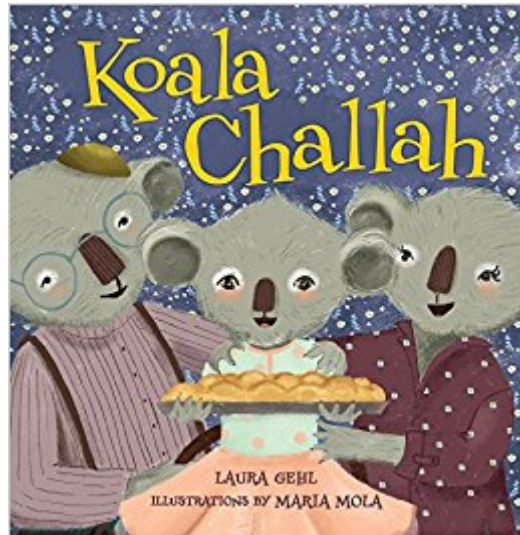




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Koala Challah



Synopsis

Lila's older sisters both have jobs to help their family get ready for Shabbat. Lila wants to help too, but she can't figure out the perfect job, and everything she tries just ends in a gigantic mess. Then Lila has an idea. Maybe she can make the most beautiful, most special, most delicious challah ever! At least she can try....

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 480 (What's this?)

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

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Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

Lila, a little koala, sees how her older sisters get to show off their eucalyptus-themed Shabbat specialties (Rachel makes eucalyptus oil candles, Naomi makes eucalyptus wine) and yearns to be part of the preparations. But as Mommy gently but firmly explains, her helpfulness can be a hindrance: "Every week we hurry to get ready for Shabbat, and every week you make a mess." When Lila asks if she can make the challah, Mommy acquiesces--as long as Lila practices all week. Gehl (the Peep and Egg series) sensitively and subtly taps into children's need to feel capable and appreciated, while reinforcing the importance of grit and high personal standards (Lila decides that her challah must be "better than fine" and adds eucalyptus flavoring). Mola's detailed floral backgrounds and dense colors can muddy the pictures' focus and action, but her characters have a winning earnestness, and Lila's steely determination to prove she can

make a contribution shines through her adorable, furry expressions. -Publisher's Weekly

Laura Gehl is the author of numerous picture books including One Big Pair of Underwear (Charlotte Zolotow Highly Commended Title), Hare and Tortoise Race Across Israel and And Then Another Sheep Turned Up (both PJ Library selections), and the Peep and Egg series (Parents' Choice Recommendation). Laura lives, writes, and eats lots of chocolate in Chevy Chase, MD, where she lives with her husband and four children. Maria Mola loves Saturdays and coffee. Born in Barcelona, she trained at the Francesca Bonnemaison School in Barcelona and the Moore College of Art in Philadelphia. She works in both traditional and digital media, often combining both. She lives in Chicago.

I just read Kiala Challah to my five year old granddaughter today. Having an older sister, she really related to Lila and her persistence to make the best challah ever and one she can call her own.

Another of Laura Gehl's books that children can relate well to. - Leslie Slan

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