



***P if for Pterodactyl* by Raj Haldar**

Sourcebooks Explore, Sourcebooks, 2018

9781492674313: (Hardcover)

*Age Range: 4-8 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: K-Gr 3 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Let's get real—the English language is bizarre. A might be for apple, but it's also for aisle and aeons. Why does the word "gnat" start with a G but the word "knot" doesn't start with an N? It doesn't always make sense, but don't let these rule-breaking silent letters defeat you!

This whimsical, funky book from Raj Haldar (aka rapper Lushlife) turns the traditional idea of an alphabet book on its head, poking fun at the most mischievous words in the English language and demonstrating how to pronounce them. Fun and informative for word nerds of all ages!

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ “Explore the many quirks and anomalies of English spelling and pronunciation in an A-to-Z tribute to some of the most unconventional words in the lexicon. Learn why Y is not for "why" and U is not for "you," but V is for "five" and C is for "czar." With this book full of puns, alliteration, playful artwork, and plenty of entertaining observations, children of all ages will enjoy celebrating the exceptions to the rules.” —[Foreword Reviews](#), STARRED Review

“This atypical alphabet book humorously addresses "mischievous words" that ignore the rules of phonetics and spelling... Each letter's sample is illustrated with cartoony, full-color drawings followed by a comically absurd sentence highlighting other examples. "G is for Gnocchi. / The gnome yells, 'Waiter! There's a bright white gnat nibbling on my gnocchi!' ...the concept will help new readers and new English language learners conquer some of the more peculiar aspects of our language.” —[Kirkus Reviews](#)

“A raucous trip through the odd corners of our alphabet.” —*The New York Times*

“Are you a logophile (someone who loves words)? If you are, this delightful picture book will be your new favorite alphabet book... In this book, ‘A is for Aisle’ and ‘H is for Heir.’ What? Below each letter and illustration is a sentence describing each word. "M is for Mnemonic. // But now Mr. M. can't remember why." Isn't this a delight for readers and writers of all ages? It's my new favorite.” —Imagination Soup

“*P Is for Pterodactyl* is a word lover's delight and an almost mandatory read-aloud... Amid all the humor, wordplay, and silliness, there's solid, brain-teasing information about words and how they're spelled. It a delight from start to finish, especially for word lovers and their offspring.” —[Common Sense Media](#)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- *New York Times* bestseller
 - Indie Next List
 - An Amazon Best Book of the Month
 - 2020-2021 Young Hoosier Book Award Longlist

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Activity Kit](#)
- [Book Trailer](#)
- [New York Times Article: The Story Behind 'P is for Pterodactyl,' The Self-Described 'Worst Alphabet Book Ever'](#)
- [The Guardian Article: P is for pterodactyl, T is for tsunami: the 'worst alphabet book' becomes a bestseller](#)
- [PhillyMag Article: Meet Raj Haldar, the South Philly Rapper Who Co-Wrote a Delightfully Confusing Children's Book](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.