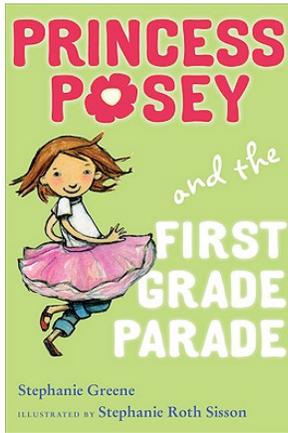
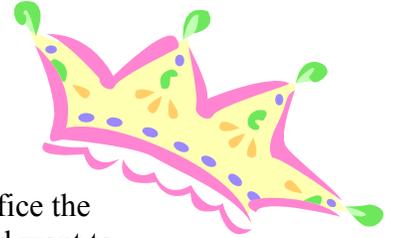




DEAR READER,

I'm so glad you're reading my book **PRINCESS POSEY AND THE FIRST GRADE PARADE**. I can still remember what it felt like to go to first grade for the first time.

When I was your age, I wanted to go to first grade so much! I was already in kindergarten at Broad River Elementary School, but I wanted to be one of the big kids like my older brother and sister, Shep and Flip. Broad River was old and brick and had lots of windows. The principal, Miss Prendergast, was very strict. I never wanted to be sent to her office the way Shep was when he got sprayed by a skunk and went to school anyway. He smelled up the whole school.



When the first day of first grade arrived, I was nervous. I didn't know anyone. I didn't have a best friend yet. What if I didn't learn to read and write?

I soon got over being scared. My teacher was Mrs. McNichols. She had gray hair and wore flowered dresses so she looked like a friendly grandmother. I made friends with a girl named Barbara and another girl named Donna because they had birthdays in September just like me. And you know what? They are still my best friends today and we still get together to celebrate our birthdays.

The funny thing is, I wasn't good at writing. Me, an author! The problem was that I'm left-handed but Mrs. McNichols made me write with my right hand. My letters were crooked all through first grade. Luckily, when I got to second grade, my teacher let me write with my left hand. I practiced and practiced until I got better. Good thing, considering I wanted to be an author.

So if you're at all like me, and you have trouble with something when you're in the first grade, never fear! Work and practice and have fun. Before you know it, your problem will get better.

I loved writing about Posey and Miss Lee and Nikki and Ava and Luca – all of them! I hope you like Posey as much as I do.

Don't forget to Read! Read! Read!

Your friend,

Stephanie Greene



**Me, in first grade!!**