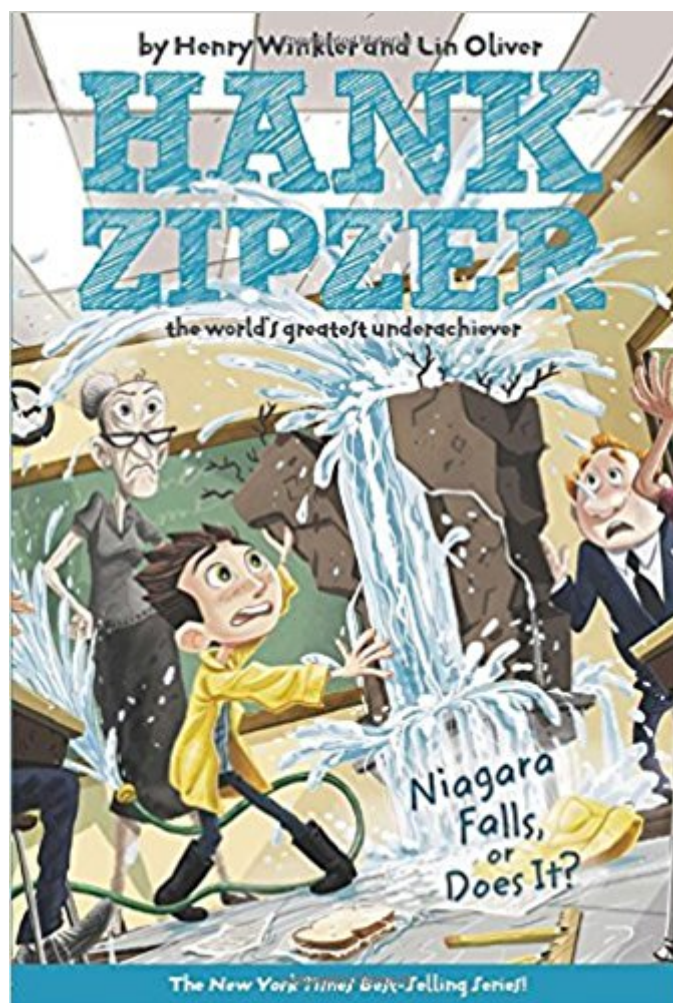


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# Niagara Falls, Or Does It? #1 (Hank Zipzer)



## Synopsis

Inspired by the true life experiences of Henry Winkler, whose undiagnosed dyslexia made him a classic childhood underachiever, the Hank Zipzer series is about the high-spirited and funny adventures of a boy with learning differences. It's science project time in Ms. Adolf's class. This is good news and bad news for Hank-he loves science, but he hates the report part. So Hank turns to TV to take his mind off things. But when the program directory scrolls by too quickly for Hank to know what's on, he decides to take apart the cable box to try to slow down the crawl. Great! Now Hank has found the perfect science project! But what he wasn't counting on was his sister's pet iguana laying eighteen eggs in the disassembled cable box. How is Hank going to get out of this one? Illustrated by Carol Heyer.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 610L (What's this?)

Series: Hank Zipzer (Book 1)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap (February 10, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448431629

ISBN-13: 978-0448431628

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 113 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #12,683 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs #208 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School #349 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-5-On the first day of fourth grade, Hank's teacher assigns a five-paragraph essay, "What I did on my summer vacation," and he knows he's in trouble. It has always been difficult for him to read, write, and spell so he decides to "build" his assignment instead-to "bring Niagara Falls into

the classroom, water and all." With the help of his friends, he creates a working model, complete with water pump, Saran-wrapped tubing, and a papier-mâché mountain. Predictably, his "living essay" comes to an unfortunate end when a leak leads to a flood and chaos in the classroom. Hank's creativity is rewarded with two weeks' detention and grounding, but his friends are counting on his help for their upcoming magic show. Just when the boy's self-esteem is at its lowest, the new music teacher suspects that he has "learning differences" and suggests that he be tested. Eventually, the misunderstood protagonist convinces his parents to let him perform in the show, which is a big hit, largely thanks to Hank's ingenuity. Less dysfunctional and outrageous than Joey Pigza, Hank Zipzer is the kid next door. Humor, magic, a school bully, a pet dachshund named Cheerio, and a pet iguana that slurps soup at dinner add up to a fun novel with something for everyone. Barbara Auerbach, New York City Public Schools Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 3-5. Actor-director Winkler joins the growing list of celebrities writing children's books with this humorous novel, coauthored by Oliver. Fourth-grade underachiever Hank claims he wants to do the right thing, but somehow he always messes up. Take the assignment Hank's teacher doles out on the first day of school: write a five-paragraph essay, "What I did on my summer vacation." Since writing is hard for him, Hank does a visual presentation on his visit to Niagara Falls instead--and winds up flooding the classroom. Some of the characters are stereotypes, such as buffoonish Principal Love and Hank's overly strict teacher, Ms. Adolf, but others, including Hank, are believable and sympathetic. When the school's music teacher befriends Hank while supervising his detention, he begins to suspect that Hank has a learning problem and suggests that he be tested. At the end, Hank realistically relates his fears about what the test may reveal. Boys who struggle in school will especially appreciate the story, but this enjoyable, fast-paced novel will draw other children as well. Lauren Peterson Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I use this as a read-aloud in my third grade classroom. It is the first chapter book of the year that I read to my students. They really enjoy Hank's antics. He is a funny character and has some wonderful friends and a compassionate grandfather. I love it because Hank is a student facing some learning challenges. I use the book to illustrate that all students learn differently. The book has great discussion points too. I would recommend. It is the first book in a series of books.

Very funny. 8 year old twins love this story. Definitely the next level up from Here's Hank series. No pictures and smaller font. My reluctant/ADHD reader prefers reading Here's Hank alone but loves listening to this series when we read it to him. Very relatable character for any child who is or has struggled with similar issues. Nice to have a series to read aloud above his level to continue to build comprehension while independently reading about the same character a couple of years younger in the Here's Hank series. Glad we tried them and have since recommended them to many others. Kids can't wait for me to get more.

Granddaughter loves these books

Awesome service. I would order again.

To be quite honest, I wanted to read this book because when I was growing up, Henry Winkler was one of my favorites. Now that I have read the book, he is still on my list. This book would be an excellent classroom read aloud. The fast paced dialogue and eye for detail kept my interest. Hank Zipper, the narrator, is such a well thought out character. Anyone who has been around ADD, ADHD, or other children with learning disabilities will recognize him immediately. Winkler is right on with this book. I just hope that as a teacher, I am more like Mr. Rock than Ms. Adolph!

Want to capture the interest of 8-10 years old ( perfect for 4th graders ) this is the magic book. It is one of a series but the one you should start with. When you have a class say can we read today - you know the book has done its job. I recommend this book to "kick start" a love a reading older chapter books. Well done Mr Zipper ( or is it Fonzie ? )

My class just gave this book a 5 star rating. "Best book ever!" "Fact thrilling!" "Totes epic!" "Supes wonderful!" I think they liked it!

This is a great book for reluctant readers(or any readers for that matter)! We introduced this book to our 5th grade struggling readers, and they loved it! We heard them laughing out loud as they read, and they needed no "encouragement" from us teachers to keep reading the book. Others students in the class noticed the popularity of the book and wanted to read the book, too. When students finished this book, they wanted to read the next books in the series. (It's a rare book indeed that entices struggling or reluctant readers to want to read more.)The writing is clever and funny, and the

vocabulary is accessible for 4th and 5th grade struggling readers. I think many of our students identified with Hank's struggles. I highly recommend this book!

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