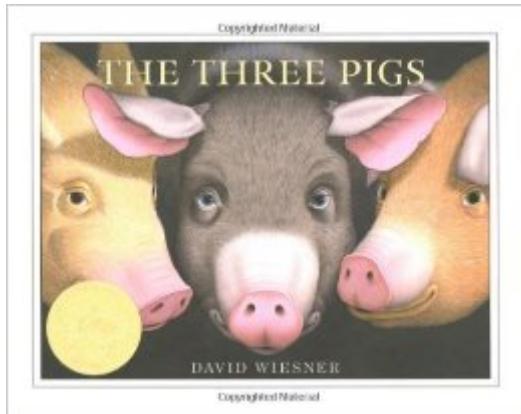


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# The Three Pigs



## Synopsis

This Caldecott Medal-winning picture book begins placidly (and familiarly) enough, with three pigs collecting materials and going off to build houses of straw, sticks, and bricks. But the wolf's huffing and puffing blows the first pig right out of the story . . . and into the realm of pure imagination. The transition signals the start of a freewheeling adventure with characteristic David Wiesner effects—“cinematic flow, astonishing shifts of perspective, and sly humor, as well as episodes of flight. Satisfying both as a story and as an exploration of the nature of story, *The Three Pigs* takes visual narrative to a new level. Dialogue balloons, text excerpts, and a wide variety of illustration styles guide the reader through a dazzling fantasy universe to the surprising and happy ending. Fans of *Tuesday*'s frogs and *Sector 7*'s clouds will be captivated by old friends—the Three Pigs of nursery fame and their companions—in a new guise.

## Book Information

Series: Caldecott Medal Book

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Clarion Books (April 23, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618007016

ISBN-13: 978-0618007011

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 11.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (171 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #19,226 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves #82 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pigs #407 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I always thought of David Wiesner as the Magritte of the children's picture book world. Now, having read his delightful, "The Three Pigs", I see that he's far more innovative than I'd suspected. If this book had been proposed to a book editor, say, twenty years ago it probably would have been discarded as an idea that was "too sophisticated" for schoolchildren. I mean, prior to "The Three Pigs" what other book has ever dared to challenge the notion of the fourth wall? Mr. Wiesner's

delightfully post-modern picture book is possibly one of the most intelligent stories you may ever read to your kids. And best of all, they'll love it. Deeply. I think we're all familiar with the story of the three little pigs. Three pigs build houses of their own. The first is made of straw, the second of sticks, and the third of bricks. Then a big bad wolf comes along and blows the first house down. And that's when things start to get interesting. Instead of eating the pig (as the text instructs) the wolf is baffled to find the pig gone. In fact, Pig #1 has inadvertently been blown into the white margins of his own story. Able now to travel freely around the static pictures of his tale, Pig #1 has his two brothers join him in the margins. They construct one of the story's pictures into a paper airplane and fly it about. They walk in and out of other stories, making new friends along the way. Finally, it's time to return home and the pigs know the perfect way to make their tale have a happy ending. First of all, this is a great way to get kids to question the very basic construction of all stories. If these pigs can escape their own fate, why not characters in other picture books as well? Wiesner has cleverly eschewed the idea of having the pigs appearing the same at all times.

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