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Precious kittens in a new picture book series share important life lessons with young readers.

Facing fears, never giving up, embracing differences, and dealing with grief are just a few of the valuable themes in the Paws Elementary picture book series.

NEW YORK, New York – Families and educators of young children will delight in author Jessica Azenberg’s *Paws Elementary* picture book series, in which sweet kittens encounter social-emotional learning lessons and are taught valuable life skills. Young readers will meet Jack, Maggie, Minnie, and Thomas, in three poignant stories recently released, and they will also meet glamorous Daisy in Azenberg’s fourth book entitled, *Daisy, Minnie, and the Sugar Plum Kitty*, releasing November 8th, 2024.



In *Daisy, Minnie, and the Sugar Plum Kitty*, Daisy dreams of dancing the lead role of the Sugar Plum Kitty in *The Nutcracker*, but when her best friend gets the part, she feels disappointed and jealous. Nevertheless, with encouragement from her moms and through self-discovery of her own, Daisy learns that jealousy should never get in the way of friendship. She also learns that there is enough space in this world for all of our dreams to come true.

In *Jack Follows His Heart*, Jack is introduced to ballet for the first time by his friends and is very excited. But his joy turns to frustration when he learns that ballet is much harder than he expected. Nevertheless, with encouragement from his dads and through hard work and practice, Jack learns the value of following his heart and never giving up on his dreams.

In *Minnie’s Science Spectacular*, Minnie is asked to do a science presentation in school, and she feels very anxious and stressed. She thinks she isn’t as smart as the other students because science is hard. However, her teacher explains that being smart can take many different forms. Minnie is inspired by her teacher’s advice to embrace her own creativity, and she begins preparing her "Science Spectacular!" Minnie also learns that the strengths that live inside her are what make her special.

In *Thomas and the Butterfly*, Thomas lives with his mom and grandma, but when his grandma grows sick and passes away, he struggles to come to terms with his grief. Despite the love and support from his mom, Thomas continues to feel sad for many months, until one day, he comes to learn that those we love never really leave us; their love stays in our hearts forever.

With Azenberg’s heartwarming texts and beautiful illustrations by Li Liu, the Paws Elementary series is a perfect addition to any home or classroom library to foster self-confidence, strength, and belief in oneself.

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If you would like more information about author Jessica Azenberg and the *Paws Elementary* series, please contact jessica.azenberg@gmail.com or visit jessica-azenberg.com.