

BRANCHES F.A.Q.

Q: What makes Branches so special?

A: **Branches** series will engage your young reader with fast-paced plots; relatable characters; easily accessible text; and fun illustrations. Feeling like a successful reader will bolster your child's self-confidence, which will lead to an increased interest in reading.

Q: How can Branches help me navigate my child's educational needs?

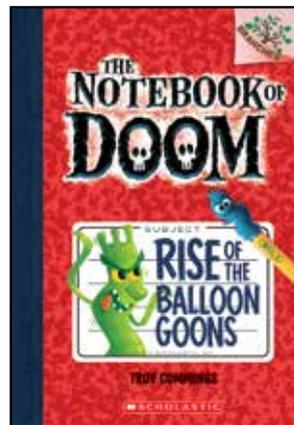
A: **Common Core State Standards** (CCSS) provide a clear understanding of what students are expected to learn during their K-12 education careers. Scholastic has made sure that each **Branches** book can help ensure your child's readiness to meet these nationwide standards by featuring:

- Easy-to-read text
- Simple plotlines
- Plenty of context clues
- Purposeful illustrations that aid reading comprehension

A **Branches** Classroom Guide by Cyndi Giorgis, Ph.D., is available to teachers who enhance their Common Core in-class curriculum with **Branches** books. Ask your child's educator about these guides, or learn more at scholastic.com/branches!

Q: How do I know my child will enjoy Branches books?

A: With irresistible characters like Boris, the adventuresome warthog; Kiki, the pint-sized fashionista; and Alexander Bopp, the new kid in a monster-filled town, each **Branches** book is chock-full of kid appeal. Themes like friends, school, magic, and adventure—and engaging illustrations throughout—ensure that each book will grab your young reader's attention. Every **Branches** book features a single, snappy storyline and a healthy dose of humor, enabling your child to equate reading with fun!

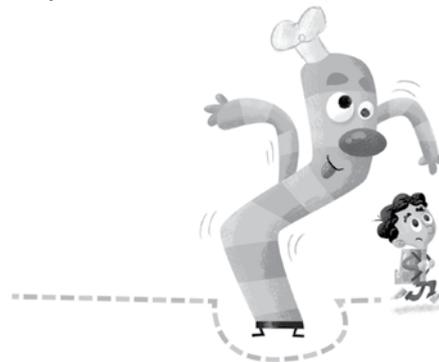


The Notebook of Doom

Written and illustrated by Troy Cummings
Alexander Bopp has just moved to a new town in this spook-fest of a series.

Ages 6–8
96-page black-and-white

- #1: **Rise of the Balloon Goons** • July 2013
- #2: **Day of the Night Crawlers** • September 2013
- #3: **Attack of the Shadow Smashers**
November 2013
- #4: **Chomp of the Meat-Eating Vegetables**
January 2014



TRY THIS AT HOME

Alexander finds his way around his weird new town with the help of a paper placemat map. Help your child make a map of your neighborhood, marking important spots like favorite shops or friends' houses. Have him map his room and label doors and pieces of furniture.

SCHOLASTIC

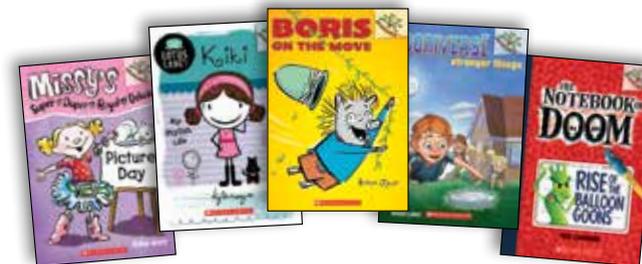
SCHOLASTIC.COM/BRANCHES

SCHOLASTIC and associated logos are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Scholastic Inc. Art © 2013 Andrew Joyner. Art © 2013 Susan Nees. Art © 2013 Troy Cummings. Art © 2013 Kyla May.

New from **SCHOLASTIC**
The next step for new readers!



**NEW ILLUSTRATED
EARLY CHAPTER BOOKS**



WHY BRANCHES?

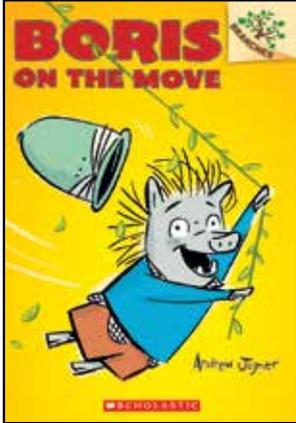
Is your child ready to make the exciting leap from early readers—but not quite ready for traditional chapter books?

Scholastic proudly presents **Branches**—a unique line of books specifically designed for these young readers. Carefully crafted to be challenging but manageable, **Branches** books are the perfect blend of text and illustration. All books in this engaging, graphically eye-catching series will empower young readers with a sense of confidence, enhance their reading stamina, and—best of all—keep them reaching for the next book!



SERIES AND ACTIVITIES INSIDE!

BRANCHES: FROM —THE NAME KIDS KNOW, AND PARENTS AND EDUCATORS TRUST



Boris
Written and illustrated by Andrew Joyner
Meet Boris, a charming little warthog with big ideas.

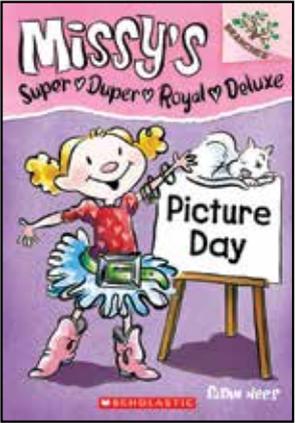
Ages 5–7
80-page full-color

- #1: **Boris on the Move** • May 2013
- #2: **Boris Gets a Lizard** • June 2013
- #3: **Boris for the Win** • August 2013
- #4: **Boris Sees the Light** • October 2013



TRY THIS AT HOME

Ask your kids what fantasy adventure they would like to experience, like Boris does in *Boris on the Move*. Is it a mountain hike? A journey to the moon? Have them write or sketch the scenario, including what vehicle they plan to take, what creatures they encounter along the way, and what snacks they pack. Then make a map together of the best way to get home.



Missy's Super Duper Royal Deluxe
Written and illustrated by Susan Nees
Meet Missy—a razzle-dazzle girl who does things the Super Duper Royal Deluxe way.

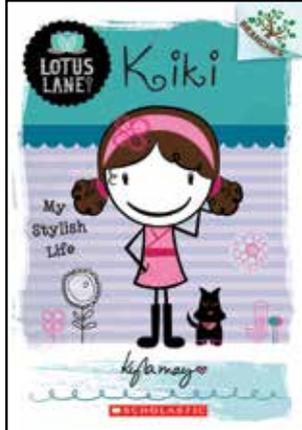
Ages 5–7
80-page full-color

- #1: **Picture Day** • May 2013
- #2: **Class Pets** • June 2013
- #3: **School Play** • October 2013
- #4: **Field Trip** • January 2014



TRY THIS AT HOME

Picture Day makes hilarious use of speech bubbles to convey what each character says. Have your child make some drawings using speech bubbles to tell a story. You can also start a pen pal exchange with your child. Leave a note from a simple character you create (stick figures work well!), with your message in a speech bubble. Ask your child to write back in the same style.



Lotus Lane
Written and illustrated by Kyla May
Take a glimpse into the fabulous Lotus Lane Girls Club.

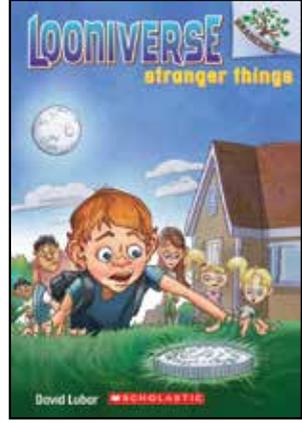
Ages 6–8
96-page black-and-white

- #1: **Kiki: My Stylish Life** • May 2013
- #2: **Coco: My Delicious Life** • July 2013
- #3: **Lulu: My Glamorous Life** • September 2013
- #4: **Mika: My New Life** • November 2013



TRY THIS AT HOME

Have your child create a diary by using a notebook or by stapling sheets of paper together. Encourage her to decorate it with drawings, stickers, or other artwork. Ask her to list ten personal FACTS about herself. For hints, look at statements that Kiki wrote, such as “I am quite the worrier” and “I will one day be a VERY famous fashion designer.” Ask her to chart a personal schedule like the one on pages six and seven of *My Stylish Life*.



Looniverse
Written by David Lubar
Illustrated by Matt Loveridge
A magical coin makes Ed's universe go more than a little loony.

Ages 6–8
96-page black-and-white

- #1: **Stranger Things** • May 2013
- #2: **Meltdown Madness** • July 2013
- #3: **Dinosaur Disaster** • November 2013
- #4: **Stage Fright** • February 2014



TRY THIS AT HOME

Using words or pictures, have your child list the five strangest things that have ever happened in your family. (Remember the time grandma dropped the Thanksgiving pie?) Now harness your child's creative skills and ask her to embellish these incidents and to make them REALLY STRANGE! (Was it a pie full of worms?) Encourage the wackiest details your child can imagine.