Kamik: An Inuit Puppy Story

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When Jake finally gets a puppy to call his own, all he can think about is the fast, strong sled dog that his puppy will become. But Kamik is far from an obedient sled dog. He won’t listen, he tracks mud all over the house, and he’s a lot more work than Jake ever thought a puppy could be. But after a visit with his grandfather, who raised many puppies of his own while living out on the land, Jake learns that Inuit have been raising puppies just like Kamik to be obedient, resourceful, helpful sled dogs for generations.

Book Information
Lexile Measure: AD850L (What's this?)
Paperback: 32 pages
Publisher: Inhabit Media (April 1, 2013)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1927095115
Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.1 x 8.8 inches
Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)
Best Sellers Rank: #421,672 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada #81 in Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Polar Regions #944 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational
Age Range: 6 - 8 years
Grade Level: 1 - 3

Customer Reviews
Having a puppy of our very own can be a lot of fun. But, puppies aren’t trained, it’s up to the owner to teach obedience. Jake is learning the hard-way that his new puppy, Kamik, is a big handful. Jake visits his grandfather and Kamik runs, jumps, and tracks his wet paw prints everywhere. Jake calls to him, but he just doesn’t listen. Jake’s grandfather, Ataatasiaq, tells him stories about how grandmother and the other women of their small village called Inuit, cared for and trained many puppies to pull the dog sleds. According to Ataatasiaq, a òel remember my own grandmother speaking to the puppies as she stretched their muscles, telling them to be strong, ambitious, and obedient to their masters. Dogs can understand more of what we say then you can
imagine. Your grandmother loved her dogs. She raised them in a similar way to raising a child. Jake soon understands and imagines Kamik being the best sled dog ever. Young readers will enjoy this story and learn plenty about dogs who have pulled sleds and saved their owners from near death. Uluadluak shares a story that was inspired by the real-life collections of an elder from Arviat, Nunavut, this book lovingly recreates the traditional dog-rearing practices that prevailed when Inuit relied on dogs for transportation and survival. Young readers will have fun reading and learning about this unique culture. Colorful illustrations depict the lifestyle of Inuit.

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