

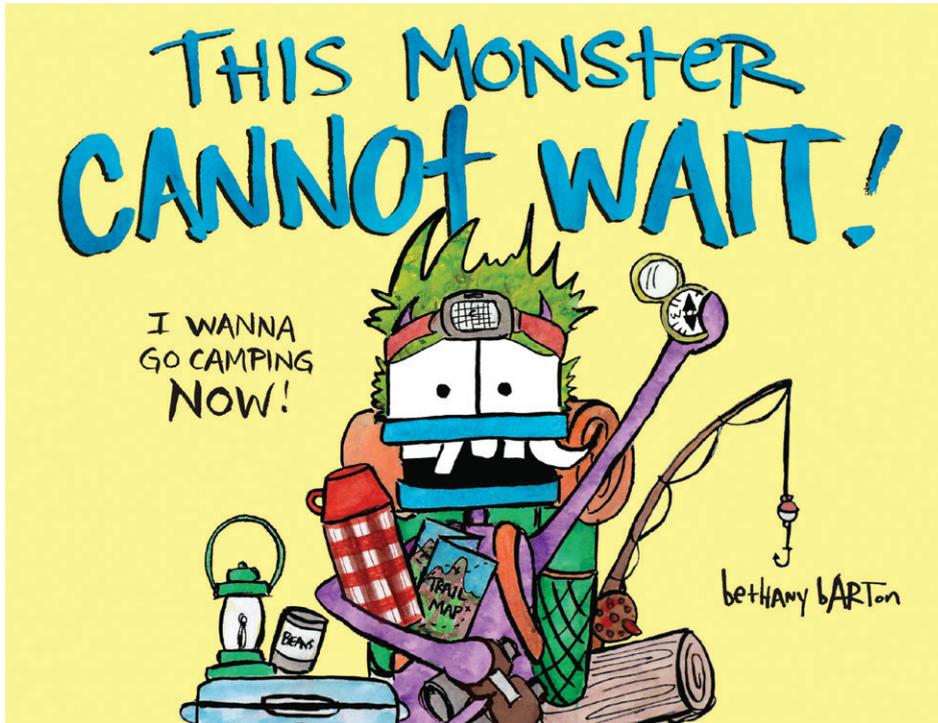
# A Page in a Book<sup>®</sup>

RECOMMENDING THE BEST BOOKS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

By Paige Gardner Smith

## The Complaint Department

When they are young, kids don't always understand why they "shouldn't," "must not" and "can't" do certain things. Because they don't have power to control circumstances and haven't grown mature enough to understand the "why" of "not," they sometimes act out or complain about their lot in life. The following titles explore the necessary restrictions that many children experience in light-hearted ways that may help them move past the complaining, and on toward the rewards that follow patience, positive attitudes and proper perspective.

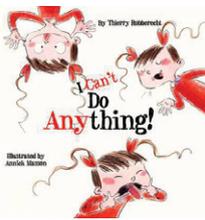


### This Monster Cannot Wait!

By Bethany Barton

(Dial Books for Young Readers / Penguin)

Young Stewart is going camping for the first time in just one week – but he simply cannot wait! His excitement is overwhelming – and his patience, nonexistent. Stewart tries everything he can think of to make it happen faster. Changing the clocks, building a time machine and acting out are some methods he tries until his final stunt gets him into trouble with his parents. Will the camping trip ever come? A subtle homage to the classic book “Monster at the End of this Book” with a nod to the “Monsters, Inc.” movie, this book is filled with delightful illustrations and hilarious asides that parents will appreciate as this read-aloud charmer is enjoyed again and again!

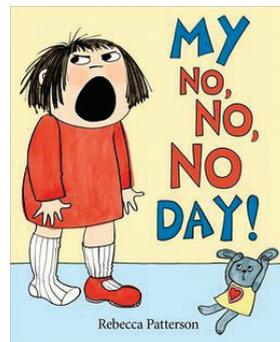


### My No, No, No Day!

By Rebecca Patterson  
(Viking / Penguin)

Sometimes, it's just not your day. When Bella wakes up to her baby brother Bob in her room licking her jewelry, she starts her morning screaming at him.

And her day goes downhill from there as her complaints stack up and her unhappiness multiplies. She won't eat her breakfast, she won't wear her shoes, and she screams at her mom as she tries to wiggle out of the shopping cart. Simply everything is making her uncomfortable, unhappy and loud about it. With scenarios that are all too familiar to kids (and parents), Patterson touches on the moments when kids are just tapped out, and losing their self-control. Her illustrations include priceless expressions from bystanders that parents will recognize from their own public tantrum moments. This title explores the moments that can trigger a “No” day and offers hope for kids and parents that tomorrow is another chance to get to “Yes.”



### I Can't Do Anything!

By Thierry Robberrecht, Illustrated  
by Annick Mason (Magination Press /  
American Psychological Association)

There's a veritable laundry list of things that a spirited little girl can't do. It seems so unfair. She looks around the animal kingdom and sees behaviors that are perfectly normal and accepted for them.

Chameleons stick out their tongues, but she can't. Hippos have bad breath, but she has to brush her teeth every morning. Llamas spit on others to express their displeasure, but when spits on her friend Leo, she gets time-out. Is there any time for her when she can just do anything? Kids will love learning about animal habits and perhaps discover their own opportunity to be a little wild in the right setting.