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The Black Book Of Colors



Synopsis

Living with the use of one's eyes can make imagining blindness difficult, but this innovative title invites readers to imagine living without sight through remarkable illustrations done with raised lines and descriptions of colors based on imagery. Braille letters accompany the illustrations and a full Braille alphabet offers sighted readers help reading along with their fingers. This extraordinary title gives young readers the ability to experience the world in a new way.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 24 pages

Publisher: Groundwood Books (June 28, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0888998732

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 11.2 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #101,029 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #183 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs

Age Range: 5 - 10 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 8 "With entirely black pages and a bold white text, this is not your typical color book. Meant to be experienced with the fingers instead of the eyes, this extraordinary book allows sighted readers to experience colors the way blind people do: through the other senses. The text, in both print and Braille, presents colors through touch (yellow is "as soft as a baby chick's feathers"), taste (red "as sweet as watermelon"), smell ("green smells like grass that's just been cut"), and sound (brown "crunches like fall leaves"). FarÃ- a's distinctive illustrations present black shapes embossed on a black background for readers to feel instead of see. One page even describes a rainbow. A guide to the Braille alphabet appears at the end of the book. Fascinating, beautifully designed, and possessing broad child appeal, this book belongs on the shelves of every school or public library committed to promoting disability awareness and accessibility. A feast for the fingers." Kathleen Kelly MacMillan, Carroll County Public Library, MD

Starred Review How do you describe the colors of the rainbow to someone who cannot see them?

This inventive picture book relates the ways Thomas experiences colors "through his senses of smell, taste, touch, and hearing. To Thomas, red is the sting of a skinned knee or the tartness of an unripe strawberry; green, the scent of freshly mown grass. What is most remarkable about this book's captivating concept, however, is its execution. Black raised line art is set against black pages that echo Thomas's spirited imagery and invite readers to explore what it's like to read with their fingertips. The descriptive, sensory text, which also incorporates white type and Braille, combined with an innovative design, makes this book the perfect starting point for discussions on difference, perspective, and experiencing and describing the world in new ways, topics that are relevant to readers of all ages. Winner of the New Horizons Prize at the 2007 Bologna Children's Book Fair and originally published in Spanish, the book concludes with a Braille alphabet. Grades K-3. --Kristen McKulski

He didn't really like the book that much because it was hard to read with his fingers. The bumps and details were too flat to feel. Also the way it describes things doesn't really help explain what they look like... Sorry, to critical?

I state the reasons why I bought the book and why I think the book is meant for sighted readers only. I also place the book against a strong source of light so you can see the difference between the braille in the book and other sources in which the patterns can be easily felt.

Plan to use this awesome book to increase my students' awareness of blindness. This book shares a blind person's interpretations of colors and what they mean to him. Text is in both print and braille form. Pictures are raised so a blind child can feel the shape of the pictures and sighted children can feel what this would be like for a blind child. My description is not doing this book justice. I LOVE IT!

The concept was fabulous and the words were perfect. I just wish that the braille/raised images were suitable for vision impaired readers. I understand that publication cost was an issue, but don't think that the experience was as authentic a tactile experience as it could have been for sighted readers.

yes, my daughter needed it for a school project on Helen Keller, and we used it as a prop, so the kiddos could feel how blind people read. got it in a very timely manner, as well :-)

I was so excited when I found that I could order this book from , but when I received it, the book was tightly sealed in plastic. The braille has been flattened. I am very disappointed that my blind students will not be able to read this book. Books that contain braille should never be tightly shrink wrapped. I will look into sending the book back but if the replacement comes the same way it will arrive ruined also.

I really like the concept of this book: that the image is subtle, yet you can feel it more with your fingers, however, you can hardly feel anything. The image/words could have been flocked or anything other than what they used. It is a shame it wasn't done really well, because I like the idea.

Great book. It promotes lots of thought and conversation. My 31 yr.old son (who is blind) liked it.

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