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The Crayon Box That Talked



Synopsis

"While walking through a toy store, the day before today, I overheard a crayon box with many things to say..." Once upon a time, Shane DeRolf wrote a poem. It was a deceptively simple poem, a charming little piece that celebrates the creation of harmony through diversity. The folks at the Ad Council heard it--and liked it so much that they made it the theme for their 1997 National Anti-Discrimination Campaign for Children. Following on the heels of nearly a year's worth of televised public service announcements, Random House is honored to publish the picture book, illustrated in every color in the crayon box by dazzling newcomer Michael Letzig and conveying the sublimely simple message that when we all work together, the results are much more interesting and colorful.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0590 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (October 21, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679886117

ISBN-13: 978-0679886112

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.3 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 149 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,370 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism](#) #2 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Reading Skills](#) #6 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Colors](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2? In this mawkish, didactic tale (a tie-in book to the TV show *The Crayon Box*), quarrelsome talking crayons learn to appreciate one another when the narrator draws with them, thus showing them how each helps create a bigger picture. The message of the book, to learn to appreciate rather than dislike other people's differences, is conveyed Limburger-strong (and just as cheesy) through the unremarkable rhyming text. The illustrator uses a cartoonish, faux-childlike

style and a cross-hatched layering technique to create pictures that are busy rather than vivid. The lack of borders and use of matte paper make them appear crammed into the pages. The colors (especially an overused Pepto-Bismol pink and a ruined-in-the-laundry white) are distracting. Skip this cloying book in favor of Patricia Hubbard's breezy *My Crayons Talk* (Holt, 1996), which gets the childlike art right and spares readers the weight of the Big Important Message.~July Siebecker, Hubbard Memorial Library, MACopyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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I made a lesson plan on this book and the third graders loved it! My 5/6 and 3/4 year old love it too- so I would say it's a good book for many age groups

Cute book with a great meaning

Gave it today, well received

just as expected

Using to set the tone for my classroom and begin a dialogue that we are all unique and have different qualities but together we make a fantastic group.

Thin paperback book. Not worth the money. As far as the story goes, important message (acceptance and getting along) but unsophisticated in the way it's told. Better books out there. Dr. Suess' *The Sneetches*, for example.

This book is great for use in schools and counseling groups. It bring home the importance of celebrating our differences and highlights the beauty of bringing them together to create a beautiful world!

The story is very cute, and easy for kids to understand. The pictures are fun, bright, and colorful. However, what I don't like is, on my Kindle, the pictures are really small. I was hoping the picture would fill the screen, like other books. I was trying to read it to a small group of kids, and the children had to pass my Kindle around to see the pictures. If the pictures were bigger I would have given it 5 stars.

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