

Winter 2022

# My First Book Club

Explore. Discover. Imagine. Share.



CANDLEWICK PRESS

• [www.myfirstbookclub.com](http://www.myfirstbookclub.com) •

# My First Book Club!

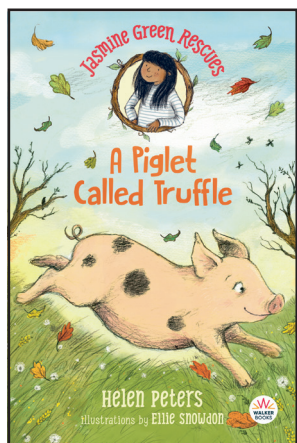
Candlewick Press and My First Book Club are committed to inspiring a love of books in young readers and bringing them together through shared reading, activities, and discussion.

Being part of a book club allows new readers to:

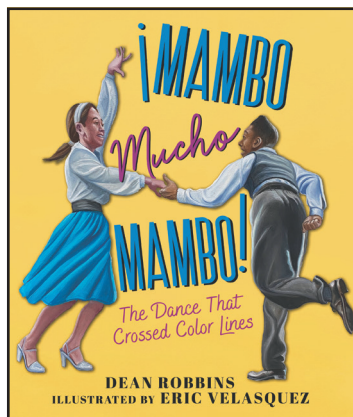
- **explore** new ideas and viewpoints
- **discover** connections with books and others
- **imagine** others' feelings and experiences
- **share** their own thoughts and opinions

More information about My First Book Club, including downloadable activities and discussion guides, is available at [www.myfirstbookclub.com](http://www.myfirstbookclub.com).

## My First Book Club Picks

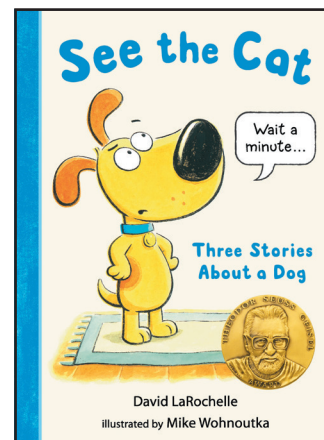
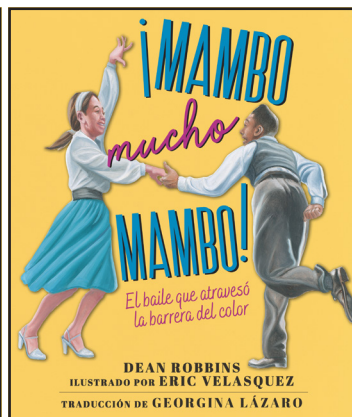


***Jasmine Green Rescues:  
A Piglet Called Truffle***  
by Helen Peters  
illustrated by Ellie Snowdon



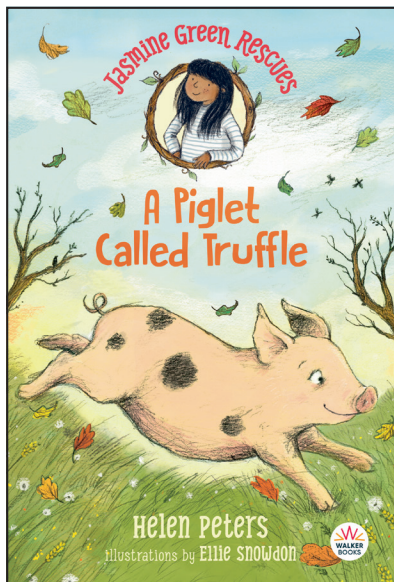
***¡Mambo Mucho Mambo! The Dance  
That Crossed Color Lines***

Spanish-language edition: ***¡Mambo  
Mucho Mambo! El baile que atravesó  
la barrera del color***  
by Dean Robbins  
illustrated by Eric Velasquez



***See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog***  
by David LaRochelle  
illustrated by  
Mike Wohnoutka

# Jasmine Green Rescues: A Piglet Called Truffle



HC: 978-1-5362-1024-8 • PB: 978-1-5362-1459-8

## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Helen Peters** is the author of numerous books for young readers that feature heroic girls saving the day, including the Jasmine Green Rescues series. She grew up on an old-fashioned farm surrounded by family, animals, and mud. Helen Peters lives in East Sussex, England.

**Ellie Snowdon** is a children's author-illustrator from a tiny village in South Wales. She received her MA in children's book illustration from Cambridge School of Art. Ellie Snowdon lives in Cambridge, England.

"Jasmine's sparkling personality, no-nonsense resourcefulness, and fiery commitment to wildlife make her a compelling heroine. The well-paced plot intertwined with unusual facts about animals and farms makes for a page-turning read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Simply written, immediately engaging, and grounded in realistic details, the narrative will be highly satisfying for kids who love animals." —*Booklist*

"Enhancing Helen Peters's farm adventures with whimsical illustrations, Ellie Snowdon charms with delightful black-and-white, penciled glimpses of pastoral fields, cozy kitchens, and two- and four-legged friends." —*Shelf Awareness*

If you liked this book, check out these other Jasmine Green Rescues books:





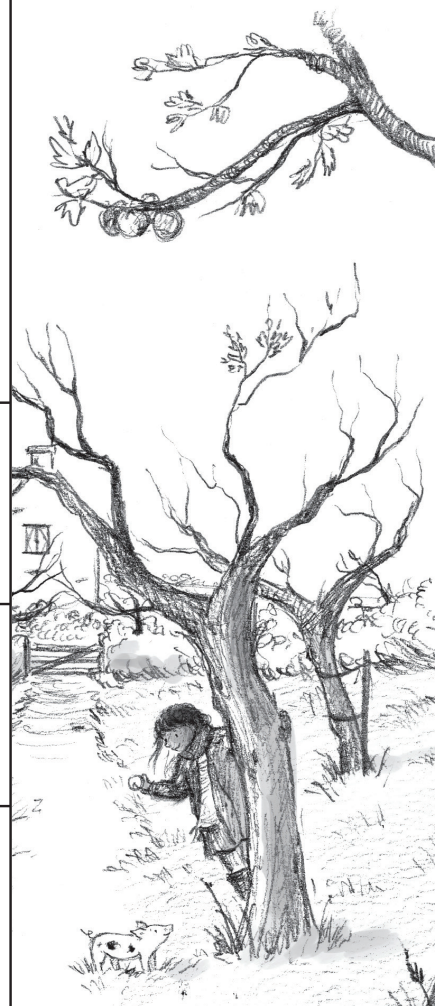
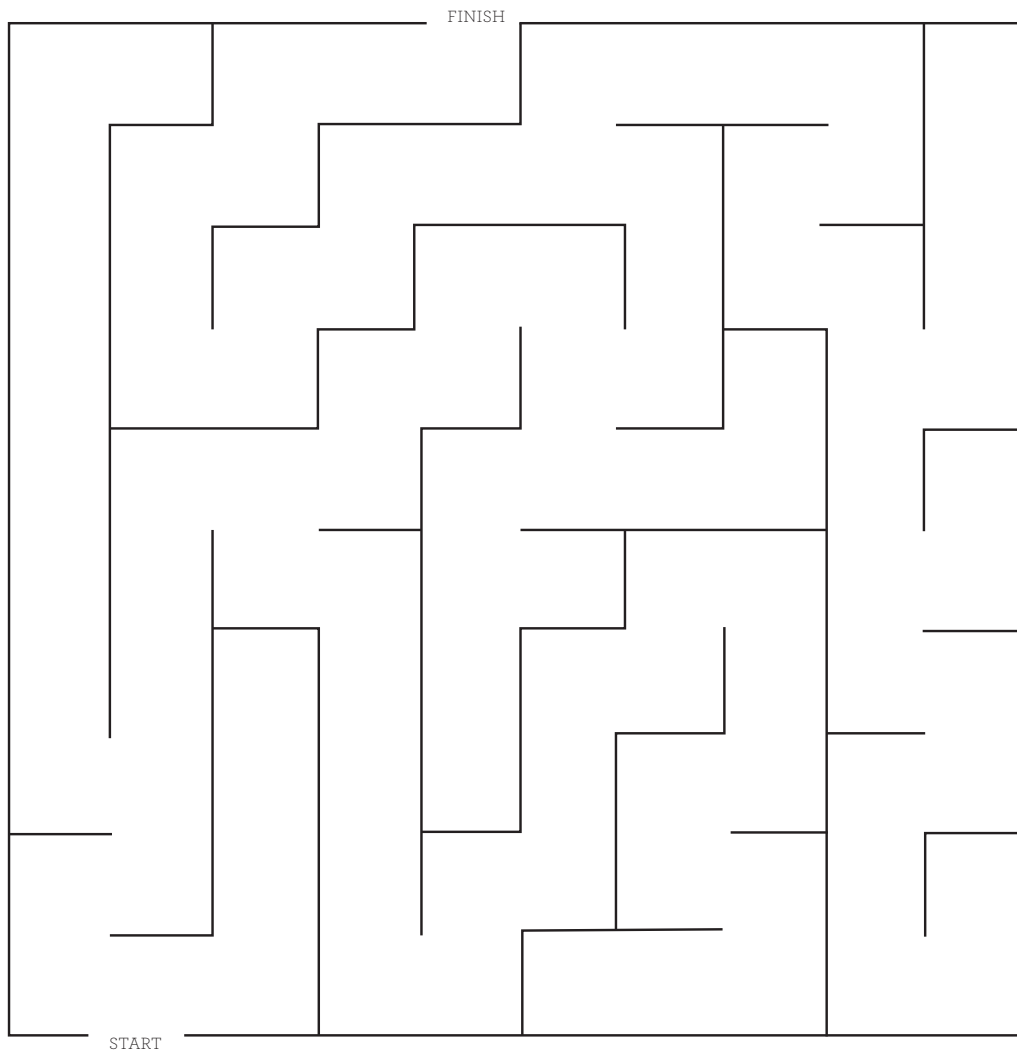
1. Jasmine and her family live on a farm. Have you ever been to a farm or a petting zoo? What animals did you see?
2. Taking care of an animal is a big responsibility. Does your family have any pets? Do you help take care of them?
3. This book has a lot of facts about animals and their behavior. What is something you learned about one of these animals?
4. Jasmine realizes what she wants to do when she grows up: rescue and board animals. Do you think she would be good at this? Would you like to work with animals when you grow up?
5. Were you surprised that Jasmine's parents let her keep Truffle? Why did they change their minds?





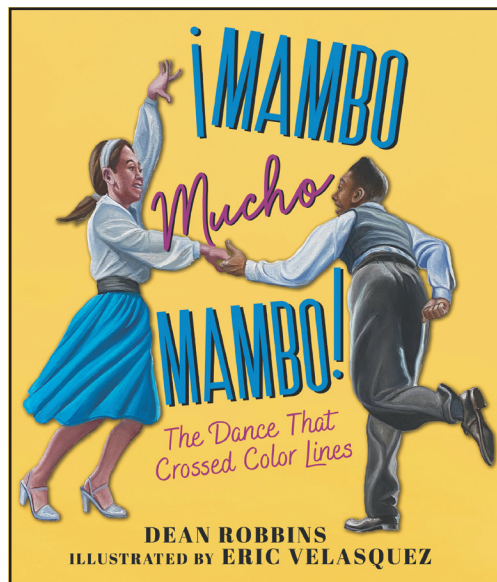
Imagine that you live on a farm! As a group, choose an animal or two you would raise on your farm. Brainstorm what you think you'd need to do to take care of these animals. What would each person be in charge of?

The guinea pigs are missing! Luckily, Truffle has an excellent nose. Help Jasmine and Truffle find their way across the farm to where Twiglet and Snowy are hiding.

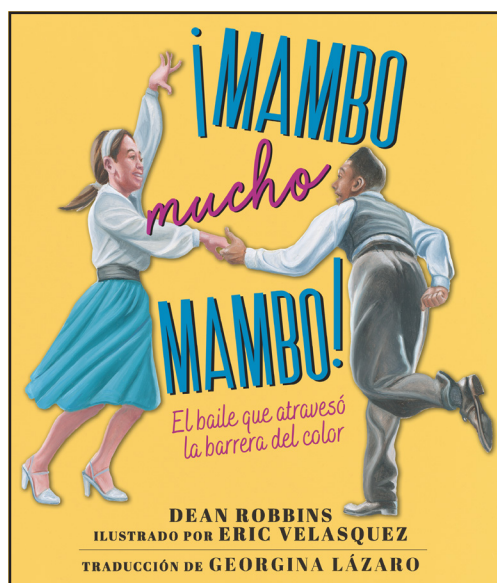


# ¡Mambo Mucho Mambo!

## The Dance That Crossed Color Lines



HC: 978-1-5362-0608-1



Spanish-language HC: 978-1-5362-1335-5

### ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Dean Robbins** is the author of *Margaret and the Moon: How Margaret Hamilton Saved the First Lunar Landing*; *Miss Paul and the President: The Creative Campaign for Women's Right to Vote*; and *Two Friends: Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass*. A lifelong student of jazz, Dean Robbins lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Eric Velasquez** is the award-winning illustrator of *Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library*, which received a Walter Dean Myers Award and an SCBWI Golden Kite Award. He has also won a John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award and a Pura Belpré Illustrator Award. Eric Velasquez lives in Hartsdale, New York.

★ “Robbins’s snappy language and smoking turn of phrase brings the mambo and all its followers to life. Lázaro’s Spanish translation sizzles. . . . Velasquez’s illustrations send sparks flying off each full-bleed spread. . . . Fiery and rhythmic storytelling surges to the beat of the conga—a must-have selection for all ages.”

—*School Library Journal* (starred review)

“Robbins’s prose is as musical as his subject. . . . Velasquez’s characteristic, near-photorealistic illustrations, rendered in oil paint in a palette reflecting the time, add a dynamic fluidity to the historical atmosphere of this enlightening narrative nonfiction title.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“In Robbins’s and Velasquez’s hands, this early challenge to segregation makes for a lively, compelling piece of history.”

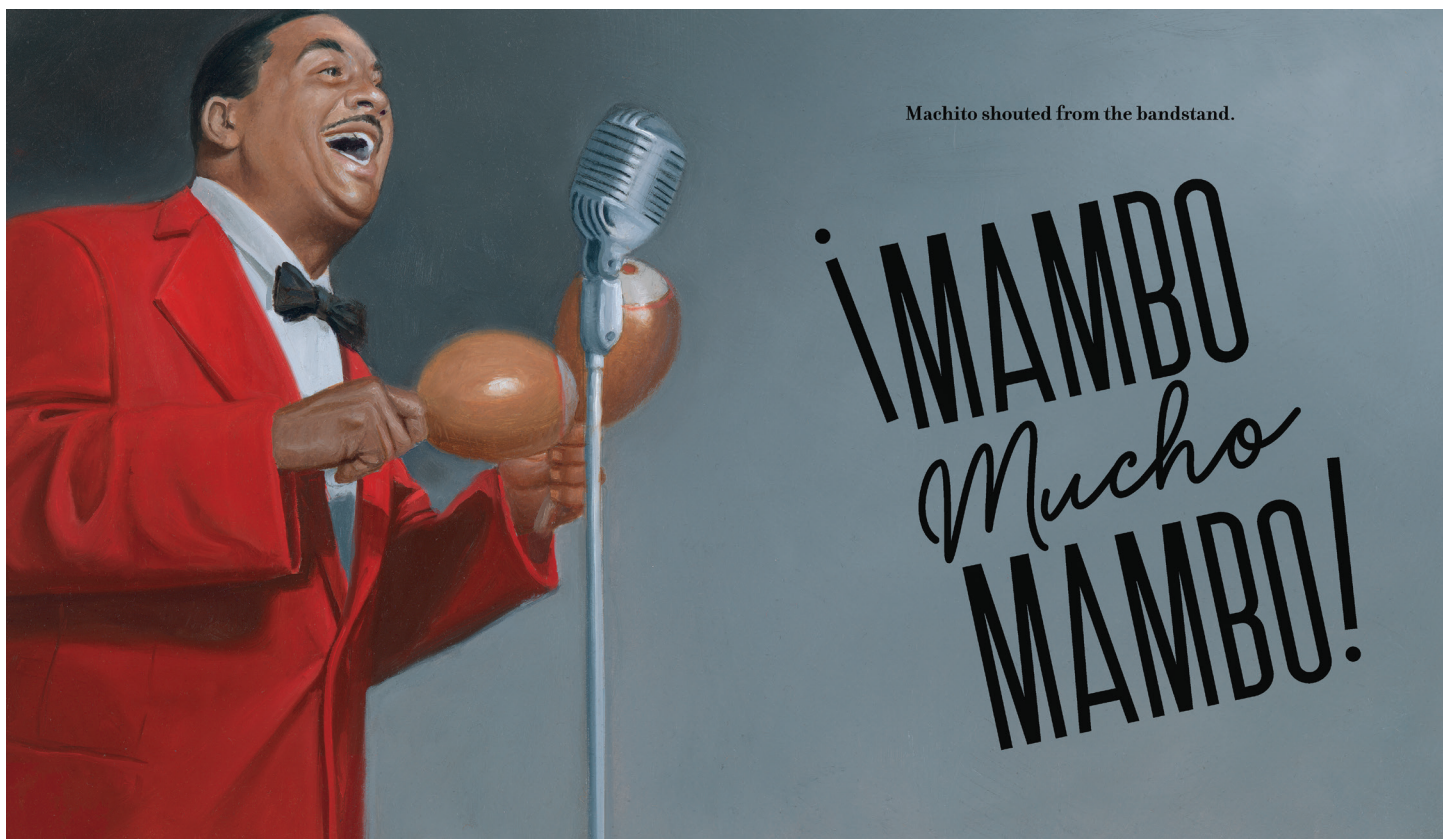
—*The Horn Book*



1. Do you like to dance? What kind of music do you like to dance to?
2. Why do you think that music and dancing were able to bring so many different people together?
3. Multiple instruments are named in this book: trumpets, maracas, congas, and saxophones. Are you familiar with any of these instruments? Is there one you would like to learn how to play?
4. This book features lifelike illustrations of people dancing and playing music. Which illustration is your favorite? Why?
5. The mambo dance developed when mambo music became popular in Latin America. Why do you think music is important to the way you dance?



Grab a partner and work together to create a dance to mambo music. Then play some songs and take turns showing off your moves as if you're in a competition at the Palladium!



Machito and His Afro-Cubans used many instruments to play mambo music.  
Find each instrument in the book and then draw it yourself!

Trumpet

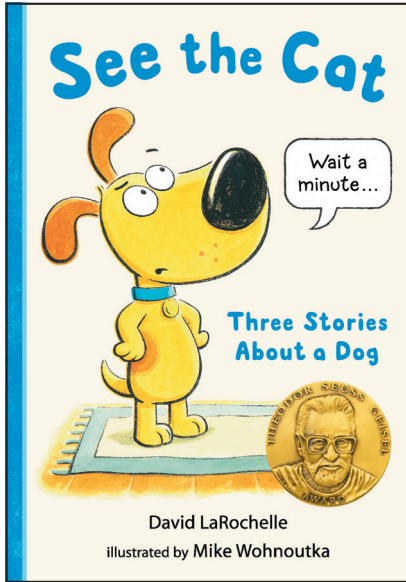
Maracas

Congas

Saxophone



# See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog



HC: 978-1-5362-0427-8

## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**David LaRochelle** is the author of many books for young readers, including *Isle of You*, illustrated by Jaime Kim, and *How to Apologize* and *See the Dog: Three Stories About a Cat*, both illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka. See David LaRochelle in White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

**Mike Wohnoutka** has illustrated more than thirty books for young readers, including *How to Apologize* and *See the Dog: Three Stories About a Cat*, both by David LaRochelle. He is also the author-illustrator of several picture books, including the *Croc & Turtle* series. See Mike Wohnoutka in Minneapolis.

★ “The sharp humor and expressive, highly distilled gouache cartooning offer opportunities for lots of giggles, but the real joy of this stand-out beginning reader comes from watching a genuine underdog speak his truth.” —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

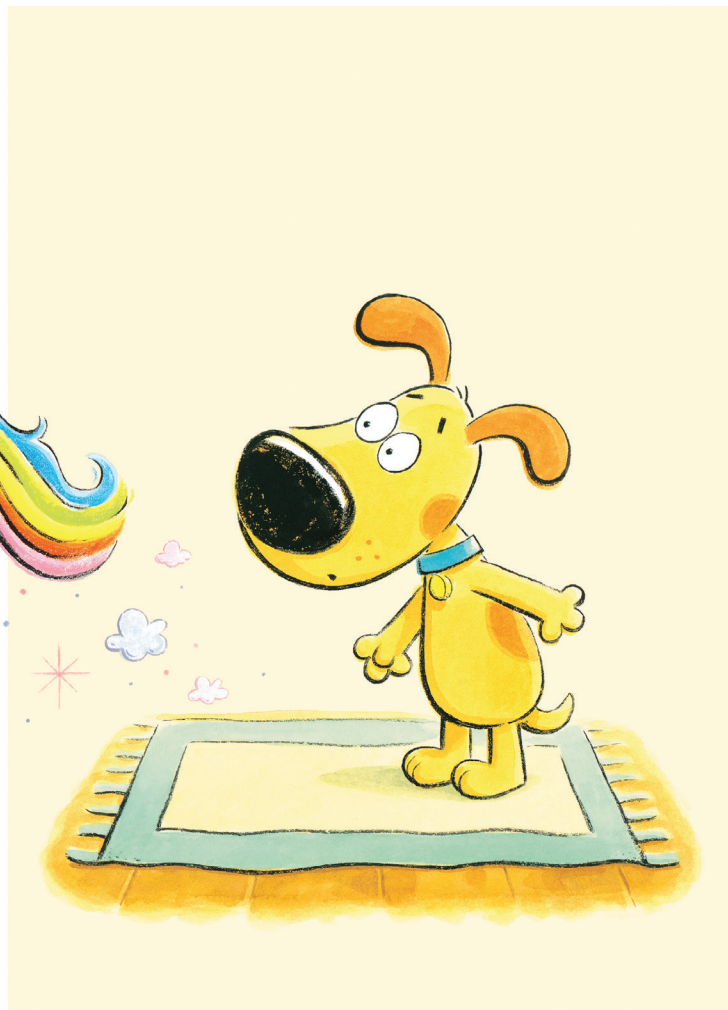
★ “This humorous, self-referential, fourth wall–demolishing easy reader features a dog who seems to be at the mercy of the storyteller—or is he?” —*School Library Journal* (starred review)

★ “Kids will cheer for the affronted Max in this well-crafted early reader with surprising outcomes.” —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

1. At the end of the first story, the narrator says, "See the red dog." Why do you think Max is red with embarrassment?
2. Max jumps very high when he sees that there is a snake underneath him. Would you react the same way? Do you think snakes are cool or scary?
3. Max knows that he is in a book and he talks to the narrator. He even changes the story! Have you ever seen this happen in any other book?
4. In the last story, Max says that he does not want to fly; he wants to take a nap. If you were writing your own story, would you choose to fly or take a nap?
5. If you could talk to the narrator of this book like Max, what would you say?



In pairs, take turns creating a new story about Max. One person should play the narrator while the other plays Max. What does the narrator say? How does Max react? Improvise a scene together.





Draw your own story to surprise Max! Each column contains an adjective, an animal, or an action. Choose one word or phrase from each column and use them to draw a scene. Then draw Max in the scene, too!

rainbow-striped

sparkly

shy

top-hat-wearing

giggly

giraffe

penguin

shark

ostrich

gerbil

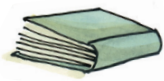
painting a self-portrait

packing a suitcase full of candy

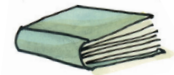
juggling pineapples

hitting a piñata

playing an instrument



# My Book Club Reading Log



DATE	TITLE	TIME SPENT READING	RATING
			☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
			☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
			☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
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