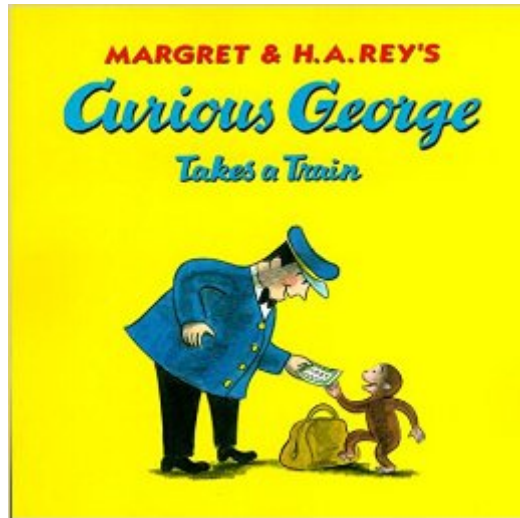


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Curious George Takes A Train



Synopsis

Curious George heads to the train station to take a trip with the Man with the Yellow Hat, but when he tries to help out the station master, he gets himself into trouble. George finds himself a hiding place^{#151};only to discover that his help is really needed when a little boy'sTM toy train is about to fall onto the tracks. NEW on inside and back covers: connect-the-dots, fun facts, and telling time activities.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD360L (What's this?)

Series: Curious George

Paperback: 24 pages

Publisher: HMH Books (October 28, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618065679

ISBN-13: 978-0618065677

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars[^] [^] See all reviews[^] (50 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,452 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in[^] Books > Children's Books >

Animals > Apes & Monkeys #732 in[^] Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure #762

in[^] Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

My son LOVES trains, and he also loved the Curious George movie. He has several of the books based on the Rey's style, and the PS2 Curious George game. Curious George Takes a Train is the first George book I've bought "sight unseen" (from .com). However, since my son loves both trains and George, I felt it was a great fit. Granted, my son seems to like the book. Out of the four books illustrated/written in the Rey tradition, my son owns three by Martha Weston. The other--Curious George Goes to a Chocolate Factory--is illustrated by Vipah Interactive. Weston is heavy on the black charcoal as it is (as seen in the shadowing of books like Curious George Visits a Toy Store), but she is *especially* heavy with the black illustrations in Curious George Takes a Train. In fact, it often looks as if a child has taken a black crayon and (no lie) colored vertical streaks of black right

on top of the people! It's very unattractive, in my opinion, but kids don't seem to notice these types of things. I also felt that the story was a bit harrowing for a George tale (a little boy runs from his father after a toy train, the gate closes behind him, and the boy almost goes out in front of the tracks--but George saves his life.) The story is a bit quick...it goes from the Man with the Yellow Hat strolling off with Mrs. Needleman in the station to George climbing up and messing with the numbers and letters on the train schedule--and then off to saving the boy! If your child is a train enthusiast who likes George, he/she will likely enjoy this book. However, as far as stories go--and illustrations--there are better books in this series, in my opinion.

Curious George, Margret & H. A. Rey's loveable monkey (Technically he's a Chimpanzee but we won't quibble too much) has received a series of new stories but in the same structure and style of the original. In these stories, George is a good monkey who tries to be helpful but allows his curiosity to cause problems. In the end however, George saves the day and all is forgiven. In this story, George, along with the Man in the Yellow Hat, is going on a train trip, causes problems in the station and then prevents a small boy from falling on the tracks. In the end, George and his new friend the small boy receive a ride in the locomotive. (I hope they brought earplugs.) My mother taught me to read with Curious George and the Man with the Yellow Hat more than 30 years ago and it is good to see new stories for the cheeky little fellow. This story does not have quite the touch of the original but is very close. A good story with a good lesson and highly recommended.

The whole Curious George series has been a favorite of my kids. From very early on, we started reading them to them, and the older they got, the more there was to learn and understand from the books and the pictures. Some reviewers have complained that these are not the original Curious George books or that the plot is very repetitive. While these are not the originals, my kids do not seem to mind, and I don't think they are "worse" than the originals, just slightly different if at all. The plot is repetitive but that is because George is always getting into trouble so you have the same pattern--he gets curious, he does something naughty, something bad happens, then something good comes out of the bad event, and then everyone is happy and George is usually a hero. This does not bother me in the least. My kids find his adventures interesting and never get bored with that "plot." To them, it is funny and what makes Curious George funny. Sure, if this was an adult book then the repetition might be problematic but thankfully it is not an adult book! The illustrations are nice and detailed and provide a lot of material for my kids to look at while I read the story to them. The quality of the pages is good and it's nice that there is sometimes stickers or a little activity

in the back, though truthfully my kids have never cared for them much. I like that there are many of these books because my kids become familiar with George and the concept of series, and can distinguish one book in the series from another and even have favorites. I really don't think you can go wrong with these books. I don't know many other kids that don't like these. They are a good investment!

This is part of a large series of Curious George books done "in the style" of the originals by Margret & H.A. Ray. Most are very good - sometimes even better than the originals, in my opinion. "Takes a Train" is not a bad book - it looks good and reads well - but for a 2 year old who loves trains, this book has (almost) no trains in it! We don't really see any trains, inside or out, only the station and platform, and it's not that interesting. The book should be called, "Curious George Pokes Around a Train Station". Unless you've spent time in a large Amtrak station, kids probably won't understand the schedule board, and definitely won't understand why a man is manually swapping out letters and numbers. Then it's off to the train platform where George keeps a little boy from falling on the tracks. Yikes! Good safety lesson, I suppose, but not very fun. And what's with the random Mrs. Needleman? She has no lines, then disappears with the Man in the Yellow Hat for the entire book.

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