No Time for Lyme

Written and illustrated by Sarah Demar
Sarah DeMar, author and illustrator of *No Time For Lyme*, was five years old when she first contracted Lyme disease. She was infected a second time at age fifteen. Because her Lyme went undetected for almost one and one half years, its devastating and disabling effects made her physically unable to attend school, and she was home-tutored throughout her junior and senior years of high school.

Sarah's experience with Lyme disease inspired her to write a children's book about this disease so that young persons can understand what they are experiencing. Her goal is to help them avoid the fear that she felt when diagnosed with Lyme.

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No Time For Lyme

This book is dedicated to:

...★...
My devoted tutor,
DR. HOWARD HELMS

...★...
This is little Sarah!

Can you see Sarah and her brother John? They have an exciting tennis match going on! Hitting the ball to and fro, They reach for shots both high and low. They are having a great time, Playing together in the summer sunshine.
“Whew! I need a break!”
Sarah tiredly states.
She runs over to sit with Puppy Moe,
Leaving the tennis courts and her bro.
They sit in the grass to watch the sunset,
Unaware of what could happen next...

Uh oh! What is that?
The itsy bitsy tick is at Sarah’s back!
Crawling from Puppy Moe,
The tick is quick on the go!
A few days after tennis and sitting in the grass, Sarah is with the other boys and girls in class. She is very achy and sleepy, having trouble thinking, and kind of weepy.

“Hmm…” Professor Howie says, “You don’t look so well. Perhaps you should go home today before Show and Tell.”
$2 \times 4 = 8$
Sarah goes to Doctor Woofie to get checked out,
He looks her up and down and says without a doubt,

“Oh my! You have the bull’s eye rash!
I’ll send you to a specialist quick as a flash!
You being tired with the rash may suggest Lyme,
After all, it is a tell tale sign!”
Mummsy takes Sarah to the specialist the next day,
To see what the expert doctor had to say.
After some tests and looking Sarah up and down,
She bursts out cheerfully without a frown,

“You have Lyme Disease! But have no fear...
I’m Doctor Angelina Greato and I can help you here!”
“What could Lyme Disease be?” Sarah wonders, “How did it get inside me?” Maybe lately she ate some bad limes? Perhaps for breakfast? Maybe at lunchtime?
LYME?
So Doctor Angelina goes on to explain,
How Lyme can make joints ache in pain.
She says, “It’s a sickness you see,
Caused by that no good Slimey Lymey!
When a tick bites, Slimey Lymey gets in you,
And grows a million times or two.
He hooks onto your Sarah cells,
And puts them under his Lymey spell!

But just take your pills each day,
And that Lyme Disease will go away!
Lucky for you, Doctor Angelina is here!
Have no fear! I can fix you right up here!”
Upon hearing all this, Sarah is mad,
Telling the doctor, “Oh no you don’t understand!
I have things to do! I have no time,
No time at all for this disease called Lyme!”
"I HAVE NO TIME FOR LYME!"
She looks at the things to do on a big long list, “Can’t you see I have to do this, this, and this!” Sarah shouts, “I am much too busy! Oh this Lyme thing is putting me into a tizzy! But oh my joints hurt and I have a fever, Some medicine sure would be a nice reliever.”
THINGS TO DO:

Bake cupcakes
Go swimming
Catch a fish
Meet Santa
Build snowman
Eat Chinese
color more
Clean room
Garden
Make PB&J
Call Granny

Note: No time for Lyme!
Sarah does not feel too well today,
She is sick in bed and has little to say.
She takes her medicines and her pills,
Yet still feels achy and kind of ill.
“Tell Slimey Lymey to go away!”
She cries, “I have no time for Lyme today!”
Sarah is too sick now and must stay in bed, 
So Professor Howie comes to her house instead! 
He home schools her in each and every class. 
Today they are working on English and Math. 
But don’t worry, soon enough she’ll be back, 
Learning everything in school quick as a snap.
Sarah feels better now and doesn’t ache anymore,
So today she and John are at the Jersey Shore
Playing all day without a care or bother,
Building castles of sand, shells, and water.
She’s back to her old self and enjoys the day,
Happy that Slimey Lymey has gone away!
Now each night in her bubbly bathtub,
As Sarah cleans and scrubs,
She checks herself for tiny ticks.
If she finds one she calls Mummsy quick!
Checking herself for ticks after play,
Will surely keep Slimey Lymey far away!
“She has no time for Lyme!”
She has no time for Lyme!
Can you find the limes on each page?