



This Is My Home, This Is My School

By Jonathan Bean

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This Is My Home, This Is My School By Jonathan Bean

Drawing from his own childhood experiences, Jonathan Bean takes the autobiographically inspired family he introduced in *Building Our House* through the special rhythms and routines of a homeschooling day. For young Jonathan and his sisters, Mom is the teacher and a whole lot more, and Dad is the best substitute any kid could want. From math, science, and field trips to recess, show-and-tell, and art, a school day with this intrepid, inventive family will seem both completely familiar and totally unique. Includes a selection of family snapshots and a note from the author.

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This Is My Home, This Is My School By Jonathan Bean Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 1—In his second semi-autobiographical picture book, Bean introduces young audiences to one family's homeschooling experience. The well-paced narrative draws clear connections between the details of a traditional school environment—with a teacher, a cafeteria, and classrooms—and a homeschool setting—Mom and Dad are the teachers, the kitchen becomes the lunch room, and the house, the yard, the nearby pond, and the garage are all used as classrooms. In Bean's depiction of homeschooling, every moment of the day becomes a chance to learn, from outdoor art classes to evening star-gazing to the "homework" of helping out with farm chores. Watercolor illustrations with loosely defined borders perfectly capture the jumbled chaos of a dual-purpose household, while pen-and-ink lines and plenty of white space provide definition and space for viewers to take in the many details. In this home, towering piles of books, scattered papers, and canning jars share space with butterfly nets, chemistry beakers, and art supplies, reinforcing the family's philosophy that every experience has educational possibilities. The simple sentence structure and vocabulary make this a great choice for emerging readers, and the strong sense of place, anchoring the school experience to a family's beloved home while also opening it up to embrace the wider world, will resonate with young children just beginning to navigate the home/school divide. VERDICT Bean's introduction to a free-spirited yet structured homeschool lifestyle offers a warm and accessible perspective on an increasingly common educational choice rarely seen in children's books. A first purchase.—Chelsea Couillard-Smith, Hennepin County Library, MN

Review

"This is no ordinary back-to-school tale." ?*USA Today*

"A great choice for emerging readers, and the strong sense of place, anchoring the school experience to a family's beloved home while also opening it up to embrace the wider world, will resonate with young children just beginning to navigate the home/school divide." ?*School Library Journal*, starred review

"Homeschooling families rejoice! This warm, uplifting, and hilarious book will delight kids who wonder if other families live just like they do. My family laughed, nodded, and smiled all the way through?from the first illustration to the last. Sure to become a classic on homeschoolers' bookshelves all over the world." ?Sarah Mackenzie, Creator, Read-Aloud Revival and author of *Teaching from Rest: A Homeschooler's Guide to Unshakable Peace*

"Warmhearted . . . Capture[s] the coziness as well as the frenetic pace of the homeschooling day." ?*The Horn Book*

"The family from *Building Our House* returns, but this time their son tells readers all about life as a home-schooled kid . . . Home sweet school." ?*Kirkus Reviews*

"Humorous and informative . . . Bean's scribbly pen-and-ink style is perfectly suited for the liveliness of a home in which the living room is both a place to relax and a classroom, the kitchen is the cafeteria, and the family car is also the school bus." ?*Publishers Weekly*

About the Author

JONATHAN BEAN received an M.F.A. from New York's School of Visual Arts and now lives in

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. A two-time winner of the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, for *At Night* and *Building Our House*, he is also the illustrator of *Big Snow*, two picture books by Lauren Thompson, and *Bad Bye, Good Bye* by Deborah Underwood.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lewis Lin:

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Ella Cook:

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Anthony Alfaro:

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Caroline Gonzalez:

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