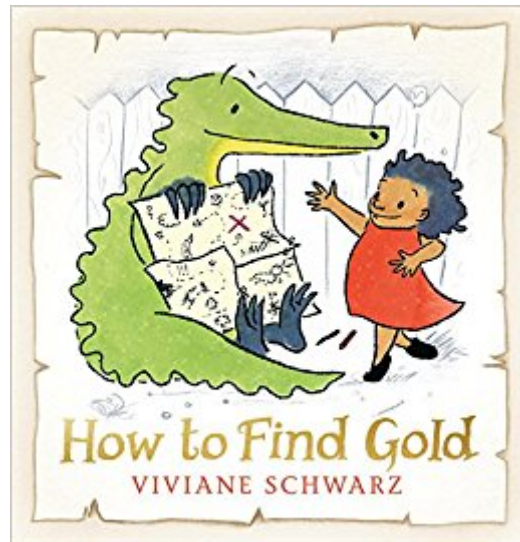




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# How To Find Gold



## Synopsis

Viviane Schwarz conjures a whimsical tale of friendship and adventure that will spur little voyagers to pursue imaginative quests of their own. Finding gold isn't easy. In fact it's dangerous and difficult. It requires planning. First, Crocodile and Anna practice their secret-keeping faces. Then Anna lifts Crocodile up, to be sure she's strong enough to carry gold. Together, they draw the whole world, with an X to mark the spot. Now Anna fetches the boat, and off they sail. What will they discover? The joy of sharing a journey with a friend outshines even the longed-for gold in this fanciful story brimming with humor.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 460 (What's this?)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

As Crocodile tries to explain it and the two make maps and do an undersea dive, the banter is as cleverly constructed as Schwarz's layered, explosively colorful illustrations. "The New York Times Book Review Adventure-seeking red dress-wearing brown girl + amenable crocodile = the perfect ingredients for finding a boatload of treasure. Schwarz throws together a wild imagination, travel, and an unlikely pair of companions to create a fabulously enjoyable and visually rich picture book that will have young readers digging up their backyards and marking the perfect spots." Kirkus Reviews (starred review) The amusing rapport between the two cooperative friends

is as compelling as the adventure itself, proving that all pursuits are better with a good friend to join in...An unusual and captivating tale that will attract a willing audience.âSchool Library JournalSchwarz is keenly aware of the joy in planning and plotting an adventure, and the banter between her leads offers laughs throughout.âPublishers WeeklyThroughout, Schwarzâs pencil, crayon, and watercolor illustrations adopt a childlike style that suggests the pals are playing pretend (rather than embarking on a fantastic journey). The pictures are at their finest in a pair of wordless spreads at the center of the book that show Anna and Crocodile diving down to a shipwreck. These rich, detailed illustrations stand in contrast with other text-heavy spreads of humorous dialogue between the friends, and they invite careful examination.âThe Horn BookAnnaâs undaunted enthusiasm and the playful, joyful celebration of imagination make this a sheer delight.âBooklist OnlineHow to Find Gold is a treasure. Brown-skinned Anna and green-skinned Crocodile could not be any cuter--and the two are dropped into wonderfully rough pencil, crayon and watercolor backdrops, often quite scribbly and slightly unfinished for effect, but gorgeous, splendidly colorful and bursting with life. German-born, London-dwelling Viviane Schwarz (There Are Cats in This Book) takes a flight of fancy and soars.âShelf Awareness for Readers

Viviane Schwarz is the author-illustrator of the acclaimed picture books There Are Cats in This Book and There Are No Cats in This Book, both of which were short-listed for the Kate Greenaway Medal, as well as Is There a Dog in This Book? and The Sleepwalkers. She lives in London.

How to Find Gold, is a young children's book full of imagination. It takes you on an adventure with Anna and her friend Crocodile. Anna wants to find some gold, but Crocodile tells her that it will be dangerous and difficult. Good, says Anna, and off on the adventure they go. However, Anna soon realises how difficult it really is to find gold, and what will she do with the gold if they find it, as there is no point in finding it then spending it, as then you will not have any gold again. This book will peak the interest of youngsters and could quite possibly have them searching for their own gold, using their homemade map, and their pretend ship. The illustrations are beautifully drawn, they capture the eye as they are so big, bold and colourful. The characters have a warmth towards one another, and their friendship comes across so sweetly. An adorable, amusing, children's book that will have kids eager to find out if Anna and Crocodile really do find the gold they are searching for, whilst at the same time the book subtly gets the message across that anything is possible with imagination. Reviewed by Stacey at Whispering Stories Book Blog\*\*I received a free copy of this book, which I voluntarily reviewed\*\*

If you've been missing our Maurice Sendak as much as I have, perhaps you too will find Viviane Schwarz's new book *How to Find Gold* a filler for that Sendak-shaped hole inside your heart. The two main characters are so reminiscent of loved characters created by Maurice Sendak that this new offering feels immediately comfortable and familiar. In this picture book for Pre-K through 3rd graders, Anna announces to her friend Crocodile, "Let's find gold." To which Crocodile replies, "That would be dangerous and difficult." After deciding to not let anyone know what they are doing - by of course wearing a secret face - and testing to see if they are strong enough to carry gold when they find it, they decide to make a map of the world where an X will tell them where to go. But France turns out to be too difficult a destination, so Crocodile suggests they go after sunken gold instead of buried gold - which is even more dangerous and difficult. Boarding their boat, they head straight for a storm and dive right into the boiling ocean. After searching and avoiding a sea monster, they do discover the treasure. I'll let you be surprised by the very satisfying ending that shows that a good secret shared with a dear friend is enough of a reward in and of itself.

This book reads like a beautifully written play. We borrowed this book from our local library, and my son was so enchanted by the story and illustrations he wanted to buy a copy so we could have it at home. It's also on my go to gift list for the kindergarten birthday party circuit this year.

Wonderful friendship story that endorses using imagination. Charming illustrations and true to life dialogue injects a lot of charm into this tale and the sweet, understated illustrations are a delight. Highly recommended.

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