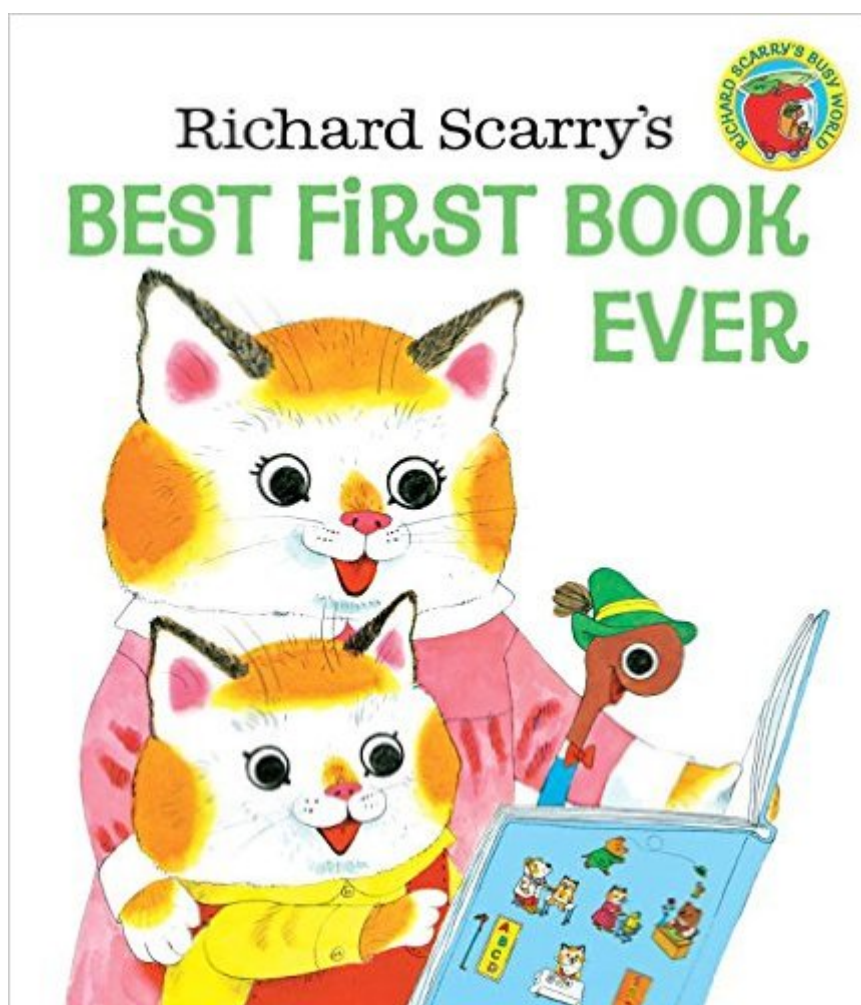


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# Richard Scarry's Best First Book Ever



## Synopsis

Illus. in full color. Favorite Scarry animal characters introduce simple learning concepts and over 700 words.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0490 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House; 1st edition (September 12, 1979)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394842502

ISBN-13: 978-0394842509

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.4 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (142 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #9,317 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Words #86 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Beginner Readers #266 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

our daughter, who is 17 months, requests this book at least once a day. she has learned many of the action words, in addition to identifying pictures. the 'scenes' organize an infant's thoughts to associate the pictures with the backgrounds. this book is outstanding.

We first saw this book at the library and of course brought it home. My two-year-old daughter loved it right away; she especially likes Huckle Cat and Lowly Worm. It is a nice big size with so much to see on each page, children are instantly captivated. Each two-page spread focuses on a different background, for example, shopping at the grocery store, going to the doctor, a cut-away of a house showing each room, a day at school, etc. One page demands that the reader turn the book lengthwise to view a blow-up of Huckle Cat, with the body parts labeled. My daughter instantly thought it was meant to be a page from a calendar, and it was her favorite page to look at. This book is fun for parents to read to their little ones--I highly recommend it!

I am a big fan of Richard Scarry's and we have a broad collection of his "Best Ever" books and videos, but this is the single item that I feel isn't done well. First of all, it is so large it's unwieldy with even one small child in your lap. But the real problem is in the layout. There are 2 kinds of pages: a single large picture that contains small items, like a large house with characters and activities within it, or a big white sheet with 40 or 50 small individual pictures crammed in. The house type are great, but regrettably few. The majority are the second, and so cluttered that it is very difficult for younger preschoolers--much less babies--to differentiate between images. The effect is a wild cacophony of confusing colors, cars, cutlery, and emotional little pigs cluttering the pages. My family much prefers Scarry's "Best Storybook Ever." Smaller (at about 10" by 7" instead of 12" by 10") but much thicker, this book is easier to manage in size and matter. I disagree with its recommendation for only slightly older children, because it still contains colors, numbers, shapes, animals, counting, manners, emotions, activities, months of the year, and the alphabet, but this time with more spacing and order. I think all it is missing from "First Book" is body parts. A collection of little storybooks about the above subjects, it has fewer and clearer concepts per page. In addition, "Storybook" also contains 82 actual character stories for the older preschooler/younger grade-schooler, as well as a good collection of Mother Goose rhymes. "Best Storybook Ever" will grow with your child, teach your child, and entertain your child much better than "Best First Book Ever" will.

This is a great book, I agree. However, it is not the best FIRST book unless your child isn't seeing any books until age 2. My daughter just turned one, and for her the pictures are still too busy. Also, it's not a board book so she can't "read" this book herself without risking the pages. I know we'll enjoy it later, but for now this book has been put away.

I got this book for my son when he was one. By the time he turned two, the book had been used so much it fell to pieces. Every night we heard "Richard Scarry book! Richard Scarry book!" I, too, grew up with Richard Scarry and remember spending hours looking at each page--there's so much to see! It is certainly a busy book, keeping little eyes busy spotting lots of everyday things while following the Cat family (and, of course, Lowly Worm) through their daily activities and adventures. Also, if your child enjoys this book, I recently got the Richard Scarry Biggest Word Book Ever (and it IS at 2 ft. tall)...this book has very similar--in places even the same--scenes as this Best First Book, but it's fun to sit on, too.

I don't agree with the reviewer that says this book is too cluttered. The book is a little big and an unsupervised toddler will destroy it quickly, but it is a fabulous, I mean FABULOUS book particularly for the price. Sure there are lots of things on each page, but I think the depth is just wonderful. The pages that are "white" with lots of things are wonderful. For example one page is a market full of different fruits and vegetables, meats, canned items, shipping carts. Another page forces you to turn the book sideways and a huge cat with all the body parts labeled takes up both pages. Another page is a doctor's office. Another page has vehicles. Another page has the alphabet. Another page is full of water craft. Another page is a farm complete with vegetable fields and several different types of machinery. Another page has the months of the year with seasonal drawings. We don't pick this book up and read it front to rear, rather we open a few random pages and marvel at Richard Scarry's mind!! I have bought over 100 children's books the last two years and this is at the top of my list. The book is packed with pages with illustrations that are up and beyond the average child's illustrated book. Richard Scarry was a wonderful artist with a keen understanding of children's minds. Every single page has between ten and thirty items in context that my child is familiar with or we have experienced. My child stares at the pages longer than any other book and seems to just love this book. I just checked the price and I can't believe how little it costs compared to the other books I've bought.

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