



Toilet Paper Flowers

Frank J. Sileo PhD
Illustrated by Martha Gradisher
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The First and Only Children's Book About Crohn's Disease

Julia, who suffers from Crohn's disease, explains living with this chronic and sometimes debilitating illness to her new friend. Because she uses the bathroom so often, Julia creates flowers using toilet paper. By sharing her flower creations, Julia gains support and understanding from her friend. Toilet Paper Flowers has an introduction for parents, web resources, explanations of the disease and treatments, glossary, and instructions for making the flowers.

Additional Information from Health Press:

Toilet Paper Flowers is appropriate for grades 1 to 3, but some of the terminology will be a little difficult. Older children (8-10) will relate well to the book, too. The terminology dilemma was whether or not to use the medically correct terms to describe diagnostic tests, etc., and we decided that the children with the disease needed to know the "real" words, not paraphrased easy words. Younger children will need an adult to read this with them and explain some of the concepts. Older age children should be able to handle it on their own.

Exclusive Quotes from Dr. Frank Sileo:

“When the publisher contacted me about The 3C Foundation of Canada's order for the books, I was thrilled that The 3C Foundation of Canada had taken my vision to create awareness.”

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He wrote the book “to help children understand the emotional and physical aspects of Crohn's disease and to validate their emotions and that they are not alone....Raise awareness to the general public and how it affects children...Crohn's disease is a debilitating, painful illness that can be embarrassing. It is hard for children and teens to have a normal social life.”

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“Hope – all of us need to have hope despite adversity!”

Reviews:

This book offers hope and validates feelings of children struggling with Crohn's disease, as well as educating siblings and friends unfamiliar with this chronic illness. In Toilet Paper Flowers, Dr. Sileo combines his personal Crohn's struggles with his professional experience as a licensed psychologist who has treated many children and adolescents with Crohn's disease. Combining these experiences with a unique sense of compassion and creativity, he is able to send a message of openness and hope to the children and adolescents who have Crohn's disease as well as their families. This will become a must read for all my patients with Crohn's disease.

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