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The Quiet Book



Synopsis

All quiet is not created equal. In this irresistibly charming picture book, many different quiet moments are captured, from the anticipation-heavy “Top of the roller coaster quiet” to the shocked-into-silence “First look at your new hairstyle quiet.” The impossibly sweet bears, rabbits, fish, birds, and iguanas are all rendered in soft pencils and colored digitally, and, as in all of the best picture books, the illustrations propel the story far beyond the words. A sure-to-be-a-classic bedtime favorite. **Awards:** 2011 ALA Notable Children’s Book, 2010–2011, New York Times bestseller, 2011 CCBC Choices, 2011 NCTE Notable Children’s Trade Book, 2010 New York Times Notable Book, 2010 Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year, 2010 School Library Journal Best Book of the Year --This text refers to the Board book edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: NP (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; None edition (April 12, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547215673

ISBN-13: 978-0547215679

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 140 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #308,964 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #136 in Books > Children’s Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Sounds #245 in Books > Children’s Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Words #1060 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Sleep

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Best Books of the Month, April 2010: Give Goodnight Moon and Goodnight Gorilla the night off and pick up this new bedtime classic. This pitch-perfect picture book by Deborah Underwood and illustrator Renata Liwska will quell the pre-bedtime crazies. With the softest of opening salvos--"There are many kinds of quiet"--the story reflects all the different peaceful

moments during the day, like "Coloring in the lines quiet," "Hide and seek quiet," and of course "Bedtime kiss quiet." The repetitive pattern of the text paired with softly colored illustrations of adorable stuffed animals is better than a lullaby. --Lauren Nemroff

Product Description There are many kinds of quiet: Quiet can be delicate. Quiet can be thundering! Quiet can be sweet, and cozy, and can most definitely help you fall asleep. With kid-centric descriptions and irresistible artwork, this gentle picture book explores all the different quiet times that can fill a child's days from morning to night.

Exclusive: Sketches from Renata Liwska, Illustrator of The Quiet Book (Click on images to enlarge)

Drawing an iguana. It can be tough making the characters look the same throughout the book. I like to do finished drawings at a coffee shop and color them later on my computer. The bunny must have turned over in between the sketch and the finished drawing. Thinking about bubble baths. A small sketchbook for a small drawing. The owl gets emotional in the final drawing. Trying to figure out how to say quiet. Some of these guys got left out of the book.

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 1 • This gentle picture book subtly explores the many different kinds of "quiet." Bears, rabbits, porcupines, mice, owls, moose, and wombats are depicted in situations that effectuate the notion of quiet throughout the daily life of a young child. For example, the "first one awake quiet" shows a rabbit doing his morning stretches. In "Right before you yell, 'SURPRISE!' quiet," three animal friends crouch behind a couch. "Making a wish quiet" presents a contemplative porcupine sitting on a stool wearing a party hat. A bear and a rabbit playing tag with the waves at the beach symbolize, "Best friends don't need to talk quiet." The soft, matte feel of the illustrations, created with pencil, are digitally enhanced, and are priceless. The animals' facial expressions and body language are endearing. White space is used creatively to emphasize the mostly gray or brown palette. All of the scenarios are child-centric and realistic. A delightful and enchanting choice for storytime or sharing one-on-one.

—Anne Beier, Hendrick Hudson Free Library, Montrose, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

This is one of my favorite picture books from 2010 and has become my new favorite gift to give for baby showers and little one's birthdays. The book encompasses the theme of quiet not only in the text, but also the design. It's a smaller than normal size picture book, with adorable little critters depicted in subdued colors, and a gentle narration of the types of quiet throughout. There is also a lot of humor to be found in the illustrations and readers who spend extra time poring over the

illustrations will have fun picking up new details. A couple people have described this book as a "lesson" book, and I think they're missing the point. This is a story that encourages observation and thoughtfulness from children. It's not an instructional book on being quiet. It can be enjoyed simply for the gentle story that it is, but it also can spur additional contemplation and discussion. (Is licking a lollipop a quiet activity for you? What are some things you do during the day that involve quiet? Do you feel different emotions during different quiet activities--maybe "concentrating" while quietly coloring a picture, "anticipation" while waiting for a concert to start.) I couldn't recommend this book more highly.

The Quiet Book is such a lovely, short read for our kids (and us parents, too). I find the artwork especially delightful; there's something about it that makes me want to live in the little world created here. We've been buying multiple copies of The Quiet Book to give as gifts to our friends with little ones. I especially recommend the padded board book version. It has a high quality, old school feel to it.

A really sweet book. You actually end up whispering when reading it out loud. I purchased the board book and the padded cover is a nice touch. It's held up well with my 11 month old "flipping" through the pages. The illustrations are adorable.

The Quiet Book is a triumph, in art and text. My kids (like most kids) have a heckuva time settling down to sleep, so we read them a book (or three) to close out the day and get them ready to sleep. Deborah Underwood's The Quiet Book has become a tradition in our household, for those nights when Curious George isn't getting them in a restful mood. I love the very quiet mood of the book... the illustrations are gentle, muted colors, but with little details that keep kids engaged, searching the illustrations for their favorite parts. When we read this book, I have enacted a 'whispers-only' rule, so the kids think it's exciting, like we're sharing a secret. Liwska's animal characters vividly (but quietly) show a lot of emotion, and I think that's what my kids respond to ("look, the porcupine is saaaaad..."). Then there's the text. The illustrations are great, but I think you need to give a lot of credit to Underwood's text in this case... she takes the concept of rhyming and a concrete plotline, and throws it right out the window. It's NOT true that text has to rhyme to engage a child, and it's NOT true that kids can't deal in abstractions. Kudos to Deborah Underwood for giving our kids credit for being smarter than a lot of authors give them credit for. That said, the book does have a plotline... But like the book, it's quiet and muted. The ultimate test of any kids book, of course, is if KIDS

actually like it. My kids love it so much that they bring it to me to be read, even when it's not bedtime. They also asked me to bring it to their school when we had a 'parents read' day. So I give The Quiet Book five stars, each of which is well-earned, in my opinion.

I bought this book for my 3 year-old granddaughter based on the reviews and suggested age levels. When the dust had settled after Christmas morning, I leafed through the book and was astounded to see I could use it with all my grandchildren ages 7 through 16. In the afternoon, we all sat down, went through each page's scenario, and talked through the emotions that the different characters could be feeling that would cause them to be "quiet". All 6 had thoughts and shared; the 16 and 13 year-olds obviously had the most input and using all the pages became somewhat tedious for them, but, overall, the time spent doing this activity was a wonderful experience as we all explored all the possibilities. To have a young child sit with this book by themselves seems to me to completely lose one of the most effective uses of the concepts presented. Being together and exploring why someone would feel quiet when two others are whispering close by is an important teaching tool about people and how to react to it. I would recommend this book to anyone with absolutely no reservations. It was not only well reasoned in its format but a thought-provoking device to discuss when to -- or not to -- be quiet.

Love this board book as well. Really unique go along with the Loud Book

Great service, arrived intact and as described.

This is a marvelous children's book. I have always loved children's literature, so have read a lot of it, from many ages. Rarely have I come across one done in such a thoughtful manner as this one. When I finished it the first time, I really stopped to ponder what else in my world am I missing out on, just because I haven't taken the time to stop and think about one idea in different contexts. I enjoyed "The Quiet Book" so much that I actually bought it and had it sent to my niece's daughter. Their whole family has enjoyed it very much. It is a delightful book to read anytime, but with its sweet pictorial style and few words, it will make a great book to alternate with Goodnight, Moon as a bedtime book. It won't be long before your favorite children will be reading it to you!!

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