writing. He promises that she won't have to feed it or clean its cage or even see it if she doesn't want to. Of course Mom imagines life with a six-foot-long iguana eating them out of house and home. Alex's reassurances: It takes fifteen years for an iguana to get that big. I'll be married by then and probably living in my own house. and his mom's replies: How are you going to get a girl to marry you when you own a giant reptile? will have kids in hysterics as the negotiations go back and forth through notes. And the lively, imaginative illustrations show their polar opposite dreams of life with an iguana.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: AD460L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers (September 9, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399237178

ISBN-13: 978-0399237171

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 0.3 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (89 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,609 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians #56 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets #106 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Karen Orloff and David Catrow have teamed up in this one to give us a very funny story of a little boy, Alex, who wants very, very much to have his own pet Iguana. The problem is...obviously, Mom! The entire book is consists of notes, or mini-letters, written between Alex and his mom. The little boy of course is pointing out the obvious advantages of having his own lizard in his room (in his eyes), and his mom counters each note with her own note pointing out the obvious disadvantages of having a reptile in the home..a reptile that can possibly grow to several feet long!. The unique exchange of letters is absolutely hilarious. Each letter, both from Alex and from mom, is highlighted

with some wonderful illustrations and pictures by David Catrow. They fit the text perfectly which makes this book quite easy to read to an individual child or to a group. Each letter allows the reader to open up discussion as to the arguments presented by both mom and Alex. It is fun to have the kids think of other reasons for both sides of the argument. All in all, this is a fine little book and I do recommend you add it to your library. You certainly cannot go wrong with this one.

Teachers can look to this story as a great example of persuasive writing. Young Alex is trying to persuade his mother to let him adopt an iguana. In a series of hilarious notes between Alex and his mother, the terms and conditions of pet ownership are hammered out. There is a "money" page (the point where the whole class bursts out in raucous laughter.) David Catrow illustrations are wonderfully comic. One young listener observed, "That kid is really weird looking." The last page evoked a class wide, arm pumping "Yesssss..." along with Alex. Great fun!

This is a marvellously ingenious book! Alex is just the right kind of precocious vocabulary-heavy kid to pull off the story, and his mom is a perfect foil for his scheme. My daughter loves this book, so naturally we read it a lot!

Our family LOVES I Wanna Iguana. Karen Kaufman Orloff's inventive story shows a wonderful, loving and humor-filled parent-child relationship in such a fun way. We read it over and over again, which makes us very happy.

I was at the book store shopping for a friend and instead ended up buying this book for myself. It is great. The engaging letters between the boy (alex) and his mother are so believable. Alex's pleading is all too true, and his quick-witted mothers responses are wonderful. I've read this book to my two nieces and several children at the library (where I work) and they've all loved it. And Catrow's illustrations are the perfect fit for Orloff's hilarious text.

This is just a fun book to read with your little child or a group of children. The wording is really especially fun. The children that I have read this to seem to like it a lot. Only problem, now some of them do want an iguana! That is not going to happen but I do think the book is very good.

I Wanna Iguana, by Karen Kaufman Orloff, is a charmer. As you peek at the notes the mother and son exchange, you feel like you become a member of this fond and humorous family. The

illustrations by David Catrow are wonderful and fully capture the warmth and charm of the text. I loved it and can't wait to share it with children I know.

I am a teacher and work in a small group atmosphere. I have majority of boys and I try to find books that are appropriate and would seek their interests. Iguanas are definitely on their list of topics to read about! I used this book to teach about Point of View. This is an adorable story! The boy and his mother write letters back and forth about the reasons why or why not he should get an Iguana as a pet. The letters were used so the students could point out the key words that help identify what point of view the story is being told. They also used the letters to compare and contrast the points of view between the mother and son. Perfect book for my lesson and it was funny as well!

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I Wanna Iguana Iguanodon: The Iguana Tooth (Graphic Dinosaurs (Paper)) Iguana Handbook (Barron's Pet Handbooks) Green Iguana: The Ultimate Owner's Manual Tree Chickens & Leaping Lizards: How to care for your Iguana I Wanna Be A Producer - How to Make a Killing on Broadway...or Get Killed Girls Just Wanna Have Mad Libs: Ultimate Box Set So You Wanna Be a Superstar?: The Ultimate Audition Guide Sweet Noshings: New Twists on Traditional Jewish Desserts (What Jew Wanna Eat) To Be or Wanna Be: The Top Ten Differences Between a Successful Actor and a Starving Artist I Wanna Take Me a Picture: Teaching Photography and Writing to Children

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