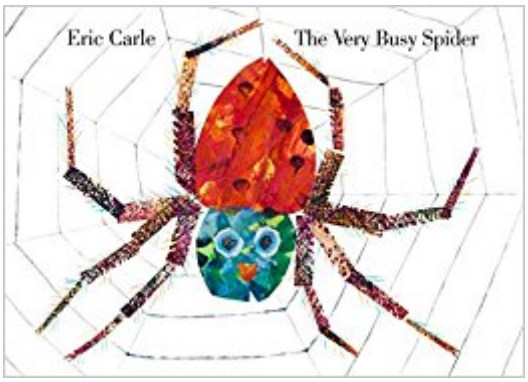
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The Very Busy Spider



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Synopsis

A VERY classic from Eric Carle, creator of The Very Hungry CaterpillarEarly one morning a little spider spins her web on a fence post. One by one, the animals of the nearby farm try to distract her, yet the busy little spider keeps diligently at her work. When she is done, she is able to show everyone that not only is her creation quite beautiful, it is also quite useful!This multi-sensory book allows children to feel the pictures as well as see them. And with its rhythmic text, The Very Busy Spider becomes an experience to touch, to see, and to hear."A beautifully executed work for the very young that satisfies the needs of both visually handicapped and sighted children without losing its artistic integrity."--The Horn Book, starred review"Both sighted and blind children will follow the action with ease . . . Visually and verbally, this is a winner."--Booklist, starred review.

Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up

Lexile Measure: 130L (What’s this?)

Board book: 32 pages

Publisher: Philomel Books; Brdbk edition (August 16, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399229191

ISBN-13: 978-0399229190

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.7 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 325 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,851 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #13 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders #82 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Customer Reviews

Every young child should be introduced to this story, as great a classic as its predecessor, The Very Hungry Caterpillar. This colorful picture book describes a spider’s day. Blown onto a farmyard fence, she starts to spin a web. The other animals ask if she wants to play, but in every case "the spider didn’t answer. She was very busy spinning her web." The book is touchable: elements including the strands of web are embossed on the pages and you can follow them with your fingertips. But the best thing by far is Carle’s familiar, yet still breathtaking skill as an illustrator. Especially in this large

11.5-by-8.5-inch format, his cow, goat, and dog (just to mention three favorites) capture the essence of each animal in a way few artists can hope to approach. (Baby to preschool) --Richard Farr --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Mice, a rottweiler, an arachnid and a few other assorted critters make sturdy reappearances in five board book versions of picture books. In Ellen Stoll Walsh's Mouse Paint, "three white mice on a white piece of paper" enjoy a colorful romp, while in Walsh's Mouse Count a similar gaggle narrowly escapes being served for dinner (Harcourt/Red Wagon, $6 each, 28p, ages 1-3 ISBN 0-15-200265-0; -200266-9 Sept.). Yet another mouse searches the animal kingdom for companionship?and finds an unexpected respondent?in Eric Carle's Do You Want to Be My Friend? (HarperFestival, $6.95, 32p, ages 2-6, ISBN 0-694-00709-9 Sept.). The rewards of industriousness are celebrated in a second Carle title, The Very Busy Spider; its embossed web brings a tactile dimension to his familiar collage artwork (Philomel, $9.95, 26p, ages 2-up ISBN 0-399-22919-1 Aug.). Finally, the canine in question is Alexandra Day's beloved Carl, who takes charge of a crew of toddlers in Carl Goes to Day Care (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, $5.95, ages 1-3 ISBN 0-374-31145-5 Sept.).Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Like a lot of people, I ordered this directly from , figuring it'd be a regular sized book, or at the very least, about the same size as the board book version of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Usually will say in the item title what version the book is, like board book, hardcover, etc. Seeing as how The Very Busy Spider here was the same price as the board book of The Very Hungry Caterpillar, I figured it'd be a board book too. Nope! Granted, the product details do tell you the measurements of the book, but shouldn't they have the decency to say this is a miniature book in the title too? Heck, why order this when you can get the paperback version for the same price through 's Used & New?Either way, this is a fairly cute book, though I don't think it's anywhere near as memorable as Eric Carle's other books like the Caterpillar, Cricket, Ladybug and Firefly books. It's about a [very busy] spider who lands on the scene one day, and just starts to spin its web. Many other animals come over and invite the spider to come with them and have fun, but the spider doesn't reply- it's too busy spinning its web. Finally a rooster asks the spider if it wants to come and chase flies, and by this point, the web's done. The spider doesn't need to reply to the rooster, because after it asks, a fly lands in the web. Story over.There's no real message or moral here that I can figure out, not that it's necessary in order to enjoy the story or anything, but where The Grouchy Ladybug is about bullying and being put in your place, all The Very Busy Spider is is a spider ignoring offers by other

animals because it wants to complete its web. Yeah, there could be the message of how important it is to stay focused and finish the job, but I'm sure there are a lot of parents out there who'd whine about the spider having bad manners or something. The art style is done in the standard Carle fashion, always a treat, and the spider's web is done in a special way on the paper so that it's risen from the page a bit and 'bumpy'.I give the book on its own 3.5 stars, but this dinky version: a tiny hardcover book with regular paper pages, not being billed as that in the title and throwing off many people, reduces the score a bit. Sure it could be a good choice to take on trips, but most kids will enjoy the illustrations better if the pages are bigger. Unless your child specifies that they want THIS version, go with the old paperback or hardcovers instead.

It was ok, I guess I missed seeing the "miniature" in the description. Was not expecting such a tiny book, it was purchased for a preschool so it is hard for the children to see at circle time.

Love this book but beware when ordering--make sure you note the actual size! Since this was a hardcover book I assumed it was the same size as the hardcover version we had owned years earlier; what arrived was a tiny, doll-sized version measuring about 3x5" that I didn't even know existed before receiving it. The special effects--the raised surface of the threads of the spider's web--were mostly lost at this size. When I went back online to determine where I'd gone wrong, I could not find any options for a larger hardcover size, or determine how to tell the difference.

I love this story, but the book is SUPER small! And it's weird because all the pages are sort of looped with blank pages in between.

A favorite and a classic. The board book style is great for baby. At 10 months she was interested in the real web we saw in the yard.

Eric Carle books are always a win for young readers. It is fun to sing the predictable part on each page.

Cute book. My little one likes the feel of the spiders web and loves the sounds the different animals makes.

This is our second time owning this book. The first time, it was given to us by our pediatrician as a

board book. My 4 year old son has loved the board book for the past year. All until the back page fell off and went missing. So here I am, getting my second copy, but this time as a paperback. This has made for a happy boy!

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