The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher by Dana Alison Levy  
(Random House, 2014)
With two dads, four brothers, a dog, a cat, school projects, soccer matches, and a grumpy neighbor – the Fletcher family is a force to be reckoned with!

Discussion Questions

1. How is the family Fletcher just a little different from your average family?
   **Sam, age 12** - Mostly interested in soccer, and food, and his phone.
   **Jax, age 10** - Psyched for fourth grade. Thinks the new neighbor stinks, and not just because of the skunk.
   **Eli, age 10 (but younger than Jax)** - Delighted to be starting this year at the Pinnacle School, where everyone’s “the smart kid.”
   **Frog (not his real name), age 6** - Wants his new friends at kindergarten to save a seat for his invisible cheetah.

2. Describe the two dads – Papa and Dad. How are they the same and how are they different? How do they complement each other? Do you think they are good parents? Why?

3. The Fletcher family has all sorts of rituals and traditions such as first day of school photos and first and last day of school dinner. Why do you think the family celebrates this way?

4. Why does Frog have an imaginary friend, a cheetah? Why doesn’t his family believe him when he tells them he has a classmate named ladybug with two moms?

5. Why is Eli so miserable at the Pinnacle school?

6. Why is Mr. Nelson so grouchy? After his mother dies how does he change?

7. At Christmas time Jax wants to stay up all night waiting for Santa, but he falls asleep. The next morning Papa says, “Just as well. The closer you peer at a mystery, the further it recedes.” What does he mean by this?

8. At Sam’s play, Jax’s former best friend Henry apologizes and says maybe he could come over sometime, and Jax says ok, but realizes that he and Henry will never be the kind of friends they were before. Why do think this is so?

9. Why do you think the author started each chapter with notes, letters, etc?

10. By the end of the school year – what had changed for the Fletcher boys?
    Let’s start with Frog, then Eli, Jax and Sam

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