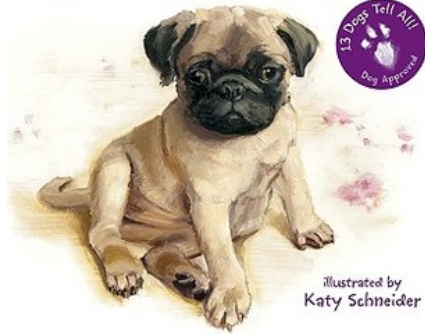


Patricia MacLachlan and Emily MacLachlan Charest

# Once I Ate a Pie



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*Patricia MacLachlan , Emily MacLachlan Charest , Katy Schneider (Illustrator)*

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**Once I Ate a Pie** Patricia MacLachlan , Emily MacLachlan Charest , Katy Schneider (Illustrator)  
**A sweet and funny collection of poems by Patricia MacLachlan, the author of the Newbery Medal-winning *Sarah, Plain and Tall*.**

It's a dog's life!

Every dog has a tail to wag . . . and a tale to tell. Patricia MacLachlan and Emily MacLachlan Charest asked a collection of canines to speak up—and so they do, in words, barks, and yips. Captured here are accounts of happy days filled with squeaky toys, good smells, plenty of naps, and the very important jobs they do for the people they love to love.

## Once I Ate a Pie Details

Date : Published February 23rd 2010 by HarperCollins (first published April 25th 2006)

ISBN : 9780060735333

Author : Patricia MacLachlan , Emily MacLachlan Charest , Katy Schneider (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 40 pages

Genre : Poetry, Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Dogs

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## **From Reader Review Once I Ate a Pie for online ebook**

### **Linden says**

Can you imagine a book of poetry that could hold a first grade class spell-bound until the end? Once I Ate a Pie is that book! Maclachlan has written fourteen poems about dogs, each in the voice of a different breed. While each kind of dog has its own characteristics, each poem reflects both that and perspective of an individual.

Every illustrated two-page spread has an image of the dog who authored that poem. It's hard to say how this could have been any better: the oversize oil-painted illustrations perfectly complement the poetry, and vice versa.

A great book for gift-giving!

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### **Lynn Schlatter says**

This is a companion volume to I Didn't Do It so I don't have much to add to that review. I will say even though Once I Ate a Pie is more moving on the whole (Three, about a trio of greyhounds, is downright otherworldly), my favorite entry, both for text and illustration, is the straightforwardly silly Wupsi.

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### **Jeana Wert says**

This was my favorite book out of all the Children's notable books i have read. I love dogs (probably more than people) so i really enjoyed it. First, i really loved the pictures. The illustrator did an amazing job with the detail of each dog. I also really enjoyed the different ways that the words were set in the book. They weren't in the usual same box format. They were scattered and it gave the book personality. I also loved that each page explained the personality of each dog and how that dog viewed itself. I thought it was so cute.

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### **Catherine Austen says**

This is my favourite picture book of 2017. (Okay, it was published in 2006--but I only just read it.) It completely captured my heart. The text and illustrations work so beautifully together. Excellence in design. I just loved it. Each dog is so lovingly presented. Such rich characterization in so few words and a single image. So well done. A book to buy and keep. Buy it for the dog-lover in your life.

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## **Lynya Cooper says**

Once I ate a Pie by Patricia MacLachlan was amazing. This read was about our lovable pet dogs and how they expressed themselves in their day to day life with their owners, how they look, their personality flaws and the way they would like to be comfortable and just lay around. Each dogs name is listed in color which I thought was great for younger children preschool through 1st grade.

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## **Allison says**

This book depicts different kinds of dogs and their thoughts about themselves. I can imagine students giggling at some of the things the dogs say. In class, I would use this book with younger children to get them thinking about writing from other perspectives. I might put a picture of a dog on the board and have students write about what they imagine the dog would say about its life if it could.

This also makes me think of a project we could do with the students using craft materials such as pipe-cleaners, cotton balls, rope, yarn, styrofoam balls, and so on. With the picture of a dog on the board, the "maker prompt" would be: Design something that would make this dog smile." Again, students could write about what they make, how they did it, and how the dog would use it.

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## **Molly says**

Very cute! Hard to pick a favorite, Gus seems most like my dog, but I've got a soft spot for Mr. Beefy and his pie...

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## **CH13\_Caitlin Murphy says**

"Once I Ate a Pie" was a delightful read. The book is a collection of poems written from the point of view of different dogs. Big dogs, small dogs, lazy dogs, rambunctious dogs, and all the dogs in between. The poems are written in free verse in a concrete style that dances across the page. Any dog owner will nod their head in agreement to the insights of a dogs life provided by the authors. Katy Schneider provides excellent illustrations that made me want to cuddle up with each of the featured pups.

I think that this themed poetry book will win the attention of Pre K - 2nd grade students. It has excellent examples of concrete poems, alliteration and onomatopoeia. The poem are short and simple yet very descriptive. This book would be a great mentor text for students to write a poem about a different animal.

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## **Carrie says**

Once I Ate a Pie is a must read for any dog lover out there. I honestly stood in the bookstore and cried while I read it - not because any dog dies (thank goodness!) but because it so perfectly captures the spirit and personalities in dogs. The illustrations are gorgeous and the text is original and delightful. I think dog lovers of all ages will enjoy this.

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### **Courtney Antonson says**

This book is a collection of poems told from a dog's perspective. These poems are great for children because it gives children a funny look into the lives of dogs. These poems are also relatable to human experiences. This book is composed of poems told from the perspective of dogs about their everyday lives. It is a fun, silly collection of poems for multiple different breeds of dogs that make not only children smile and giggle but adults too. It is such a cute book. This book is a great example of how to get young kids into poetry and how to engage them in a story. Every illustration within this book are large, two page paintings that are vibrant and alive. The paintings are of the dog and objects they are talking about in their poem. The illustrations pull the reader in and make each poem understandable and more real. I would recommend this book to classroom teachers, parents and any child.

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### **Laura says**

I've been on a Patricia MacLachlan kick lately, and she is fast becoming a favorite. One of my favorite things about her novels is the poetic lyrical tone--she writes in a similar fashion to Cynthia Rylant (another favorite!) So when I saw that Patricia MacLachlan had written a short book of dog themed poetry, I couldn't wait to get my hands on it. The intersection of dogs and poetry is my favorite place to be, and this book did not disappoint. I loved the element of artistic creativity of arranging the words --into arcs, tiny font, giant font, unusual alignment--to provide greater emphasis and evoke greater feeling. It's reminiscent of Sharon Creech, and when done well (as it is here) really makes the poetry highly relatable. Finally, the illustrations are absolutely a perfect match. As I found myself re-reading each lovely little poem over and over, I couldn't help but stare at the beautiful accompanying illustrations. 5/5 stars--This is a fun little volume sure to delight both young and old dog lovers equally.

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### **RLL220\_Karen Segura says**

Although, the book seemed funny and quirky with the different dogs having something to say. I do have to say I found the story rather un-amusing. I'm sure maybe other children will like it but personally I didn't find it interesting. I thought it was kind of confusing. This book could be used in the elementary school levels. However, I'm not sure if there could be a activity maybe students can make their own free-write poem and draw themselves as a puppy. Overall, the only strengths were the pictures since they were realistic but funny but nothing else was decently okay.

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### **Ruth Ann says**

I am falling in love with *dog poetry* - by some of my favorite children's authors. Again, the illustrations are a wonderful addition to the poetry. Absolutely delightful. :)

First and last poems - the same dog as a puppy and as an adult dog!!

Lucy is from a shelter and is content to sleep between her owners.

Wupsi - "Who's cute??"

Darla, who loves to ring the bell to go outside and notes her people are *very tired!*

Louis barks, for everything!

Sugar likes to sleep and only wants to chase the cat - yikes!

Three dogs. Friends. Beautiful.

Needle Nose likes to open closed things like the mail, the refrigerator and the cat-snack bags!

Pocket thinks she is HUGE.

Abby thinks she borrows...and does not have to return.

Tillie and Maude love each other and look alike, but are very different.

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## **Relyn says**

Most years this is the most popular book I have at the Poetry Scavenger Hunt.

### **Classroom Connections**

Each February we have a big poetry unit in my classroom. One of the things we do is a Poetry Scavenger Hunt. We have at least 50 poetry books on display in the room and I begin the unit by book talking each book briefly. This takes me at least a week because I read a poem from each book. Then, the kids choose what appeals to them. They can read anything they want in any fashion they wish. The only rule is to read and enjoy poetry. Eventually, I begin each session with a mini-lesson on rhythm, rhyme, alliteration, etc. Then, the students begin choosing poems with examples of each poetry topic we have covered. At the end of each session students can share a poem that they love and have rehearsed reading aloud. This is just a short review of all we do, but it is a powerful, powerful time in our classroom.

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## **Stephany Rose says**

"Once I Ate a Pie" by Patricia Maclachlan with pictures by Katy Schneider is a cute book. The story features seventeen dogs who share about themselves. The words are often written at angles or with different shaped and sized fonts to help the reader understand what the dogs are thinking by what is emphasized. Through words and pictures, the readers come to understand the personality of the different dogs. Children might find that they identify certain of their characteristics with those of the dogs. For example, one dog likes to eat while another likes to play. Some children might identify more with the dog who likes to eat and others with the dog who likes to play. This book can help children understand themselves and others better by learning that different people are motivated by different things. This is a nice book to read to children who might find themselves laughing at the antics of the cute and lovable dogs.

