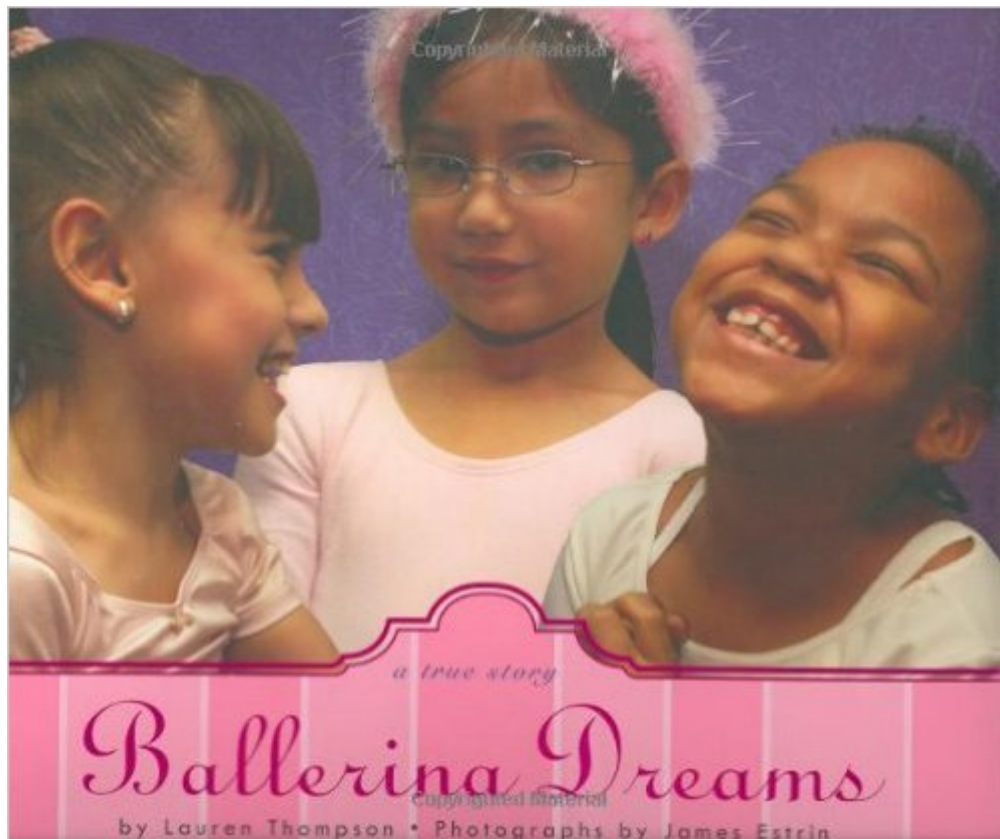


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# Ballerina Dreams



## Synopsis

Once upon a time there were five little girls who shared a dream. They wanted to be ballerinas and dance on stage like their sisters and cousins and friends. But it would be hard for these girls to make their dream come true. They had cerebral palsy or other physical disabilities, which meant their muscles didn't move the way they wanted them to. Some wore leg braces. Some used wheelchairs and walkers to get around. But these girls were determined. They had a dedicated teacher. Every week they practiced. They worked hard. And one day they were ready. *Ballerina Dreams* is an inspiring true story of love, hope and courage for everyone and anyone who has ever wished (and worked) hard enough to make their dreams come true. *Ballerina Dreams* is the winner of the 2008 Bank Street - Flora Stieglitz Award.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD860L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Feiwel & Friends; 1st edition (October 2, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312370296

ISBN-13: 978-0312370299

Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 0.4 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,216,937 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #93 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Physical Disabilities](#) #623 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance](#) #880 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

This is the story of 5 special girls who dream of being ballerinas. They all have some sort of physical ability that they have to try and work around. This is the story of their amazing class and how they work so hard to put on a great show! This gave me a chance to talk with my daughter who takes dance classes about how blessed that she is with good health.

This astonishing book tells the story, through pictures and a straight-forward narrative, of five little girls who work hard to fulfill their dreams. The determination of these beautiful children, their teenage helpers, and their low-key, high-voltage teacher is an important -- and most assuredly delightful -- lesson for everyone.

What a stunning book in so many ways. It's touching and moving and beautifully put together. These little girls should be inspiration for everyone. When you're faced with a seemingly impossible task, you should take note of these little ones with physical disabilities and what they can do and nothing will seem impossible again. It's a book for people of all ages, and it really focuses on your abilities rather than inabilities and these girls look like they are having the time of their young lives. Joann Ferrara started teaching them ballet four years ago with only five students. She was a physical therapist and wanted to make children's dreams of becoming ballerinas come true. She's done a terrific job and with the help of handlers for these girls, they perform to standing ovations. With the holidays coming up, this book will make an excellent gift. It's heartwarming and beautiful and I highly highly recommend it to everyone.

Featuring gorgeous photography by Pulitzer Prize-winning team member James Estrin, *Ballerina Dreams: A True Story* is a picturebook following five little girls who wanted to become ballerinas and dance on stage. Each girl had cerebral palsy or other physical difficulties, which affect their control over their leg muscles; some use leg braces, wheelchairs, or walkers to get around. Yet with practice, hard work, and the aid of a committed teacher, they were able to realize their dream. A truly inspirational picturebook especially recommended for young girls of all backgrounds.

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