A Million Dots by Andrew Clements

One Million

Its a long way to a million, right? Of course it is. But do you really know what a million looks like? If you'd like to see -- actually see, right now, with your own eyes -- what a million looks like, just open this book. Be prepared to learn some interesting things along the way. Like how many shoe boxes it would take to make a stack to Mount Everest. And be prepared to do some number wondering of your own. But, most of all, be prepared to be amazed. Because a million is a LOT of dots.

My Personal Review:
Although I'm not sure I could come up with a MILLION reasons why I like this book so much, here are a few.

1) Kids are FASCINATED with big numbers and the idea of a million dots running throughout the entire book is very appealing. I'm sure there will be some brave souls determined to count them all. (SPOILER: Clements does tell us it would take eleven and a half days to count each dot, one by one. This could be the perfect book for the kids when traveling across the country!)

2) This isn't just page after page of boring ol' dots. Instead, Clements uses them as a background for some nifty self-imposed images, which are quite whimsical and appealing to the eye.

3) Each page keeps a running total of the dots seen so far - how cool is that?

4) Each page also features a random dot number (which could be found on each particular page, if you are so inclined to count) and a fact connected with that number. For example: DOT NUMBER 134,000 - "A person blinks about 134,000 times each week." DOT NUMBER 464,000 - "It would take 464,000 school-lunch cartons of chocolate milk to fill a 20 x 40 ft. swimming pool. (Please pass the straws.)" And my personal favorite....DOT NUMBER 675,000 - "Like chocolate? To eat 675,000
Hershey's bars, you would have to eat one bar every two minutes, nonstop, for more than 234 days!"

5) The colorful illustrations in this book add so much, because without them, well, we're just looking at.......dots.

6) So many great random facts - perfect for impressing all your friends.

7) The millionth dot even gets its own page!

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