

The book was found

The Secret Zoo



Synopsis

Something strange is happening at the Clarksville City Zoo. Late at night, monkeys are scaling the walls and searching the neighborhoodâ"but what are they looking for? Noah, his sister Megan, and their best friends, Richie and Ella, live next door to the zoo. Megan is the first to notice the puzzling behavior of some of the animals. One day Megan disappears, and her brother and their friends realize it's up to them to find her. Their only choice is to follow a series of clues and sneak into the zoo. But once inside, will they discover there's much more to the Clarksville City Zoo than they could ever have guessed?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780 (What's this?)

Series: The Secret Zoo (Book 1)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Greenwillow Books; Reprint edition (December 28, 2010)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ"Â" See all reviewsÂ" (361 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,528 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 inÂ" Books > Children's Books >

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Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Just a caution. My 11 year old was enjoying this book, until he came to this part: page 198: "...his mother fell down the stairs... [she] was hurt so badly that she couldn't move; she'd broken her legs and an arm, and she had other internal damage. Little Frederick was the only person who could help. but being so young [9] and frightened, he didn't know what to do. He simply held his mother at the bottom of the stairs and screamed. By the time they were discovered, Frederick's mother had died."I felt that was a little unnecessarily traumatic. If your child is a gentle soul, or a hero-type like mine, this may be a little disturbing. It gave him bad dreams. I would have liked to have known

about this before he started reading it, so maybe another parent will benefit from the fore-knowledge.

I am a third grade teacher who is still reading this book to my class...and we are ADDICTED to it! It is one of the best books I have read to my class in a long time. The book is filled with descriptive language, suspense, and a lot of action and adventure. My students beg me to read more and more each day. We have had a lot of great discussions and have applied the story to many of our literacy lessons...especially with vocabulary. I can only imagine that with more exposure, this book is going to be a hit. I can even see it becoming a successful movie! We are looking forward to the next book in the series!

Although this book is aimed at the 9-12 year old range I can't put it down myself! I bought it as a read-aloud for my children but have gotten so wrapped up in the characters and story line that I haven't gotten around to reading it to my kids yet. If you think the cover is beautiful wait until the experience of the mental pictures the author provides with his detailed and exquisite writing. I can't wait to pick up the book and start the next chapter! A wonderful addition to anyone's household!

I lead a book club with my son's class each year. He is in 4th grade. Our group read *The Secret Zoo* this winter. All 7 kids loved it! I assigned pages each week and they complained every week about having to wait to read on. They stopped me in the halls to discuss what they thought was going to happen next. Their story is unique and very well told. While some parents may be put off by the "missing child" in the beginning of the story, we must remember that adult imagination is far more dark than a child's imagination when it comes to that topic - it never occurred to my group that she wouldn't be found, safe and sound. They were more excited about how she would be found. The vivid descriptions get the kids started in the right direction, but then let imagination take over. The 4 heroes of the book have traits with which every kid can identify. The characters bring a lot of humor to the books, especially Ella and Richie. My son was laughing out loud at times. The resolution is intense, but the humor and quick pace keeps it from getting too frightening. The concept of the story really intrigued my group. I know when I took my son to the zoo a couple weeks after reading it, he found all sorts of potential "secret zoo" entrances. So, I have 7 kids anxiously awaiting the start of book club next year so they can find out what the Adventure Scouts are up to next. They've passed the book on to friends so my book club may be a little larger next year! Kids excited about reading - isn't that every parent's dream?! FYI - I also read *The Secret Zoo* aloud to my 1st grader and she

loved it, too!

This was a great read! This adventure series seems like it will be as good as or even better than the Narnia series. I can't wait for the next one! It captured your attention from the beginning to end and is perfect for boys or girls. I ended up buying several more copies as gifts for my nephews and Godchild.

The Secret Zoo is a fun read for the whole family. I first purchased it as an audiobook that my family listened to on a road trip, and we loved it. Fantasy is not my favorite genre, especially for children's literature...and not for my kids either, who prefer action/outdoor adventure books. This story has enough elements of mystery and adventure that we were all able to get past the idea that's its completely unrealistic. I guess that's what fantasy is all about, which is why I don't generally choose it. We dreaded our gas stops because we didn't want to stop, and my husband made us pause it when he would go in so he didn't miss anything. We liked it enough to come home and pre-order the sequel, hopefully we'll like it as well. My eight year old wants to dive right in, but we will probably read it as a family as well, since it's a tough read for the younger kids. I gave 4 stars only because some of the magical elements in the book are pretty far fetched, with no plausible basis in the real world, but if this doesn't bother you, and even if it does, it's definitely worth a try.

I got this book for my 8 year old daughter with intentions of reading it out loud to her. The trouble is, when she goes to bed or school I find myself reading ahead to see what happens next! This story really pulls you in and makes you want to know what happens next. I'm ready for the next book in this series!

This book picks up just days after the first book ends. My grandson and I read it right after the first and enjoyed it almost as much as we enjoyed the first book. This time we were familiar with the characters, so it made it faster reading and that was a disadvantage as we now have to wait until June before we can follow the adventure into the fantasy zoo again. I already have our reservation in with to get the next book.

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