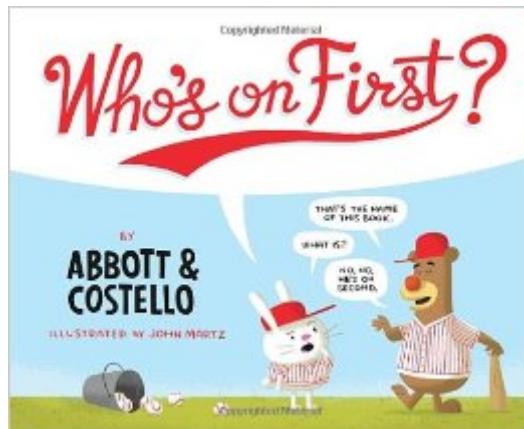


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# Who's On First?



## Synopsis

â œWhoâ™s on first. Whatâ™s on second. I Donâ™t Knowâ™s on third.â • One of the classic comedy sketches of all time is now transformed into a priceless picture bookâ "and itâ™s a great read for kids of all ages. Follow the mistaken identities, confusion, and lots of laughs as Rabbit and Bear act out this scene. The book will appeal to Abbott and Costello fans, baseball fans, and anyone who enjoys funny banter-driven picture books. Illustrated in full color with slightly retro stylized illustrations.â œThe book is stunning ~ dad and Bud would be proud!!â "Chris Costello, Daughter of Lou Costello

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0060 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Quirk Books (February 19, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1594745900

ISBN-13: 978-1594745904

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (65 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #62,503 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor > Jokes & Riddles #85 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor > General #90 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Rabbits

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

This picture book is appealing for all ages and would make a perfect Father's Day gift. Even if Father's Day has passed when you read this, John Martz's illustrated Who's on First would make a nice complement to attending a summer baseball game, perhaps especially with Grandpa. My kids and I watched one of Abbott & Costello's original 1930sÂ performances, then we read this book together. In fact, the visual aids ("Who" is a worm, "What" is a dog, "I Don't Know" is a chicken, etc.) will help kids "get" the hilarity, even while Costello (here a white rabbit) continues to be perplexed. Of course this is a shortened version of the full skit. The endpapers are boring but at least consistent with the solid pastel backgrounds throughout the book. Also would have liked a colophon

more substantial than "Printed in China."

This delightful new picture book is based on the classic comedy routine popularized by comedians Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in the 1930's. According to Wikipedia "In Abbott and Costello's version, the premise of the routine is that Abbott is identifying the players on a baseball team to Costello, but their names and nicknames can be interpreted as non-responsive answers to Costello's questions. In this context, the first baseman is named "Who"; thus, the utterance "Who's on first" is ambiguous between the question ("which person is the first baseman?") and the answer ("The name of the first baseman is 'Who'")." In this picture book, the coach, a bear, tries to explain the baseball team's lineup to the new player, a rabbit. The characters go through the routine. The pictures are simple and comic, a perfect match to the quick, spare dialogue. At the end of the book are some brief notes about the book and links to videos of the routine online. The "Who's on First" routine is truly timeless. There is nothing about it that feels dated or old fashioned. How wonderful that this classic piece of American humor is being given new life for a new generation to enjoy.

I bought a few copies of this book for nieces & nephews to read together at a family reunion. They had a good time playing the parts. It is condensed a little bit from the full sketch, leaving out the part with "When you pay the players, Who gets the money?" "Right, every dollar of it. Sometimes his wife picks it up" "Who's wife?" "Yes." There may be some other omissions I didn't catch, but if you want a book that little kids will like to read aloud, buy this. Better yet, buy a pair.

Very funny book and very well done. My kids don't like baseball and they still think this book is super funny. The illustrations are very engaging. Also, similar to the Elephant and Piggy books by Mo Willems, the book gets kids wanting to perform the parts, so it is good for early readers.

The quick version:-Comedy classic for all ages-Illustrations bring the dialogue to life for modern kids-Illustrations make the frustration of the communication and the misunderstandings more accessible than the audio or even film/video renditions.-Great gift for any child or parent. I'd give this as a baby gift to friends who are baseball and/or comedy fans. "Who's On First?" by Abbott and Costello and illustrated by John Martz takes the "best comedy sketch of the 20th century" (as declared by Time Magazine) and hits it home for the kids of the 21st century. "Who's On First?" is a classic sketch comedy bit that I had heard many times throughout my childhood and as an adult who requires captions all every TV or movie I watch, it's no surprise that this picture book edition of

that classic would appeal to me but it also appeals to my child who has auditory processing glitches as well and nearly everything he does we have to put into written, tangible form for him to really comprehend the information so he can respond to it. The illustrations are clear, concise, cheerful and the graphics are simple and bold and allow the confusion of the dialogue to be clearly mapped out and accessible. It's a joy to share this with my son and watch as he can finally appreciate the back and forth and the frustration present in other presentation formats (audio/film/video) but not completely clear to some folks with auditory challenges or folks who are very rigid and rule based and interpret things very literally. I love Who's On First now more than I did before I had this visual map of it that John Martz provides and it's pretty fantastic that it honors the brilliance of Abbott & Costello while helping a whole new generation of youngsters (and a few of us older "kids" too) to really get the joke.

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