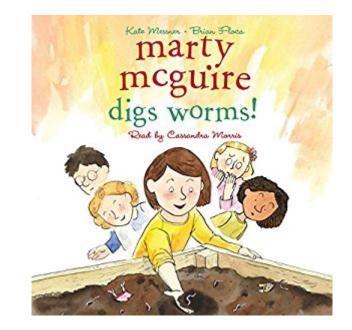
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# **Marty McGuire Digs Worms!**





# Synopsis

Marty McGuire would rather spend recess catching frogs in the pond than playing dress-up with the other girls in third grade. So when her teacher casts Marty as the princess in the class play, Marty's absolutely, positively sure that there's been a huge mistake. But after a special lesson in the art of improvisation, Marty comes up with her OWN plan to IMPROVE the play: Why use stuffed-animal frog onstage when a live one would be so much better? In the end, Marty's one-of-a-kind performance makes for an unforgettable show. Maybe a tomboy princess CAN live happily ever after, after all!

# **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 2 hours and 12 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: Scholastic Audio Audible.com Release Date: April 1, 2012 Language: English ASIN: B007QHY47U Best Sellers Rank: #6 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Children's Books > Science & Nature #1714 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Children's Books > Fiction

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a fun book to use as a read aloud for younger kids or as an independent reading book for 2-3rd graders. We have worm bins set up and the kids are always curious about them. This book is an entertaining and popular.

These are a great series of books. The main female character is not into princesses or drama as in many other books targeted for girls. She is a strong, smart character and a good role model. My daughter enjoys reading these. She is in 2nd grade.

You have to hand it to a third-grader who has no qualms about shredding her collection of princess paper dolls (unwanted gifts from a well-meaning but clueless grandmother) in order to recycle paper. In this second book of the series the students in Marty's school are on a mission to save the earth. A visiting environmentalist challenges the students to come up with projects to help the

environment. When the glop of paper dolls fails to materialize into paper (and breaks the food processor to boot), Marty chooses a new project. With the help of Grandma Barb, her cool non-paper-doll-giving grandmother, Marty and her best friend Annie create a worm compost farm that will turn the leftovers from the school cafeteria into fertilizer. Worms and third-graders make for an explosive mix, especially in the hands of Kate Messner. After the kids overfeed their slimy charges, the worms escape and Marty and Annie have to capture them. Patience isn't Marty's strong point, but over the course of the story she learns to wait for her worms to slowly process trash into compost. On the big day, the environmentalist returns to judge the projects. Will Marty's worms win or won't they? Messner cleverly keeps readers at the edge of their seats as the winners are announced and brought on stage. Marty is an engaging character, one whom kids will be sure to root for. And the environmentalist message, while prevalent, is rarely heavy handed. The students at Orchard Street Elementary genuinely care about saving the environment. One girl, whose father sometimes throws soda cans in the regular trash and not the recycling bin, sets up a metal detector that will buzz if aluminum goes in. As she explains, "I really wanted to set it up so he'd get zapped with a shock, too, like those electric dog fences, but my mom said I couldn't." The story is heavily sprinkled with such humorous tidbits, making it an enjoyable read. Brian Floca's light-hearted illustrations add to the fun.

As part of our summer reading program "Dig Into Reading" at the Georgetown County library we are reading Marty McGuire Digs Worms. One of our summer projects is a worm farm. This book will fit in perfectly.

This is a very well written book with some wonderful messages for our children. It's about creativity and being able to see things through. It also hits on environmental issues and responsibilities. The book is actually a great outline for school projects at any level.

This book was on my sons 3rd grade summer reading list. He really is enjoying the book and asking for me to purchase other books in the series for him to read when he finishes this book.

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