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Mr. Popper's Penguins





Synopsis

A classic of American humor, the adventures of a house painter and his brood of high-stepping penguins have delighted children for generations. "Here is a book to read aloud in groups of all ages. There is not an extra or misplaced word in the whole story."--The Horn Book. Newbery Honor Book.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 910L (What's this?) Paperback: 139 pages Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reissue edition (November 2, 1992) Language: English ISBN-10: 0316058432 ISBN-13: 978-0316058438 Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.5 inches Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) 4.6 out of 5 stars 548 customer reviews Average Customer Review: Best Sellers Rank: #2,025 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds #64 in Books > Children's Books > Classics #163 in Books > Children's Books > Humor Age Range: 7 - 9 years Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

More than 60 years have not dated this wonderfully absurd tale--it still makes kids (and parents) laugh out loud. Poor Mr. Popper isn't exactly unhappy; he just wishes he had seen something of the world before meeting Mrs. Popper and settling down. Most of all, he wishes he had seen the Poles, and spends his spare time between house-painting jobs reading all about polar explorations. Admiral Drake, in response to Mr. Popper's fan letter, sends him a penguin; life at 432 Proudfoot Avenue is never the same again. From one penguin living in the icebox, the Popper family grows to include 12 penguins, all of whom must be fed. Thus is born "Popper's Performing Penguins, First Time on Any Stage, Direct from the South Pole." Their adventures while on tour are hilarious, with numerous slapstick moments as the penguins disrupt other acts and invade hotels. Classic chapter-a-night fun. (Ages 5 to 10) --Richard Farr

Before his death in 1948, Richard Atwater was a newspaper columnist and a professor of Greek. He is best known for writing Mr. Popper's Penguins with his wife, Florence, who finished the novel when he fell ill. Together, they were honored with the 1939 Newbery Honor Award.

This is an extraordinary children's book, a real classic. Personally I did not see this edition because I sent it through internet from me in Italy to my granddaughter in Manhattan, but my daughter tells me that this is a lovely edition, illustrations and all. My own mother was an elementary (3rd grade) school teacher for close to 50 years and this, along with Stuart and Charlotte, was a favorite of hers for the class.

I loved Mr Popper. We too, had a basement when I was growing up, but I couldn't figure out how to get my parents to turn it into a skating rink! I was a dreamer, too as a kid, but I wanted to go off with Tarzan, not with Captain Cook. Children should identify also with the more practical Mrs. Popper. Who doesn't have a realist in their life? :) I especially liked seeing Mrs. Popper succumb to the penguins' charm. When I have children of my own, I will be sure and read this book to them. It is one of the funniest books in print for children and reminds me of another favorite old animal book, Dodie Smith's original version of 101 Dalmations! Both are on my "must read to my own kids" list.

Sweet story. It has been great to share it with my summer school students as we work on comprehsion.

We read a chapter each night before bed and loved every minute of it. We wish there was a sequel.

A giggle-worthy read-aloud for the whole family, both my 8 year old and my 11 year old really enjoyed this book. As a bonus, it only took us a few nights to read, so it's not a book that will take weeks to finish, although they certainly have their place in family reading hour. We read it because it is recommended by the authors of "Deconstructing Penguins" as a good choice for introducing young children to literary analysis. And it was, using the model suggested by the Goldstones, we had a nice 10-15 minute discussion of the hidden layers of this book that my boys and I both enjoyed.

I don't think we've made it past chapter 3 yet. Boys (5,7) weren't that interested.

I read this to myself as a child and remember it fondly. Read it to my son who loved it and now have read it at least five times to my 6 year old granddaughter who also loves it. The last couple of times I was a little bored but she, not at all. It is an odd story with great child appeal.

I read this book when I was a little girl, and it was one of my absolute favorites. I wanted to share it with my grandchildren of the appropriate age, so I finally purchased it. I reread it to be certain it was right for them, and I relived the experience of reading it for the first time--I'm 68 years young and still remember the story, but it was a thrill to re-read it, and I shall definitely be reading it to the younger grandchildren. It's a real winner, timeless, and holds the attention of anyone who reads it. I actually have adults who are waiting to borrow it to read because they missed out on it when they were children. It has enormous appeal, is clearly written and delightfully illustrated. A fantasy come true for Mr. Popper.

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