

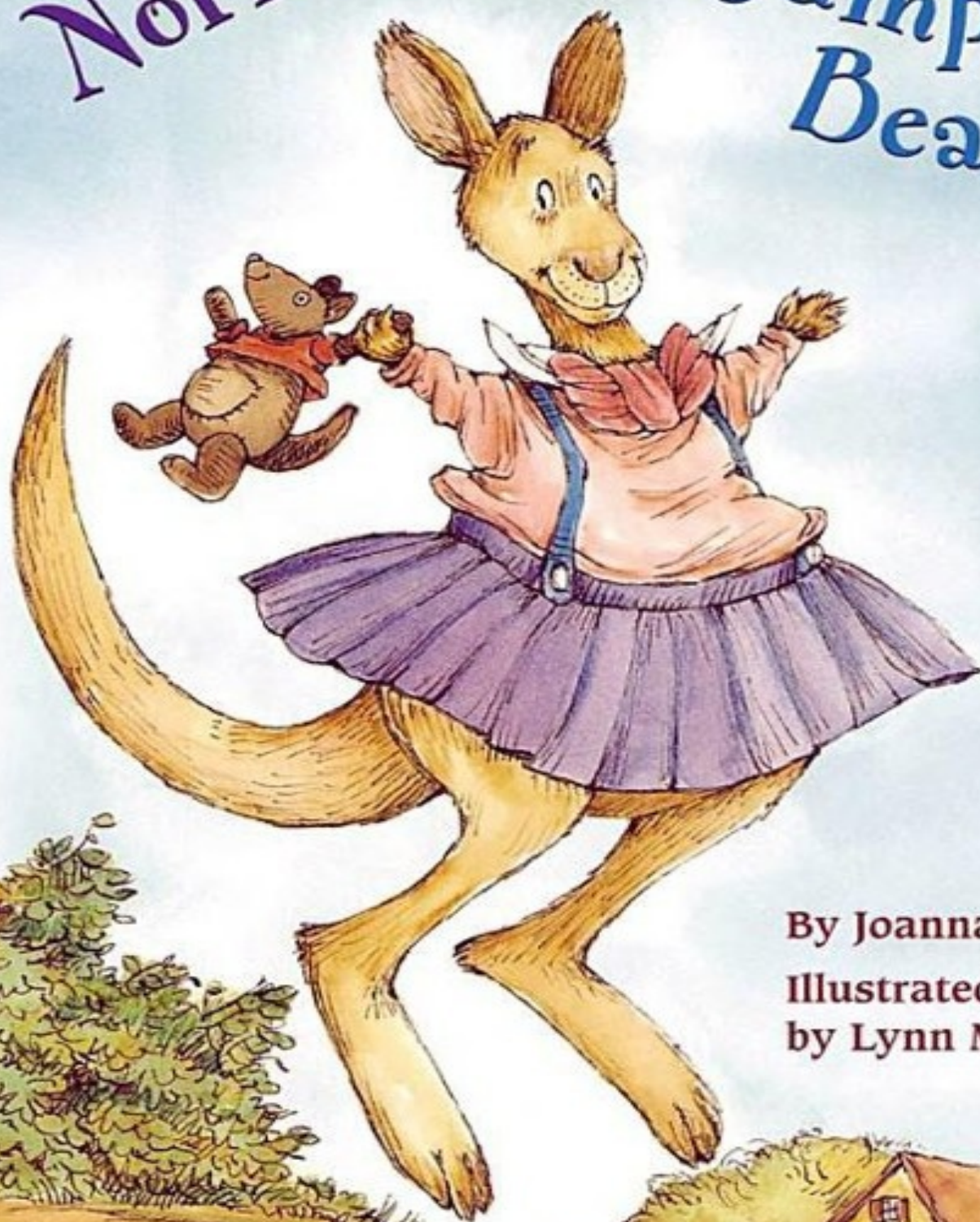
STEP INTO READING®

reading on your own

STEP

3

Norma Jean, Jumping Bean



By Joanna Cole

Illustrated

by Lynn Munsinger

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Random House  New York








Dear Parent:

Congratulations! Your child is taking the first steps on an exciting journey. The destination? Independent reading!

STEP INTO READING® will help your child get there. The program offers five steps to reading success. Each step includes fun stories and colorful art. There are also Step into Reading Sticker Books, Step into Reading Math Readers, Step into Reading Write-In Readers, Step into Reading Phonics Readers, and Step into Reading Phonics First Steps! Boxed Sets—a complete literacy program with something for every child.

Learning to Read, Step by Step!

-  **Ready to Read** **Preschool-Kindergarten**
 - **big type and easy words** • **rhyme and rhythm** • **picture clues**For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.
-  **Reading with Help** **Preschool-Grade 1**
 - **basic vocabulary** • **short sentences** • **simple stories**For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.
-  **Reading on Your Own** **Grades 1-3**
 - **engaging characters** • **easy-to-follow plots** • **popular topics**For children who are ready to read on their own.
-  **Reading Paragraphs** **Grades 2-3**
 - **challenging vocabulary** • **short paragraphs** • **exciting stories**For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.
-  **Ready for Chapters** **Grades 2-4**
 - **chapters** • **longer paragraphs** • **full-color art**For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

STEP INTO READING® is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides. Children can progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading, no matter what their grade.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!

To Patti and Chris Kirigan
—J.C.

For Dan—L.M.



Norma Jean liked to jump.
In the morning
she jumped out of bed.



She jumped
into her clothes.

She jumped
down the stairs.



Norma Jean jumped
all the way to school.
She jumped past
Amy, Sam,
Nell, and Ted.
“Wow!” said Ted.
“Look at her go!
That Norma Jean
never stops jumping!”



“Hello hello hello!”
she called to her friends.



That morning
Miss Jones read a book
to the class.
It was a very good book.
But Norma Jean did not

sit still long enough
to hear the story.



At playtime
Norma Jean and Nell
built a tower of blocks.



Norma Jean was so excited.
She jumped up and down.



Oh, no!
No more tower.
At lunch
Sam gave Norma Jean
a cupcake.
Norma Jean was so happy.
She jumped up and down.
Oh, no!
Her milk spilled
all over Sam.



“Norma Jean,
please sit still,”
said Miss Jones.
“This is not the time
or place for jumping.”



After school
Norma Jean went
to visit Ted.
“Hello hello hello!”
she shouted to Ted.
“Will you play with me?”
“Okay,” said Ted.
“Let’s get on my seesaw.”



But Norma Jean bounced too hard.
Ted almost flew off the seesaw.





“I don’t want to play anymore,”

Ted said.

“I wonder why Ted
is mad at me,”

said Norma Jean.

Then she jumped over to Amy’s house.

Amy was playing in her pool.

“Hello hello hello!”

said Norma Jean.

“May I play too?”

Amy said, “Sure.

Jump in!”



That was the wrong thing
to say to Norma Jean!
SPLASH!



Amy got out of the pool.

“Why did you get out?”
asked Norma Jean.
“We are having so much fun!”
Amy said,
“You are having fun.
I am going inside.
It is no fun playing
with a jumping bean!”



Now Norma Jean knew why
her friends were mad at her.
The next day
Norma Jean walked
to school very slowly.



There was a big puddle.
All the other kids
jumped over it.
But Norma Jean did not jump.



Norma Jean said,
“I don’t want to be a jumping bean.
No more jumping for Norma Jean.”
So she walked
through the puddle
and got her feet all wet.





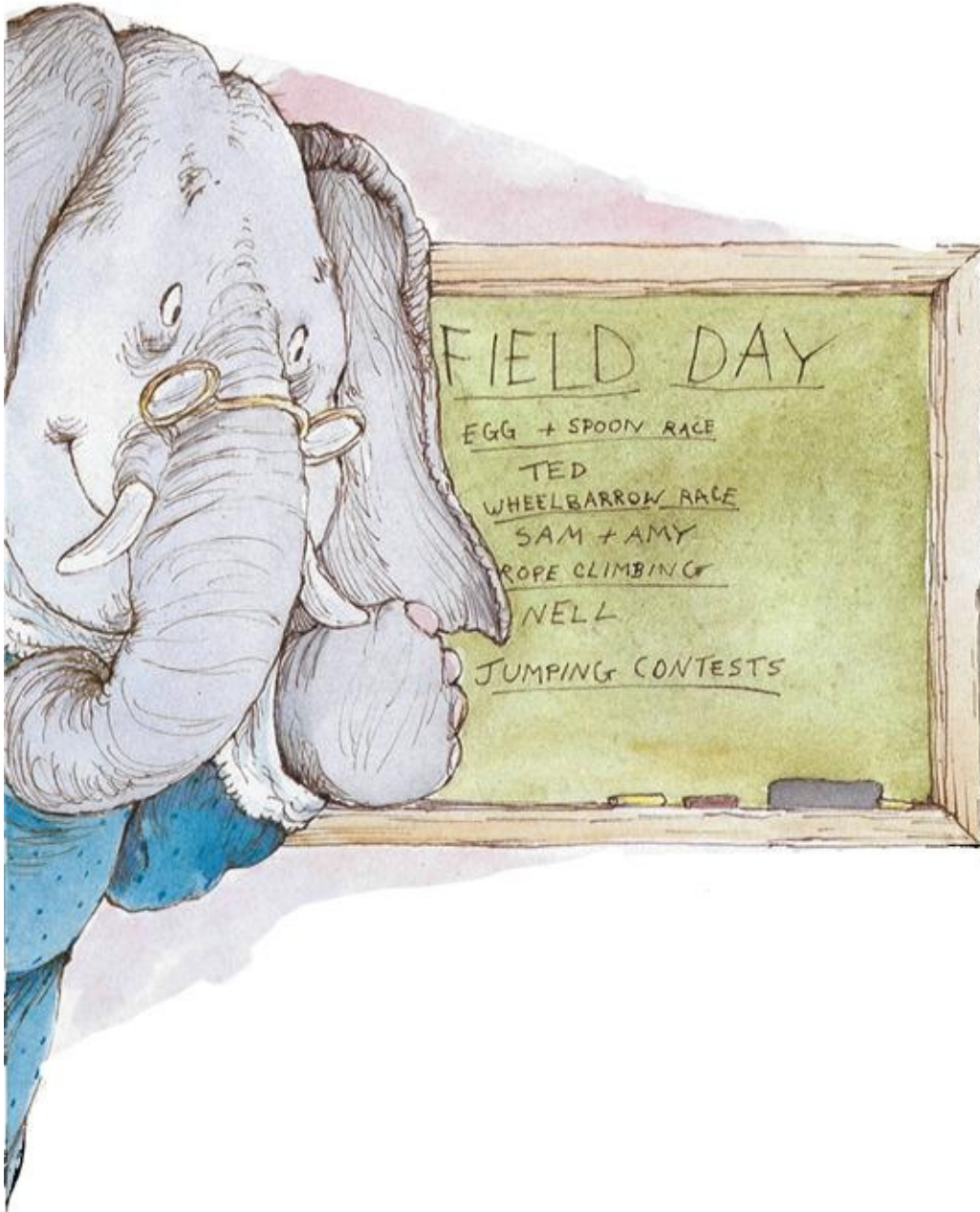
In the school yard kids
were running around and
playing catch
and jumping rope.
“There’s Norma Jean,”
said Amy.
“Come jump with us.”
But Norma Jean
said no.





Norma Jean said,
“I don’t want to be a jumping bean.
No more jumping for Norma Jean.”
And she just stood there
and watched the other kids jump rope.
At the end of the day
Miss Jones told the class
that Field Day was coming soon.
There were going to be
lots of races.
Ted wanted to be
in the egg-and-spoon race.
Amy and Sam
said they would be
in the wheelbarrow race.
Nell asked if she could be
in the rope-climbing contest.





“Now, who will be in
the jumping contests?”
asked Miss Jones.
Everybody shouted,
“Norma Jean! Norma Jean!
She is the best jumper in school!”
But Norma Jean said,
“I don’t want to be a jumping bean.”

No more jumping for Norma Jean.”
Ted said,
“I miss the old Norma Jean.
She was fun,
even if she did jump a lot.”





On Field Day,
Ted won
the egg-and-spoon race.
Norma Jean was very happy.
She yelled,
“Hooray! Hooray!”
Amy and Sam
came in first
in the wheelbarrow race.



Norma Jean yelled,
“Hooray hooray hooray!”
“And she jumped up and down
just a little bit.
Nell won
the rope-climbing contest.



Norma Jean was so excited,
she jumped out
on the field.
Norma Jean was
just in time for
the hurdles,



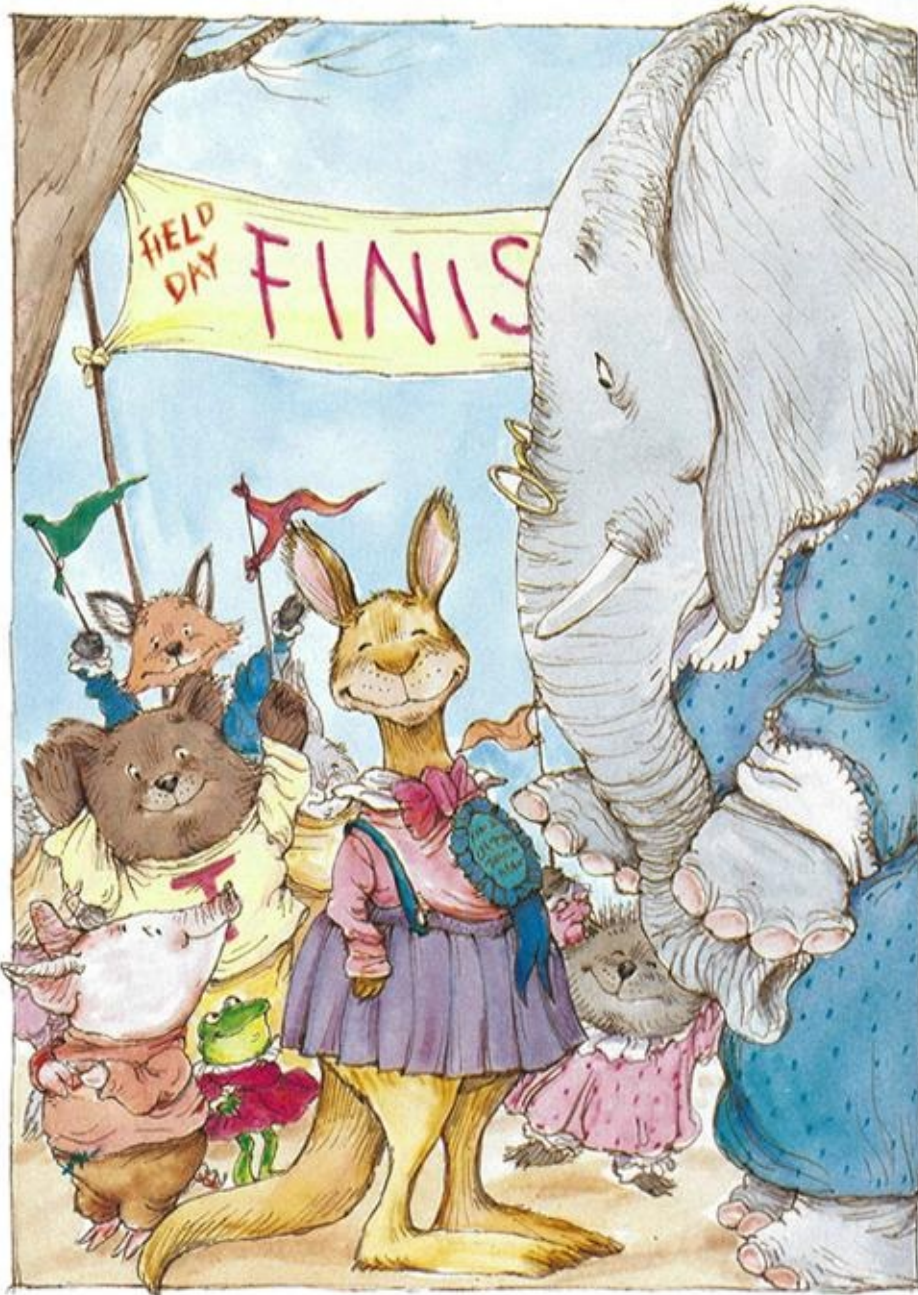
the high jump,



and the potato-sack race.



She won them all.
“Hooray hooray hooray!”
shouted the kids in Miss Jones’s class.
Norma Jean was very happy.
But she did not jump up and down.
She stood very still.
Miss Jones pinned
a blue ribbon
on Norma Jean.
It said,
“Norma Jean, Champion Jumping Bean.”



What did Norma Jean do then?

Norma Jean jumped for joy.



She jumped
and she jumped
and she jumped
all the way home.



After all,
there is a time
and a place
for jumping.

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SUMMARY: Norma Jean, whose love of jumping might be a bit excessive, stops her favorite activity after her friends complain, but participation in the school Olympics proves there is a time and place for jumping.

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