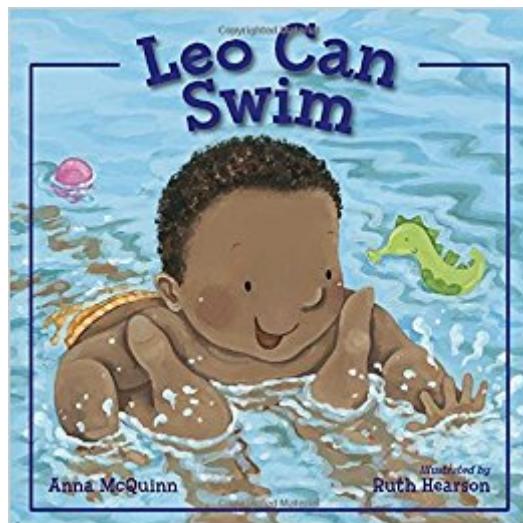


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# Leo Can Swim



## Synopsis

Leo, Lola's little brother from *Leo Loves Baby Time*, is back in a new adventure at the pool. Leo and Daddy go to swim class where they kick, bounce, and dive like little fish. Joining other babies and their caretakers in the pool is a guarantee for unforgettable fun.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0200 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 24 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (May 10, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580897258

ISBN-13: 978-1580897259

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.3 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #81,861 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports #202 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American #244 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men

Grade Level: Preschool and up

## Customer Reviews

Toddler-PreS • Leo (of *Lola Reads to Leo* fame) loves the water. In preparation for an upcoming swim class, the toddler and his dad read a book that gives a nod to Eric Carle's *Mister Seahorse*, then head off to the pool for baby/parent swim time. The families represented are of multiple ethnicities. At swim class, the children learn how to kick and splash, and Leo gets a fun ride on his daddy's back. Many children have loved other stories by McQuinn that feature Leo's older sister Lola (*Lola Loves Stories*), and this offering is no less delightful. Hearson's colorful acrylic illustrations are as fun and playful as the text. VERDICT A solid choice for preschool storytime or one-on-one sharing, especially to introduce a swim class or lesson. • Jennifer Steib Simmons, Anderson County Library, SC

Kirkus Reviews Leo is back (*Leo Loves Baby Time*, 2014, etc.), and now he happily attends a community swim class with Daddy. "Leo loves the water. He is like a little fish!" A smiling Leo is in

suds bath water, his dark, curly head and brown body held up by a pair of strong, brown, adult arms. As the story continues, readers see Leo and Daddy interact lovingly throughout, from sitting together on a big chair—viewing a swim-class brochure—to changing into proper swim attire in the locker room and taking part in a class that features a pool full of other happy baby-and-adult pairs. The range of skin and hair types is commendable, even including one adult-child combination of nonmatching skin. Getting used to the off-center noses of the babies requires a little time—probably more for adults than children. The text has some sentences that will sound delightful to little ears as little eyes view the water babies: "They swish and swoosh. They splash and sploosh." The tender and competent care given to Leo by his father is reason enough to praise this book. Also, like its predecessor, the codex itself has rounded corners and strong, resilient paper to accommodate its audience. The ending is a bit abrupt, but it parallels babies' and toddlers' tendencies to play hard and suddenly run out of energy. A welcome addition to the toddler bookshelf.

**School Library Journal** Leo (of *Lola Reads to Leo* fame) loves the water. In preparation for an upcoming swim class, the toddler and his dad read a book that gives a nod to Eric Carle's *Mister Seahorse*, then head off to the pool for baby/parent swim time. The families represented are of multiple ethnicities. At swim class, the children learn how to kick and splash, and Leo gets a fun ride on his daddy's back. Many children have loved other stories by McQuinn that feature Leo's older sister Lola (*Lola Loves Stories*), and this offering is no less delightful. Hearson's colorful acrylic illustrations are as fun and playful as the text.

**VERDICT** A solid choice for preschool storytime or one-on-one sharing, especially to introduce a swim class or lesson.

My toddler (3) and baby (5 months) both love this book. I like that it includes a diverse set of characters, including mommies and daddies of different ethnicities who are taking their toddlers to a swim class.

My baby boy loves the Leo books. He's only 2 months but he really engages and looks at the books as I read it to him. I know he will continue to enjoy these book as he gets older. As a parent, I love that the book is simple and colorful but describes activities babies might engage in. I also love that each book has pictures of many different children of all colors and a main character that looks like him. And the illustrations are great! The hardcover version even has child-friendly pages that don't tear even though they are not hard. I know there are the Lola books too but I wish there were more Leo books.

Simple book that I bought to prepare my 1yr old for swim class. It did it's job! Every night before class she wanted to read the book. Now class is over and she associates the book with our mom-and-me experience it the pool. I would buy again for someone preparing their kid for swim class.

LOVE that this is a multi-racial child's book, so our child grow up with diversity as their normal!

Purchased for my daughter when she was starting swim lessons.

I have purchased all Anna McQuinn's books. My toddler loves them all. She wants me to read her a book about Lola every night.

I found this book at the library and checked it out for my kids to help with swimming in the pool. My oldest loved it so much that we maxed out on the number of checkout times and I decided to buy it.

This story is great because my 16 month old son can relate, as it is exactly what his swimming lessons are like. At the part where the babies are splashing, he giggles and makes splashing motions with his hands. Very nice book.

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