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Snow Happy!



Synopsis

Waking up to a snow-covered world, children dash outdoors: "We're silly-willy-
laughy, feeling slightly daffy, leaping through the snow." Snow Happy! Follow
along as they playfully romp through the freshly-fallen snow: sledding, shoveling, making snow
angels, and throwing snowballs. Even the woodland animals are taking part in the winter fun! At
the end of a satisfying day, the children go home to shed wet clothes and enjoy hot cocoa by the
fire, tired yet exhilarated. It's what every snowy day should be!

Book Information

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Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 1 A rollicking verse about the joys of playing in the snow. Lively children and their parents and grandparents enjoy a day of sledding, making snow angels, building igloos, even shoveling. Hubbell's meter is bouncy, and many of her rhymes have a Seussian feel. The short text and the "Snow Happy!" refrain make the book a good choice as an interactive read-aloud. The artwork matches the upbeat mood of the text. It is always a challenge to depict snow scenes because of the prevalence of the color white, but Nakata accomplishes it admirably. She uses pale pastel washes for the backgrounds and bright colors for the children's clothing and for the little forest animals. The simple watercolor characters are full of activity. No one ever stands still or rests until the final spread where they are all tucked up in front of the fire. Large, informal

fonts weave through the illustrations, adding to the energy of the story. This is a good companion book to Hubbell's *Hurray for Spring!* (NorthWord, 2005) but the art and poetic style give it even more zip than the earlier title. Donna Cardon, Provo City Library, UT © Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

A little girl and her brother, ecstatic from the moment they peek out the window and see fresh snow, head outdoors to play. They join the neighborhood kids, first sliding downhill on skis and sleds, then throwing snowballs. They help their father shovel the sidewalk before making a snowman, an igloo, and angels. Sharing hot cocoa indoors caps off the family's happy winter day. Written in the first person from the children's point of view, each short, bouncy stanza of the rhyming text ends in the words "Snow Happy!" until the last line shifts to "So Happy!" Nakata's airy, expressive ink, watercolor, and gouache illustrations reflect the buoyant spirit of Hubbell's verse. The snow-white backgrounds and the playful figures of excited children and dogs fill the pages with light, energy, and joy. A carefree, childlike celebration of a snowy day. Preschool-Grade 1. --Carolyn Phelan

Okay, I may be influenced by the fact that I LOVE winter, but my 3-year-old granddaughter LOVES this book, especially since we read it to her with great expression and comment about the illustrations WHICH ARE FABULOUS water color paintings. There is so much going on in the pictures that it would be senseless to not discuss them, like the squirrels participating in the snowball fights or the birdies making snow angels. We once read this story 10 times during one overnight visit, and we read it all during the summer so she won't forget what snow is like. (We're in Michigan.) I also bought one of these for her house. Probably wouldn't make much sense to a little one who has never experienced snow.

Received as promised in new condition. Nice story and great illustrations. Looking forward to sharing it with my Grand-kids.

Very cute illustrations! That's why I purchased the book actually. The book goes through with all the fun things you can do as kids in the snow and being happy even though you many be wet and cold you can still be positive and happy. Having fun in the snow.

What a cheerful book about winter! I love Pat Hubbell's poetry so bought this on pre-order. It's just

delightful. The illustrations are lively and elegant. Children will love to join in on the refrain "Snow Happy!"

I recently bought this for my 19 month old while at a children's bookstore, mostly because it featured a snowman on the front, and she is VERY into snowmen right now. (It is, after all, January in Boston, where we live!) I thought the illustrations on the front were cute, and so did she, so I bought it, without even reading the text inside, which is unusual for me, because I tend to be very picky about children's book purchases. I read it to her the minute we got home, and she really likes it. She has recently become interested in some "bigger" kids' books, mixed in with her little board books, so I try to find some with simpler, shorter language, and beautiful illustrations. This fits the bill perfectly. For a toddler discovering the winter weather and what it entails, it is fun to see the illustrator detail all of the positive aspects of the snow we have piled up on our streets, and all of the fun that can be had in it. As for the words, I have to say, I don't LOVE the refrain "snow happy" (instead of "so happy"), because the play on words is something that I don't think my daughter really gets. But, she will get them eventually, and the words are simple and cute. This is a wonderful "wintertime" treat-- a great book to give as a gift for the holidays, or a winter birthday or Valentine's day. Good purchase. Another book that we both love, in a similar vein (rain instead of snow, simple language, beautiful illustrations) is "Raindrop, Plop!" by Wendy Cheyette Lewison. Also a very cozy book.

This is a story time natural! Illustrations with lots of movement, spare text told in a great rhythm, and a repeating refrain that all the kids can join in on. What more can you ask for? The author does a great job in creating that natural read aloud flow and including all the stuff that's best about winter; from building snowmen, snowball fights, to the hot chocolate when you are done playing. The rhymes are excellent and never forced, and it won't take much convincing before you will have kids shouting just how Snow Happy they are. A great choice for any preschool story time group.

Recommended.

The students liked it, rhymes provided language discussion. Colorful and well illustrated.

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