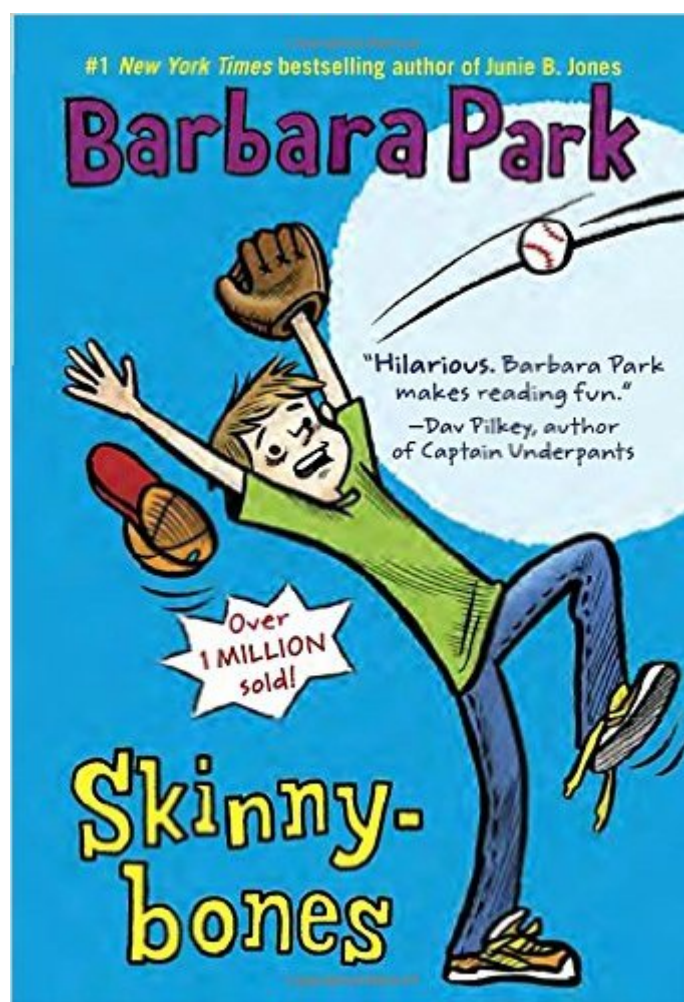


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# Skinnybones



## Synopsis

If you thought Junie B. Jones was FUNNYâ”catch more laughs from New York Times bestselling author Barbara Park with *Skinnybones*! Just right for fans of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *I Funny*, *Skinnybones* has been a kid and teacher favorite for almost thirty years and has sold over 1 MILLION copies! Â Play ball??? Alex Frankovitch is the smallest, second-worst kid on his team. But he has a MAJOR-LEAGUE-sized mouth. And it gets him into MAJOR-LEAGUE trouble! Even Alex knows heâ”s gone too far when he brags his way into a pitching contest with T.J. Stoner, the best playerâ”and BIGGEST jerkâ”in the whole school (and maybe the whole world!). Can Alex talk his way out this mess? Or is he in for the GRAND SLAM of all humiliations? Find out in the award-winning, laugh-out-loud novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Junie B. Jones*! Â • Park is one of the funniest writers around. *Skinnybones* equals tickled funnybones.â”Booklist Â • “Hilarious! Even if you donâ”t know center field from first base this story will keep you laughing.”â”Childrenâ”s Book Review Service Â • “Park writesâ”in a way that touches reality, but makes the reader double over with laughter.”â”Chicago Sun-Times

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 590L (What’s this?)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Yearling; Revised edition (July 8, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 067988792X

ISBN-13: 978-0679887928

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ” See all reviewsÂ” (93 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,722 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 inÂ” Books > Children’s Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #1366 inÂ” Books > Children’s Books > Humor #1809 inÂ” Books > Children’s Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

The first time I read this book I literally fell out of bed from laughing so hard. As a teacher, I read this book to my class nearly every year, and they love it! Alex is an endearing underdog who tries so

hard to be what he is not: a size Large, knowledgeable baseball player. When he hears that a player is going to bunt he hasn't a clue what bunting means. He guesses it might mean to throw up, and this leads into the funniest scene I've ever read in children's literature. Every time I have to read it aloud I hardly can get through; I'm laughing so hard all my mascara runs. My class always gets an incredibly healthy, side-splitting, laugh from Alex's antics. He's also a very real character, with an inferiority complex, and a quirky way of viewing the world. He does find his strength in the end: comedy writing. This leads him into the sequel, *Almost Starring Skinnybones*, where his inferiority complex turns into boasting bravado. One of the great qualities of these books is Alex's depth of character, a real study in what can make "class clowns". I think the kids gain some understanding into the possibility of sadness beneath the hilarity and the attention-seeking.

This book was great! Everybody should read this book. My teacher read it to me in third grade. The whole class always laughed and always wanted the teacher to read more. The book is about a boy named Alex. He always lies, is a terrible baseball player, and always gets himself into terrible messes. Then, there is the jerk, T.J. who is a great baseball player. Everybody thinks he is all that and he is always picking on Alex about his size and what a bad baseball player he is. Read this book! I would recommend it to anyone!

When my grown son was in the third grade, I heard him laughing hysterically in his bedroom while I was cooking dinner. I had never heard him laugh and giggle so much! He told me a little bit about the story, and when he had gone to sleep, I picked it up and read it. It IS wonderful! I found myself laughing as much as my son had. The tale centers on Alex, a small kid who is the class clown and loves baseball. He is a very realistic character with whom children can identify, and he does some crazy things ( a lot with what he says ) that result in some hilarious situations. Kids really love this book! And so do many adults. It gives the reader a lot of pleasure as well as see the trials and errors of childhood in a fun, yet realistic manner. The author, Barbara Parks, has updated this little gem for today's readers, and it is just as wonderful.

I LIKED THIS BOOK BECAUSE IT IS HILARIOUS. I ALSO LIKED THIS BOOK BECAUSE IT TALKS ABOUT BASEBALL, I LOVE BOOKS THAT TALK ABOUT SPORTS, IT JUST MAKES THEM MORE INTERESTING. MY FAVORITE CHARACTER WAS THE LITTLE BOY THAT WAS SKINNY BECAUSE HE MAKES A BUNCH OF FUNNY JOKES. I ALSO LIKED THE BULLY BECAUSE HE HAS A FAMILY MEMBER THAT IS IN PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL AND HE'S

GOOD AT SPORTS.MY FAVORITE PART OF THE BOOK WAS WHEN THE SKINNY BOY WON THE CONTEST ON CAT FOOD. I LIKED THIS PART BECAUSE IT FIT IN THE BOOK AT THE PERFECT TIME AND THERE WAS SOME GOOD JOKES AT THAT TIME IN THE BOOK. THE ENDING WAS GREAT BECAUSE EVERY BODY WAS HAPPY EXCEPT THE BULLY.

Alex "Skinnybones" Frankovitch is a memorable character from one of my favorite books as a young adult. Barbra Park delivers a story about a young boy who feels out of place and uses humor as a defense. This book still makes me laugh out loud, and I think children of all ages can relate to Alex because he is the underdog that always see to get himself into some kind of trouble. I am studying to be an elementary teacher and I planning on reading this book to my class because I know I will enjoy it as much as they will!

This book is humorous, but the humor arises because the protagonist (Alex) is a troublemaker. He enjoys causing mayhem, â œshaking things upâ •. And his sarcasm beats most Iâ™ve ever heard or had to endure. Iâ™m not sure what this says about (me!) or the thousands of kids who think itâ™s side-splitting funny. Its humor also revolves around a lot of bullying. But a lot of kids can identify with Alex who is small in stature and bullied a lot. The things he comes up with on the spot can make a person choke (funny) On the first day of school, he was bored with the way the introductions were going, so with permission, he decided to liven it up, â œOkay. Iâ™m Alex Frankovitch,â • I said. â œI brought a sandwich for lunch today. And Iâ™d just like everyone to know that my bologna has a first nameâ |itâ™s O-s-c-a-r.â • Snort funny! But in real life, not so much. Anyway, I think it would be a great read a-loud book in a classroom, where the teacher can assume voices for the characters!

I throughly enjoyed reading this book to my class this year. I laughed the entire time, so did they! It's great for any age, I've used it in both fourth and second grades and it's always a bit hit! This book takes a look at the lighter side of being the underdog as a kid. Skinnybones/Alex is a thrill a minute and Park uses everyday words and phrases that keep everyone rolling! This makes it REAL easy to "get into character" while reading, that's part of why it's so well liked, kids love watching adults act like nuts every once in a while. I highly recommend this one!

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