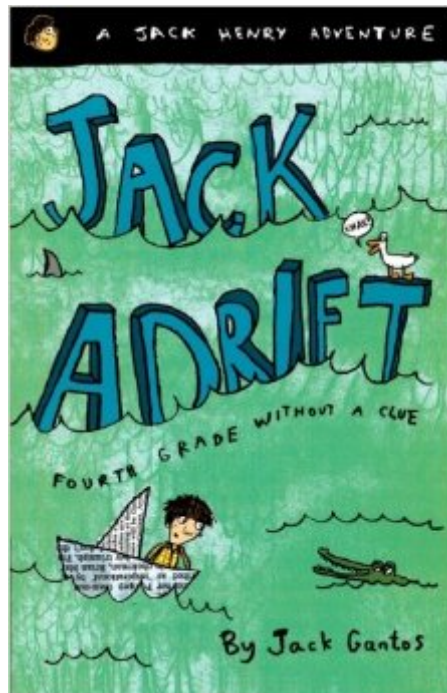


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# Jack Adrift: Fourth Grade Without A Clue (Jack Henry)



## Synopsis

From the Newbery Medal-winning author of *Dead End in Norvelt*, eight side-splitting stories about a boy who is doing his best to keep his head above water. As the Henry family sets sail for a new life on Cape Hatteras, fourth-grader Jack is struggling to chart a course between his parents' contradictory advice on making friends and influencing people. Just tell people what they want to hear, Dad advises. Just tell the truth, Mom cautions. Jack finds there are no easy answers as he drifts through his crazy school year, falling desperately in love with his young teacher, getting suckered into becoming a bad-behavior spy for the principal, and being forced to make a presentable pet out of a duck with backward feet. Indeed, with an airheaded, air-guitar-playing neighbor the closest thing to a friend, and a judgmental older sister his relentless enemy, it's all he can do to stay afloat. This colorful and comic new collection of interrelated stories featuring the author's hapless alter ego is the first of five books in the Jack Henry series, praised by Booklist for their "hilarious, exquisitely painful, and utterly on-target depiction" of a boy's life. This title has Common Core connections.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730L (What's this?)

Series: Jack Henry (Book 1)

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; 1st edition (October 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0374437181

ISBN-13: 978-0374437183

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #548,161 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #298 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving](#) #1158 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences](#) #3344 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School](#)

Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 - 8

## Customer Reviews

Jack Henry is back. The stories in this book weave together as Jack faces a new school with a nasty principal, a beautiful and smart teacher, irritating siblings, and parents who are preaching totally different approaches to success in life. The book has great humor and pathos. Gantos perfectly captures the mental state of boys at this age. Some of the book's funniest moments are captured in the handwritten diary entries that precede the chapters. Be sure to read them. Also, given the fate of so many other Henry family pets, I have to admit I feared the worst when the vet tells Jack how to get his duck to put on new feathers. Like all his books, this one is a fun read aloud. You know the writing is terrific when listeners to the story put their hands over their eyes when the duck goes in the freezer.

My fourth-grade son and I are reading "Jack Adrift" out loud to each other. We both love the book, which makes us laugh and nearly cry with the sensitive and humorous descriptions of a young boy's life. Gantos is an excellent writer, who really makes you feel sympathetic to the characters in "Jack Adrift." We are now eager to read his other books.

Jack Henry writes books about A.D.H.D. kids and my son loves them. This book was wonderfully written and we bought the series.

My son, who's not much of a reader, has read this four times!

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