

When Lollipop Ladies Attack!

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National Reading Ambassador

Parents who embarrass are a universal experience. And it's even worse if they appear at school, every day.

This Lollipop Lady is the narrator Abby's Mum.

Younger readers will pick this book up for the active title and vibrant cover in safety yellow and red. It's well structured for newly independent readers with repetition, dialogue and short sentences but it's also terrific characterisation. Can hear author Vicki Englund's scripting skills in the natural dialogue, appropriate to the age group. Vocabulary such as playdate indicates the writer knows her audience.

Love the fact that Mum becomes whistle obsessed and even attends an anger management session. But she's also a hero!

Curriculum links to traffic safety will make this personable and funny story popular with educators too.

Apt tone. Humour. Nicky Johnston's illustrations are an asset.

Highly commended.