

A Spoonful of Sadie

AUTHOR

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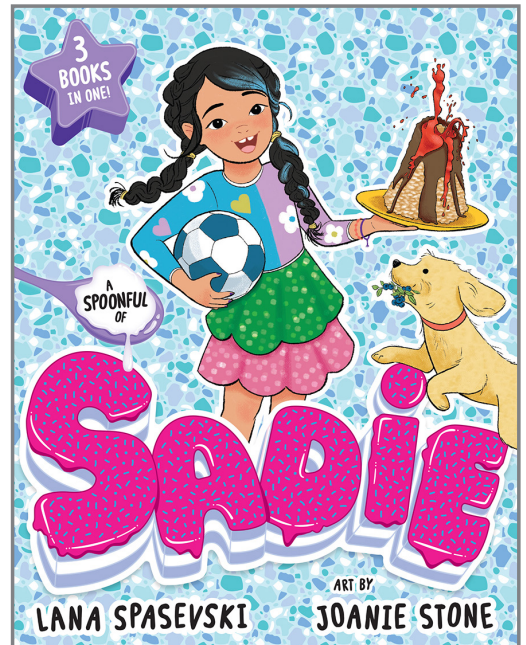
ILLUSTRATOR

JOANIE STONE

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower to Mid Primary



SYNOPSIS

Say hello to Sadie ... a superstar baker with a big heart!

In this book, Sadie needs to:

- keep a match day promise for her soccer team.
- create a science experiment that’s also yummy!
- invent a surprise dessert for her family BBQ.

But Sadie’s sweet intentions do not always go to plan! She doesn’t have enough match day treats for everyone. Her science project is a fizzy failure. And the surprise ingredient for her BBQ dessert goes missing! Can Sadie find a way to save the day?

In these three sprinkle-filled stories (complete with recipes!) the unstoppable Sadie shows that any problem can be solved with generosity, kindness and, of course, a delicious baked treat.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lana LOVES writing kids’ books just as much as Sadie LOVES sprinkles! Her writing is endlessly inspired by her young daughters, who she lovingly calls her little book butterflies. Lana spends many hours treasure hunting in bookshops and attempting messy home bakes. Before Lana started writing kids’ books, she worked on creating brand stories for some of Australia’s most favourite products, including developing ideas for new baking products. Now, she hopes to inspire a love of storytelling through her books and sensationally sweet characters.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Joanie Stone was born and raised in Virginia, where she still lives today with her husband and young daughter. She spends her days painting in her light-filled studio in the country, surrounded by nature. She uses her background in traditional hand-drawn animation to bring life and movement to her characters and fills her images with textures reminiscent of children’s books from the past. She hopes her images will inspire kids to pick up a pencil and create their own worlds through stories and art.

THEMES

- Being creative
- Solving problems
- Showing kindness

STUDY NOTES**BEFORE READING**

- Have a look at the front cover. What do you think this book will be about?
- Why do you think the book is called *A Spoonful of Sadie*? Is there a spoon on the cover?
- Describe the character (Sadie) on the cover. Does she look like someone you would want to be friends with?
- Sadie has a passion for something. Can you guess what it will be? What clues suggest this?
- Is this the type of book you'd like to read usually?

COMPREHENSION**General**

- Sadie has a coloured chalk streak in her hair. Is the colour pink, blue or violet?
- Sadie's dad is a baker. What is Sadie's mum's job?
- What is Sadie's dog's name?
- What is Dad's nickname for Sadie?
- Who are Amber and Arlo and where do they live?
- Amber and Arlo are twins. Would you say they are very alike or very different? Describe some ways that they are alike and different to each other.
- In each of the stories, the ingredients that Sadie uses seem to talk to her. Are the ingredients actually talking to Sadie or is she imagining it? What type of things do the ingredients say? How does Sadie respond to them?
- Sadie comes across a few problems in this book. Does she become upset when things feel hard or go wrong? Can you find some moments in the book where this happens? Describe how Sadie looks and speaks in these moments.
- Sometimes Sadie can be a bit messy when she is baking! Can you find some moments in the book when Sadie's ingredients are on her hair, face or clothes?
- Sadie loves inventing new treats and coming up with her own ideas. Do you like to create new things too? What do you like to create?

Story One

- Sadie plans to make a special match day treat for her soccer team, but Sadie forgets to make enough treats for the opposing team. What does Sadie do to solve this problem?
- Sadie gives her friends Amber and Arlo jobs to do in the kitchen. What are their jobs? Do they keep the same jobs for the whole story?
- What is the name of the new friend Sadie shares her treats with? Does she have anything in common with Sadie?

Story Two

- Why are Sadie, Amber and Arlo making a volcano-shaped cake? What are the two special ingredients that make the volcano explode?
- Jax uses baking ingredients to show everyone how a moon crater is formed. What ingredients does he use?
- Why doesn't Jax want a slice of Sadie's volcano cake? What does Sadie do to help Jax feel included?

Story Three

- What has Sadie decided to make for her family's summer barbeque? What makes it extra special this year?
- Mrs Garcia tells Sadie about her favourite dessert from the Philippines. What is it called and what is it made of?
- Sadie doesn't have any blueberries to make her fruity surprise twist. How does she solve this problem and who helps her?

LITERACY

- In Story 1, Sadie 'digs a spoon into the first batch of sticky crackle mixture'. The word 'digs' is a verb and it means the same as the word 'scoops' here. Look through Stories 2 and 3 and find some more verbs. Can you think of other verbs that could have been used in these moments?
- In Story 1, Sadie and Amber talk about the importance of 'sportsmanship'. What does this word mean and how does Sadie show sportsmanship to other players?
- Sadie's mum is described as 'super brave'. These are adjectives. Can you think of adjectives to describe the other characters: Sadie, Dad, Butter, Amber and/or Arlo?
- In Story 2, Jax throws a rock to show how a moon crater is formed. The rock makes a sound: 'SMACK!' This word is onomatopoeia, which means that when you say it aloud, it sounds like the noise itself. There are some other types of onomatopoeia in this story. Can you find them?
- In Story 3, 'Sadie's heart thumps like a _____'. What does Sadie's heart thump like? Can you find some other fun descriptions that use the word 'like'?
- Sadie often thinks to herself. Can you find some moments when Sadie is thinking to herself. Does the writing look different to elsewhere in the book?
- Arlo sometimes speaks like a zombie. Can you find some of Arlo's zombie-speech?

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- When Sadie is happy or excited, her eyes sparkle and she smiles. Can you find some moments in the book when Sadie is unhappy. How does she look in these moments?
- Does Sadie stay unhappy for long? Why not? What does this tell us about Sadie and her attitude to problems?
- Amber knows Sadie very well and can help Sadie feel better when Sadie feels upset. What types of things can you say to someone when they are upset?
- Sadie tells Arlo that he 'can't have cake for nothing'. What does Sadie mean when she says this?
- Do you ever ask your friends to help you with things? How do you thank them in return?
- Can you find all the times that Sadie feels happy in each story? How do you feel when you read that Sadie is happy and excited?
- When Sadie is baking, it is never just so that she has something nice to eat. Why else does Sadie bake the wonderful treats in this book? What does this say about Sadie?

AFTER READING

- Which was your favourite Sadie story in this book? Why?
- Amber and Arlo are Sadie's best friends. Who are your best friends?
- Do you bake at home? If you do, who helps you?
- If Sadie was your best friend, what would you bake for her?
- What fun things do you and your friends like to do together?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend?
- Sadie invents sweet treats, like a volcano made of marshmallow and chocolate! Why don't you design a baked treat, too? You might like to think of someone to give your invention to. For example, your grandma might love chocolate and oranges, so you are going to invent a new type of chocolate orange biscuit just for her.