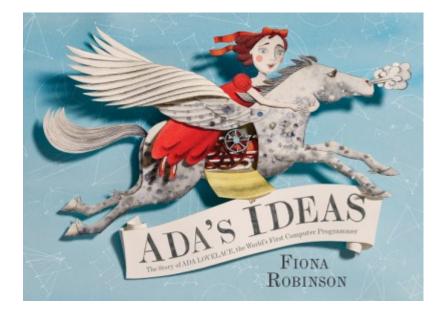## Children and Young Adult Book Review
Elementary School
Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer by Fiona Robinson

Student Reviewer: Faith Tucker
Educator Reviewer: Madalene Ramsey

Robinson, F. (2016). *Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer.* New York, NY: Abram's Books for Young Readers.

ISBN: 978-1-4197-1872-4

Pages: 30

Student Review:

I thought it was a wonderful story! The author picked a boring topic and made it a joy to read! Although, I don't think it used many facts about who she was, but it was still so much fun to read and that I was learning something was hard to believe! I thought it was a great book, but I would recommend it to younger audiences. But all in all I thought it was a fun learning experience and I would recommend it to any elementary students.

Faith Tucker
Colham Ferry Elementary School, Watkinsville, Georgia
5th Grade

Educator Review:

The book *Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer* describes the life and visionary ideas of Ada Lovelace. The reader is taken through Ada's childhood and upbringing to discover how a young girl's dreams and imagination intersect with her background in mathematics. When Ada's path leads her to meet an inventor, Charles Babbage, she is able to use her creative and analytical skills to create an algorithm for his newest invention and become the world's first computer programmer.

> *"The author picked a boring topic and made it a joy to read!"*
> *-Faith*

Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer would most appeal to an upper elementary student. The content lends itself to many research opportunities for students to dig deeper and make connections to historical information they may already be familiar with at that age. The beautiful illustrations, sentence structure, and vocabulary usage would appeal to a more mature elementary audience as well. Many elementary schools across the nation are implementing S.T.E.A.M. programs and pursuing S.T.E.A.M. certifications, and *Ada's Ideas* would align perfectly with these initiatives.

My only concern with this book is the explanation of Ada's algorithm on pages 26-27. It attempts to take a complex algorithm and simplify it for a child to understand. However, it is very confusing and could be simplified further. I also feel that these pages would be better suited at the end of the book because they are a different writing style than the rest of the story that the reader interacts with in the book. I would suggest adding these pages as an appendix to be read and explored by students after finishing the story.

Madalene Ramsey
Colham Ferry Elementary School
5th Grade Teacher