

by Bryan Patrick Avery

illustrated by ArieF Putra

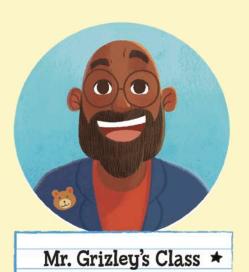
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Chapter 1

1

 7
 ł
 )

P





Cecilia Gomez



Shaw Quinn



**Emily Kim** 



Ashok Aparnam



Mordecai Foster



Ryan Clayborn



Nathan Wu



Rahma Abdi



Nicole Washington



Alijah Wilson



Suddha Agarwal



Chad Werner



Semira Madani



Pierre Boucher



Zoe Charmichael



Madison Tanaka



**Dmitry Orloff** 



Annie Barberra



Camila Jennings



**Bobby Lewis** 





## The Mess

Alijah and his friends stood in a small field behind the school.

"I didn't know this was here," Emily said.

Ashok looked at the weeds and trash all around them.

"It doesn't look very safe," Ashok said.

"I agree."

Principal Bueno walked around the corner. "This place is a mess," she said.



Alijah made a face. "It's not that bad," he said. "Right?" Ashok and Emily shrugged. Principal Bueno shook her head.





"It's pretty bad," she said. "Don't worry. I'm having the whole place cleaned out tomorrow."

"You can't do that!" Alijah cried. "What about my pea plant?" "Your what?" Emily asked. Alijah pointed to a small plant in the middle of the field. "I planted that," he said.



Principal Bueno sighed. "I'm sorry, but this place has to be cleared out."

"What if we clean it up?" Alijah asked. "We can make it into a garden the whole school can use."

Principal Bueno thought for a moment. "If you and your classmates clean up this mess, then you can keep your plant." "What about the garden?" Emily asked.

Principal Bueno smiled. "Yes, you can turn it into a garden."

