



## Cornwall Reads Together!

# *A Boy Called BAT*

by  
Elana K. Arnold

Today your child received a copy of the book selected for Cornwall Reads Together! This voluntary, school-wide book club gives Cornwall families an opportunity to share an interesting story with the broader school community. To participate, follow the calendar on the reverse side for daily family readings. *If you do not participate at this time, please consider the book a gift that you may enjoy in the future.*

### What you need to know:

This realistic fiction story introduces readers to Bixby Alexander Tam, known as Bat to his friends and family. When Bat's mother, a veterinarian, brings home an orphaned skunk kit, Bat is determined to keep the kit forever. His mom, however, plans to raise the skunk only until it is big enough to go to the rescue center. Bat has just one month to learn to care for the kit and change his mother's mind, all while navigating the ups and downs of school, a confusing older sister, and every-other weekend at his dad's. Many of the challenges Bat faces, such as developing friendships and navigating family relationships, will be familiar to children. Elana K. Arnold invites readers to experience Bat's journey from his unique perspective. *A Boy Called BAT* is the first book in a trilogy.

### Keep in mind:

- Participation is voluntary. This experience is about the joy of reading together and is not associated with an assignment or grade.
- The daily reading is meant to be a family activity with the reading done by an adult.
- Families are encouraged to use their judgement about how to approach vocabulary and topics that are difficult or spur further discussion.
- Families may adjust the reading calendar to fit their schedules. (The daily optional trivia questions at school will be based on the prior day's scheduled reading.)

### Possible extension activities:

- Draw or create a model of your bedroom. What makes it special to you?
- Talk or write about the things you do to help you feel calm in a stressful situation.
- Research skunks and find at least five facts you did not know about them.

### For more information:

Scan this QR code or click [here](#) to link to the website for an episode of The Children's Hour radio program. This episode is all about skunks, and even includes an interview with Dr. Jerry Dragoo! Be sure to check out the Learn-Along Guide.



Scan this QR code or click [here](#) to go to the Cornwall Reads tab of the school website for links to all handouts and more.



**Thanks to our PTO for providing funding for Cornwall Reads Together!  
Thank you for supporting this yearly tradition at Cornwall Elementary School!**