

BIZZY & PATIENCE

An Overarching Series Pitch Packet

Creator: Jennifer Burkdoll

Format: Picture Book Series

Target Age: 4–8

Tone: Humorous, warm, emotionally safe

Positioning: Character-driven SEL with series longevity

SERIES OVERVIEW

Bizzy & Patience is a contemporary picture book series designed to help young children build essential social-emotional and life skills through story, humor, and character—not instruction. Set on a welcoming farm, the series follows Bizzy, an energetic, well-meaning chicken who wants to do everything at once, and Patience, her calm, older friend who models steadiness, reflection, and choice.

Rather than presenting lessons or rules, each book shows children how skills are practiced in everyday moments. The series reassures readers that big feelings and mistakes are part of learning—and that growth happens gently, one step at a time.

THE CORE HOOK

This series pairs a **standout, high-energy protagonist** with a **consistent emotional anchor**, allowing children to see themselves in Bizzy while feeling supported by Patience.

The result is SEL that feels:

- Story-first, never didactic
- Emotionally safe and reassuring
- Immediately relatable to real childhood experiences
- Rereadable and expandable across multiple books

CHARACTER FOUNDATION

Bizzy

Bizzy is curious, enthusiastic, and capable—but easily overwhelmed when she rushes ahead. She represents the child who wants to help, try, and do everything right now. Bizzy is never framed as “the problem”; she is learning how to use her energy thoughtfully.

Patience

Patience is a calm, older hen who serves as Bizzy's steady presence. She is not an authority figure or instructor, but a model of regulation, kindness, and quiet confidence. Through her example, Patience shows that slowing down and choosing thoughtfully are skills anyone can practice.

Together, Bizzy and Patience embody **action and reflection**, a dynamic that can support many developmental themes over time.

SERIES ARC & THEMES

The *Bizzy & Patience* series is intentionally sequenced to grow alongside children's developmental needs:

- **Book 1 — Focus & Pacing:** Slowing down and doing one thing at a time
- **Book 2 — Responsibility:** Finishing tasks and cleaning up after oneself
- **Book 3 — Self-Regulation:** Breathing, pausing, and choosing behavior
- **Book 4 — Digital Citizenship:** Kindness and care in shared digital spaces
- **Book 5 — Civic Engagement:** Caring for shared community spaces

Each book builds upon the previous skills, reinforcing the idea that growth is cumulative and practiced over time.

TONE & STORYTELLING APPROACH

- Humor-forward and character-led
- Emotionally reassuring, never corrective
- Grounded in everyday childhood moments
- Designed for both home and classroom read-alouds

Illustrations play a key narrative role, with visual pacing mirroring emotional states—busy spreads reflecting overwhelm and open space reflecting calm and clarity.

MARKET POSITIONING

Bizzy & Patience sits at the intersection of:

- Commercial, read-aloud-friendly picture books
- Social-emotional learning aligned with classroom priorities
- Character brands with long-term series potential

The series appeals to families, educators, counselors, and librarians seeking stories that support emotional growth without shame, pressure, or moralizing.

COMPARABLE TITLES

The series will resonate with readers of humorous, heart-forward picture books such as: - *The Couch Potato* (Jory John)

- *The Smart Cookie* (Jory John)

- *I Don't Want to Be a Frog* (Dev Petty)

- *Bad Dog* (Mike Boldt)

Bizzy & Patience differentiates itself by offering a consistent mentor dynamic and repeatable strategies that children can practice beyond the page.

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Jennifer Burkdoll is a children's author who creates warm, character-driven stories that support social-emotional growth. She grew up helping in her mother's elementary classroom, where her mother taught fifth grade and later worked as an elementary school counselor. Jennifer is the parent of two grown children and brings both lived experience and long-term vision to her work.

STATUS & RIGHTS

- **Manuscripts:** Book 1 complete; series concepts outlined
 - **Illustrations:** Character art developed; illustrator open / TBD
 - **Rights:** All rights available
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WHY THIS SERIES NOW

Children today are navigating busy schedules, big feelings, digital spaces, and shared communities earlier than ever before. *Bizzy & Patience* meets children where they are—offering reassurance that they are capable, supported, and learning.

This series is designed to become a trusted companion for children, families, and classrooms—returning again and again as readers grow.
