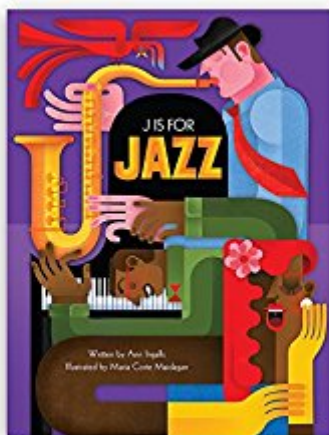


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J Is For Jazz



Synopsis

Winner 2015 Annual American Graphic Design Award! The perfect way to introduce children to a truly American art form, and a work of art in its own right, *J Is for Jazz* is the cat's pajamas for all readers—little finger zingers through grown-up cats! Be-bopping, lyrical introductions to key jazz figures, locations, musical terms, and a glossary of jazz slang are brought to life by author Ann Ingalls. Celebrated artist Maria Corte Maidagan, who most recently created the graphics for the Monterey Jazz Festival, draws readers into evocative and surprising scenes with her bold use of shapes and colors. For 'axe' to 'zoot suit', *J Is for Jazz* will transport readers to the Jazz Age. With the alphabet as your guide, this fun and informative primer is sure to delight lovers of jazz, collectors of graphic design, and music history enthusiasts alike.

Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Bright Connections Media (September 30, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1622670264

ISBN-13: 978-1622670260

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,729,596 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Jazz](#) #2294 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Jazz](#)

Age Range: 5 - 7 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 2

Customer Reviews

Gr 2-4 • Using an alphabet book structure, this slim volume offers its readers a basic introduction to jazz. The opening two-page "Story of Jazz" provides background to set the stage for the alphabetical one-liners: "A is for America's Music. It ab-so-tive-ly began with African American rhythms. And how!" Bold, geometric illustrations always include an artistic interpretation of the featured word and its letter hidden within: Benny Goodman's arm makes a "G" and Jelly Roll Morton's tie creates a "J." Many pages feature asides highlighting jazz slang and vernacular: "They put on their glad rags and got a wiggle on!" "When this jazzman picked up his licorice stick, he could

really groove." Pages highlight important people, places, instruments, musical terms, and expressions that play a role in jazz history, including "Floorflushers," "Improvisation," "Kansas City," and "Zoot Suits." Always a complicated letter, "X" stands for "aXe," which readers may need to refer to the extensive and helpful glossary to understand. A bright and serviceable first dip into this genre of music.

— Julie Roach, Cambridge Public Library, MA

Ann Ingalls is the author of several books, including *Ice Cream Soup* and *Little Piano Girl*. She lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

It's rare to find a picture book where text and illustrations meld so harmoniously! Ann Ingalls did a masterful job of delineating the history and vocabulary of jazz in this deceptively simple ABC. Children and adults will both enjoy the rhythmic language and rollicking illustrations done by Maria Corte Maidagan. This soon-to-be classic belongs in everyone's library!

You can trust me, I'm a librarian. And I think this book is great. I keep it on my desk at work because the cover just cheers me up. It gets even better when you start reading and enjoying the art. Highly recommended for school and public libraries in every single English-speaking country on the planet.

On time and as described. I am very satisfied.

A wonderfully fun and rhythmic educational experience for children and adults!

Bright Connections Media is a small but respected children's book publisher. Here they offer a refreshing alternative to the conventional *A is for Apple* books. *J is for Jazz*, just published, is educational and engaging. Author Ann Ingalls has a history of music appreciation (*The Little Piano Girl*), but a picture book like this is always going to come down to the illustrations. Thankfully, the artwork hits the right notes. Catalan artist Maria Corte's geometric-cubist style is a perfect fit for this jazz book, and in fact she did the posters for this year's Monterey Jazz Festival. This book is so visually packed, it is nearly overwhelming. You may not get through the entire alphabet in one sitting! Every page is a poster, full of colors and shapes, plus depth to digest. The K-spread is my favorite: looks like a scene from *Harlem Nights*. Hot socks! Glossary of Jazz Slang included, along with a short history of jazz. The only thing missing is a colophon with insight into materials and typeface. Such reference information is surprisingly absent considering the publisher's ownership by

World Book Encyclopedia. Other unusual (and recommended) alphabet books: *À À Professor Whiskerton Presents Steampunk ABC À À* and *À À E-mergency!* [The reviewer was provided with a complimentary copy of the book.]

I absolutely loved this book! Using the letters of the alphabet to teach about the history of jazz, this book is filled with fun and quality information kids and adults alike will enjoy reading. The illustrations are awesome, bright and colorful just like the music itself. I am so excited to share this book with my grandchildren.

Lively, fun, informative and creative!

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