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John Grandits

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John Grandits : Technically, It's Not My Fault: Concrete Poems before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Technically, It's Not My Fault: Concrete Poems:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A "different" kind of book that upper grade children enjoyedBy jjinflThis little book is interesting to children, since it is written by a boy around their age. He chooses amusing kid-friendly topics that engage children, and the presentation of poems in many shapes and patterns helps them think of incidents in their own lives that they might write about. The author makes use of a variety of presentations, such as circular, tall thin poems, different sized/cute print fonts for emphasis, and other unique fresh appearances of the final product. I have used several of his ideas forcreativity assignments after students in grades 4-5 have written a number of poems in traditional format, and they've been quite successful. They always want to take their work home to show

their parents, because they are proud of the results. It is a little bit "catching", reminding me of times when I've taught Haiku and they begin rolling out poem after poem whenever they have extra time, just for fun. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Just a whole lot of fun! By Anton Gruenewald I was wandering through the Red Bank, NJ Public Library a few years back when I came across an exhibition of the original artwork for this wonderful series of concrete poems. You don't need to be a kid to love Grandits' work. He is spot on and side-splittingly funny. If you are a Diary of a Wimpy Kid fan, you MUST check this out. And if you like a witty marriage of words and images, you MUST check this out! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. All three of my children love it and we've shared it with a several groups ... By CM This book is hysterical. All three of my children love it and we've shared it with a several groups of friends. John Grandits really captures what it is like to be a kid!

An eleven-year-old boy named Robert voices typical and not so typical middle-grade concerns in this unique, memorable collection of hilarious poems. His musings cover the usual stuff, like pizza, homework, thank-you notes, and his annoying older sister. In addition, he speculates about professional wrestling for animals, wonders why no one makes scratch-and-sniff fart stickers, designs the ultimate roller coaster (complete with poisonous spiders), and deconstructs the origins of a new word, snarpy. A playful layout and ingenious graphics extend the wry humor that is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

From School Library Journal Starred . Grade 4-8 Grandits combines technical brilliance and goofy good humor to provide an accessible, fun-filled collection of poems, dramatically brought to life through a brilliant book design. The eye-catching title selection, an account of a science experiment gone astray, appears on the front cover and its messy aftermath, a squashed tomato, winds up on the back. Simple drawings, varied typefaces, unusual arrangements of text, and different colors are used to call attention to the words. Grandits crafts an 11-year-old protagonist, Robert, whose perspective throughout is authentically adolescent. He is both immature and intelligent, and delights in all things gross as can be seen in such offerings as "The Autobiography of Murray the Fart," "Spew Machine," and "Sick Day." "TyrannosaurBus Rex" features a predatory cartoon school bus munching its way along its route: "More children. More sacrifices./Yum." This book doesn't reach the masterful collaboration of Paul B. Janeczko and Chris Raschka's *A Poke in the I* (Candlewick, 2001), but most readers will still love it. Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Gr. 4-6. Grandits stretches the definition of concrete poetry in this collection, which uses inventive shapes and typefaces to hilarious effect. Each selection is loosely tied to Robert, a kid with ordinary concerns: homework is boring; he would like a new pet; he is crushed when he misses his lay-up in basketball. But Grandits finds wild humor in such things, and the resulting poems will make most kids howl with recognition. There's the pious thank-you letter to an aunt that comes with truthful footnotes: "In the history of sweaters, there has never been an uglier waste of yarn." Then there's the arc of text describing Robert's rocket, constructed from his sister's algebra homework, which showers numbers and mathematical symbols as the explosion hits. "The Autobiography of Murray the Fart," written in lines that flow from a soda can-shaped block to a thin line that turns into intestine-like loops, will, like the other selections in this winning, highly creative collection, convince readers that poetry can be loud, outrageous, gross fun. Gillian Engberg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "An exuberant celebration of wordplay that's certain to broaden kids' understanding and appreciation of the possibilities of poetry." KIRKUS Kirkus s "combines technical brilliance and goofy good humor to provide an accessible, fun-filled collection of poems...brilliant book design" Starred, SLJ School Library Journal, Starred "graphically inventive sequence of concrete poems...mimes an 11-year-old's sarcastic perspective...A technically (and imaginatively) inspired typeface experiment." PW Publishers Weekly "humorous...kid-relevant or kid-voiced...well-pitched to a youthful readership...playful layouts...a quick, funny, and painlessly poetic read." BCCB Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books "Youth will fall for this kind of word play, as will adults...smart, clever, and just plain fun." VOYA VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)