



Harold's ABC

Crockett Johnson

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From the creator of the treasured children's book *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, Crockett Johnson, comes another adventure for Harold and his magical purple crayon.

Harold is going on an alphabet adventure from A to Z with his trusty purple crayon! This imaginative classic story is just right for little ones learning their ABCs.

"A unique kind of ABC book." (*The Horn Book*)

Harold's ABC Details

Date : Published May 20th 1981 by HarperCollins (first published 1963)

ISBN : 9780064430234

Author : Crockett Johnson

Format : Paperback 64 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction, Art, Adventure

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From Reader Review Harold's ABC for online ebook

Rachel B. says

I hate to give Harold a low rating because I love the imagination of this entire series of books. However, as a board book (which is what we brought home from the library), there were too many words per page to keep my toddler's attention for an entire reading in one sitting.

Kristen says

A fun A to Z imaginative adventure with simple line drawings. Best part? Finding the hidden letters along the way. As we read the story, we also focused on alphabetization (since his story goes in order from A to Z).

midnightfaerie says

We first fell in love with Harold and his purple crayon quite by accident. And then from that point on, I was on the lookout for some more Harold books to add to our collection. Let me tell you, they're not easy to find. I finally found this one at the halfprice bookstore, one of my favorite used books stores, smashed in between some other books on the top children's shelf, after the cashier had told me there weren't any Crockett Johnson books to be found in the store. Imagine my delight when the price turned out to be \$1.00!

I'm taking a break from the library, having decided to start reading the books we own, and this is one of them. All three of my children loves Harold! The idea of a child drawing a picture that he becomes a part of is not a new idea. There have been many I'm told, but one in particular that I remember is Simon from Romper Room, I believe. Anyone remember this song?

"Well you know my name is Simon,
And the things I draw come true,
Oh the pictures take me take me take me over..
to climb the ladder with you...."

Come on, you know that's gonna be stuck in your head all day if you know the song. Anyway, it's a brilliant idea. And one that never gets old for children. The fact that there's an added bonus of learning the alphabet for this one, makes me, as a parent like it even more. And the fact that it's educational eludes my preschoolers, as they enjoy shouting out the letter on the page before their brother. Overall it's a win win for us.

Abigail says

Harold explores the alphabet in this seventh and final story devoted to his crayon-created adventures, using each letter as a step in his imaginative game. From "A for Attic" to "Z for Zzzl" (or "little snore"), Harold incorporates each letter into his drawings, and into his story, giving the book more of an organic feeling than many other alphabet offerings. Setting out from home, he encounters everything from a giant to a witch, rides airplanes, lightning and kites, and eventually winds up (where else?) back home again...

I really enjoyed Harold's ABC, which marks the end of my recent Harold project. I never read Harold and the Purple Crayon or any of its sequels as a girl, so I am very glad to have finally become acquainted with this creative toddler and his crayon-fueled play. As with its predecessors, I appreciated the depiction of Harold's imaginative world, and the strength of his creative process. I was particularly impressed here by the way the letters were incorporated into the story and the artwork. A well done alphabet book, and a fitting conclusion to a brilliant series of tales!

Kenneth says

Wordy for an ABC book. The hunt for letters in the illustrations was fun.

Shabana Mukhtar says

Ok, so I am hooked to this. Perhaps, it will give me a lot of stories to tell my nephews when I visit home for new year celebrations.

I love the drawing. How each letter is turned into a drawing is very clever.

Meagan West says

Great!

Great addition to the Harold collection. The letters of the alphabet are creatively added to a wonderful, imaginative story. Great for all kids.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Harold's ABC (Harold #7), Crockett Johnson

Min says

This is my favorite thus far, of the series. The playful creativity is clever. He spends more than one page per letter to keep the flow of the story, illustrating each word associated with the letter with the shape of the letter being Incorporated Into the image; tangible, or not. I is for Idea, as an exclamation point, O for Our (Earth).

He travels to the Moon, meeting Queen Urania, and Uranus along the way.
The copy I read had been colored-in pages which only seemed right.

Sarah Sammis says

In Harold's ABC, Harold can't sleep and he goes on a nighttime walk with his trusty purple crayon. As he walks he works his way through the alphabet from A to Z.

As his journey progresses his creativity gets the best of him. Soon he finds himself lost and eventually he's on the moon. Thankfully some quick thinking and one last bit of creativity will see him home and in bed sound a sleep.

As a child I liked seeing how Harold's night time world grew out of the letters of the alphabet. The page that sticks with me most is the city filled with skyscrapers, all made with E shaped windows.

Now that Harriet's a little older, she has also discovered the Harold books. She likes to see how he builds things from the letters. Sometimes I can hear her giving a running commentary of what Harold is doing. It's cute to listen to.

Shraddha Kapadia says

Johnson, Crockett. *Harold's ABC* (1963). Harper & Row Publishers.

It is an alphabet concept book about a boy names Harold who decides he want to go out on an adventurer through the alphabet from A-Z. with this purple crayon. To go from letter to letter he uses is crayons to draw on, in, or to letters to create new pictures that match the letter such drawing lines on to the letter K to make a kite.

This is a creative trip through the alphabet. It is a good book to read to someone as most preschoolers and kindergartners would have difficulty reading it on their own. Though this book makes for a good read a loud its sheer size makes it good for reading to one student or a small group. The there is a lot of text for a young audience and I can imagine toddlers squirming or getting the wiggles while listening to this story as it may be a lot of their attention spans and to sit through. The illustrations are clean and at times appear as though it would be something a child would draw. It simple in its use of color black for the alphabet letters and the drawing Harold adds on in purple. The simplicity of the illustrations makes it easy for young readers identify the alphabet letter and differentiate it from the full drawing.

Target audience: Preschool - Kindergarten.

Though I personally would not use this in my classroom, I can understand the appeal to use at home with a child of my own.

Donna Mork says

An ABC book by Harold. He draws his world and adventures with letters of the alphabet.

Maddison Askew says

Harold's ABC book is an excellent book to read to children in kindergarten. This book takes you on an alphabet adventure with Harold starting from letters A to Z. This book includes pictures that go along with the given letter. You could use this in the classroom by giving each student a letter and having them draw something that starts with that letter.

Sonya Feher says

Associative leaps from rhinoceros to sea serpent as a means of traveling through the alphabet and the storyline. Integrating the brown letters into the purple illustrations allows the alphabet to be distinct enough that this book could be used as a teaching tool and connected in a way that makes one aware of how the drawings themselves are being made. I like that the story is a commentary on its own making. My son uses the book for object recognition practice.

Monica says

Great!

My 1 year-old and I both loved this book. It was quick and fun and very creative. I highly recommend it.
