



Where's the Elephant?

Barroux

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A simple game of hide-and-seek takes on a new dimension as a growing city encroaches on the jungle the animals call home.

Where's the elephant? Where's the parrot? Where's the snake? And wait a minute — where are all the trees? Where will the elephant, parrot, and snake go now? A vibrant landscape in flux with three hidden animals on each spread offers parents and children an opportunity to talk about urban development and animal habitats.

Where's the Elephant? Details

Date : Published March 8th 2016 by Candlewick Press (first published February 1st 2015)

ISBN : 9780763681104

Author : Barroux

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Environment, Nature

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From Reader Review Where's the Elephant? for online ebook

Viviane Elbee says

This nearly wordless, interactive book is a great conversation starter about deforestation.

Though the storyline is based on true deforestation consequences, the art and the ending are fun and fictitious.

Kids really enjoyed looking for the animals and commenting on what was happening in the pictures.

Elizabeth says

This picture book a great way explain deforestation to children.

Nancy Kotkin says

Story concept: 5 stars

Art: 3 stars

This is clearly a picture book with an agenda, but readers can forgive that because the message is an important one and the creator conveys it so cleverly. Using the seek-and-find format, Barroux shows readers the effects of deforestation, and how our man-made lifestyle encroaches on natural environments and displaces other species. Ending is a bit rushed. Almost wordless, the illustrations perform most of the work. Animals are not drawn to scale. But I adore the elephant who brings all his friends with him, including the tree, to their new home. Brilliant!

Edward Sullivan says

Inspired by the mass deforestation the author/illustrator witnessed in Brazil, this nearly wordless picture book poignantly demonstrates the devastating effects of deforestation. A simple but powerful environmental message.

Columbus says

The future reader enjoys books when he has to find people or objects among other things. In this book he had to locate an elephant, parrot and snake amongst trees. It got easier along the way as the number of trees decreased. Quite colorful and fun.

Brittany says

WOW THOUGH.

A book of beautiful illustrations, that is a search and find, is basically wordless, whose message is clear and strong and important and non-didactic and WOW THOUGH.

Erin Murray says

This is a truly heartbreakingly wordless picture book. The transition from the illustrations on one page to another, was mind-blowing. Although one of the initial pages has a few words on, the rest of this book I consider to be wordless. The text is about the life of an elephant through the process of deforestation in its natural habitat. Considering in the title it's only the elephant that gets mentioned, after reading it a second time I noticed that there was an elephant, parrot and snake on every page...with almost a 'Where's Wally' feel to it as with every illustration the elephant gets easier to find. It's distressing to see the change in environment from one page where the elephant is in the forest, to the next when it's held captive in a zoo.

Barroux at the end of the book mentions that his inspiration for this text arose from a trip to Brazil, where he witnessed mass deforestation for himself. This is a very powerful book to get the message across that because of some human actions, deforestation is rapidly increasing.

It would be a good book to use to introduce children to environmental issues. However, I definitely think this is for the older children as it's highly emotional. I felt so much empathy for the elephant as the story progressed. There were slight elements of humour on a few pages which eased the emotional factor of the book, but it was still an emotional rollercoaster throughout. Younger readers could get distressed by the book slightly so I would say it's more appropriate for KS2.

Sarri says

[ja tosi masentava (hide spoiler)]

Charlie says

This book was honestly heart breaking and funny at the same time! Such a simple book with such stunning pictures and a powerful message. It's a great way to introduce the complex issue of deforestation. As a reader you feel so much empathy for the poor elephant and go through such an emotional roller coaster with each page.

Rory Wise says

A simple demonstration of the effects of deforestation. Would be an excellent stimulus of conversation due to its nature, as a picture-book, and the thought provoking topic which it broaches.

Lizzie says

An easily accessible and gentle introduction to deforestation for young ones, incorporating colourful designs and a 'find the animal' gaming element to it. The animal names also lend themselves to learning initial sounds (p, p, p, s, s, s). This is a really great cross-curricular resource for extended questioning about how the animals might feel about losing their homes, why the forest might be an important place for the animals, or why the forest might be getting smaller.

The book itself is sourced from sustainable forests, and includes a brief history from the author. A really easy and approachable tool to use with EYFS and KS1.

Christina Reid says

A wordless picture book which shows the effects of deforestation in a visual way - each page asks children to find the elephant, snake and parrot. As trees begin to be cut down and houses are built, the area in which the animals can hide gets smaller and smaller, making them easier to find...until finally they are confined in a zoo and surrounded by roads and buildings.

Definitely an interesting discussion starter with your child or when teaching in primary school. I will be adding this to my box of books read with the children when discussing environmental issues and encouraging them to become stewards of the natural world.

Eleanor Abbott says

An interesting and unique wordless picture book that powerfully portrays the message of deforestation. The transition between pages and subtle change of environment is so sad but true. This book is also physically beautiful as the pages come from sustainable forests. I find it particularly interesting that Barroux found his inspiration from "Where's Wally?" and developed this to represent the global topic of deforestation. This could be a nice starting point to get a class or groups of children to represent a current issue or something that interests them in a similar way by recreating their own version of drawings.

Christiane says

This is one of those picture books you want to read before you share it with your child and have to explain deforestation, loss of habitat, and extinction. The book has cheerful, colorful illustrations that depict a jungle slowly being destroyed by approaching civilization. Where will elephant, and parrot and snake go? An important book to share with young readers.

Cris Ingram says

Really love this book. Very vivid colors and the illustrations are realistic. You have to find the elephant, parrot and snake throughout the whole book. More and more houses are built on each page and the trees are being cut down, till the trio take the last green tree and take a boat to an island and then you start the book over again.
