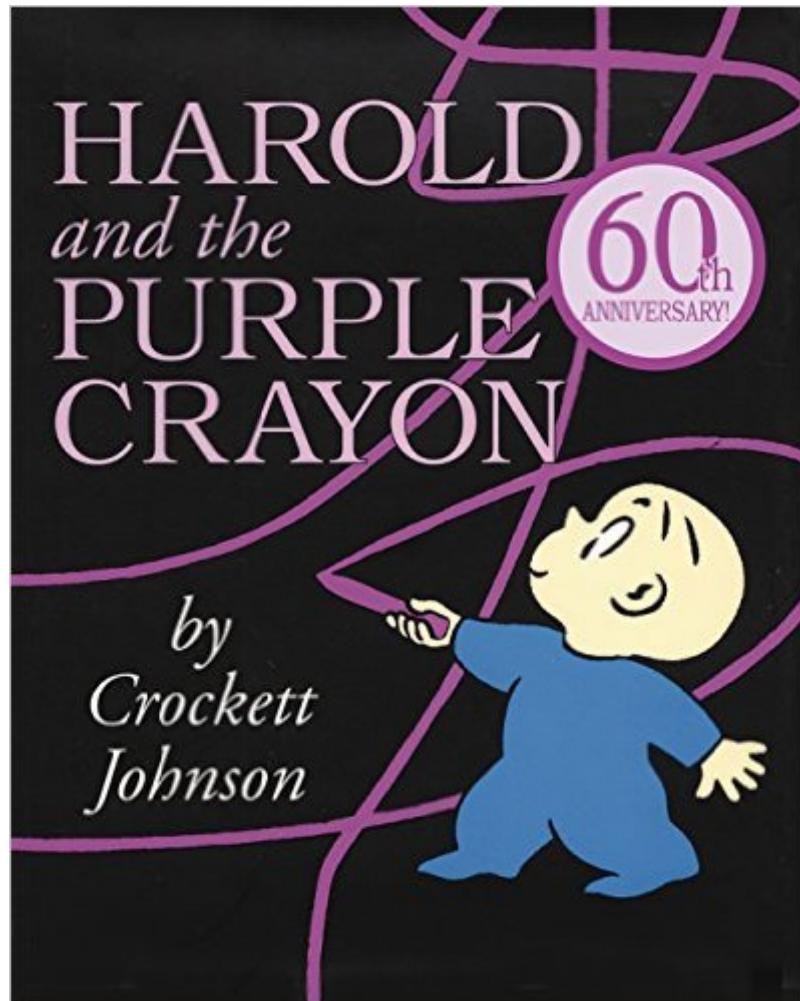


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Harold And The Purple Crayon (Purple Crayon Books)



Synopsis

Share this timeless classic with a new generation of readers!"One evening, after thinking it over for some time, Harold decided to go for a walk in the moonlight."Armed only with an oversized purple crayon, young Harold draws himself a landscape full of wonder and excitement.Full of funny twists and surprises, this joyful story shows just how far your imagination can take you. Harold and the Purple Crayon has delighted readers of all ages since 1955.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490 (What's this?)

Series: Purple Crayon Books

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins (September 29, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064430227

ISBN-13: 978-0064430227

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 6 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (836 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,178 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books #36 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

This splendid little book starts with the protagonist, Harold, "...thinking it over for some time" and deciding to go for a walk in the moonlight.This may seem unremarkable, but it is not.There is no moon. There is nothing to walk on. There is nowhere to go.For the only things that are real are Harold and the purple crayon. Otherwise, the universe in which he finds himself is apparently empty; nothing else is present. But what does nothing look like? It looks like nothing - a blank sheet of paper. But that kind of nothing is just exactly what is needed when what one is holding in one's hand is a purple crayon. And so the adventure gets underway.The first thing Harold does on setting out is draw a horizontal line.This may seem unimportant, but it is not.For what he has drawn is the horizon, and this means that now he is standing on the ground. He can walk on it too...Next he draws the moon (necessary if the walk is indeed to be in the moonlight). Harold draws it above the

horizon - this means that it is in the sky. Now there is a reference point for height, and a world of three dimensions has come into being. Off he goes, drawing a path, a forest (with only one tree so he won't get lost in it) and a dragon to guard the apples that are growing in the tree. Here the creator encounters unintended consequences, as the dragon that he has wrought is so fearsome as to frighten even him. Harold backs away, his hand shaking, inadvertently drawing a wavy line as he goes. The wavy line traces out waves, and before he knows it, Harold is underwater in an ocean. He rescues himself by drawing a boat and makes his way to an unknown distant shore.

Most people remember Harold and the Purple Crayon, and won't need to read reviews before buying this for their kids. If you somehow didn't read the Harold books when you were young, you will read many other reviews that say they are great books that have stood the test of time, I agree. The story is simple and easy to follow, the illustrations are equally simple, but the story grabs kids' attention. There is something magical about Harold and his adventures, as he draws various things, they become real. It is the magic that sparkles in every child's mind, imagination. Harold is also plucky and resourceful, when he accidentally draws an ocean and falls in, or accidentally leaves a mountain unfinished and falls off, he doesn't panic, but thinks a way out and draws a boat and a hot air balloon to climb into. What a guy! The story is often humorous, a big plus with kids, but not overly so. It has a quiet and calm feel to it, and that combined with the fact that Harold gets tired and goes to bed in the end makes it a wonderful bedtime book. It is also great for young readers (probably Level 2), the words are for the most part short and not too hard. My daughter is a slow reader and has only been reading on her own for about 6 or 7 months and she read this with almost no help, I only had to guide her through a few difficult words. It is a lot of pages for a young reader, but since there is only one or two sentences per page, the story isn't that long. The book also appeals to a wide range of ages, it keeps the attention of my three year old, but doesn't seem like a baby book for my ten year old. I think it stems from the fact that, even though the story is so simple it never once talks down. Adults will also appreciate Harold, even those who don't look on him with fond memories.

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