



Mrs. McTats and Her Houseful of Cats

Alyssa Satin Capucilli, Joan Rankin (Illustrator)

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Mrs. McTats loves cats -- and they love her too! At first Mrs. McTats has only one cat, Abner, but quickly finds herself in a house *bursting* with twenty-five! She names each one with a different letter of the alphabet, but stops short at Z. Then there's a scratch on the door. Surprise! Mrs. McTats finds what the family needs to be complete.

Mrs. McTats and Her Houseful of Cats Details

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Author : Alyssa Satin Capucilli , Joan Rankin (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Mrs. McTats and Her Houseful of Cats for online ebook

Becky B says

Mrs McTats has a cozy little cottage and one cat. But soon, more and more cats show up. She names each one in alphabetical order until she is all the way to Yodel, number 25, when there is one more scratch at the door. Zoom isn't a cat, but he's welcome in the cozy cottage all the same.

A cute story that will help kids practice their ABCs and counting skills.

Jo says

As soon as I saw the cover, I knew I was going to love this book and I wasn't wrong! I was immediately drawn to the illustrations which are adorably sweet and done in soft water colours.

This is the story of Mrs. McTats, who lives in a small cottage with her cat Abner. As the story goes on, more and more cats find their way to Mrs. McTats cottage where she always manages to find room for them and welcomes them into her home. The cats are all named in alphabetical order, from Abner to Yodel but 25 cats later, Mrs. McTats feels like there's still something missing. Finally there's a scratch at the door and in walks Zoom the puppy.

*Now in that small cottage
lives Mrs. McTats,
all happy and cozy with her
twenty-five cats...*

*and one little puppy,
who's known as Zoom,
in a small, cozy cottage
with plenty of room.*

Needless to say, I adored this sweet story. The illustrations are just too cute for words and I loved all the uniquely drawn cats. A great ABC and counting book and the rhyming text has a perfect easy to follow flow to it. <3

Sarah Sammis says

Mrs. McTats reminds me of my grandmother who was always bringing home strays. Mrs. McTats, though, is collecting a new cat a day. She starts with her one cat and soon finds herself with 24 others. Each cat gets a name starting with another letter in the alphabet adding to the fun of the book.

What makes this story so charming, though, are the illustrations by Joan Rankin. They are charming water colors and each animal has a distinct personality. The illustrations compliment the fancy names Mrs. McTats

gives her new pets.

But wait -- there are 26 letters in the alphabet! What about Z? Z is a dog.

Vanita Williams says

Mrs. McTats welcomes cats into her home, often in multiples, until she has a total of 25. This book introduces great math vocabulary. The book also encourages students to think about adding to 25 in an unusual but interesting way.

Lisa Vegan says

I just adored this book. Perhaps it wasn't "amazing" but I really, really liked it and I'm giving it the full 5 stars.

It works as an alphabet book because Mr. McTats's first cat is named Abner, and as more cats adopt the household, she gives them names that start with B, C, D, and so on, going all the way through the alphabet. The cats' names end with Yodel, but there is one more surprise creature looking for a home, so all 26 letters of the alphabet are covered.

The illustrations are utterly charming, cozy and colorful. I really like the muted watercolor look and the details in all the pictures. The cottage, community, animals, and Mrs. McTats look warm and welcoming, as befitting the story. The only aspect of the illustrations I didn't like is that some of the cats look less than appealing; Izzy looks particularly strange to me.

The story rhyme is funny, and Mrs. McTats is so good hearted and welcoming, though I know more than one cat lover who will wince in self-recognition as the household cats multiply.

The story and illustrations work together wonderfully and make for a very enjoyable reading (or listening and viewing) experience.

Thanks to my Goodreads friend Joey for alerting me to this gem of a book.

EDITED TO ADD: I love how both Abner and Zoom go with Mrs. McTats to the market on the final page. And, I'm not sure I'm wild about any of the illustrations of the cats, but taken all together, I like how they look.

Julia Jasztal says

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(Mommy's review from 7/28/10)

Julia picked this out from the 2010 BookMobile last week. It's so much fun to read we've read it every single day since then. The second her eyes glanced over the cover she reached for it and when she handed it to me and I saw the cover and title I knew it would be good.

I was even more happy when I saw the author was Alyssa Satin Capucilli who is the author of the beloved Biscuit books. The Biscuit series were some of the very first books Julia ever owned that weren't solely picture books. That series will always stay with me because she fell in love with it so fast and so hard.

Joan Rankin did as great a job with the illustrations as Capucilli did with the writing.

As the book goes on Mrs. McTats acquires more and more cats. She just can't turn them away and always thinks that these will be the last to come to her. She continues through the alphabet when naming them also, all the way from Abner to Yodel. All 25 cats are there and accounted for.

At the end of the book something was missing. Luckily, there was a scratch at the door and when Mrs. McTats opened the door what did she find? One little puppy.... named Zoom.

Mrs. McTats cozy little cottage is Julia's dream home and she loves this book. I'm going to have to take a look at Capucilli's other books because if she has this hopefully she has others. Julia's a bit beyond the Biscuit books now at almost five years old but more like this one are certainly welcome!

Stokespower says

sensational. it rhymes real good and has lovely pictures of cats. 25 cats in all, and I didn't even realise until the end that they were all being named alphabetically. that's how meta this book is. and its not just alphabetizing either. there's numbers and adding too.

and then there's the twist at the end with the final entrant into mrs mctats gaff. brilliant

Kathryn says

Adorable! This reminds me of a shirt I saw once that had a picture of a kitten starting up with the caption, "Got room for one more?" Even though Mrs. McTats has such a tiny house, she has a huge heart--and she makes room for all the cats who want to live with her! This is a fun story that will please animal lovers and could also serve for an alphabet or counting book. Great fun! Thanks to my GoodReads friend Lisa for alerting me to this one.

"Cats are like potato chips, you can't have just one!" -- Another great T-shirt ;-)

Friend of Pixie (F.O.P.) says

Oh the laughter as we read this at the library! And then the re-reads when we checked it out and brought it home. Charming and funny illustrations of Mrs. McTats who keeps adopting cats. As they show up on her doorstep each day and she names them alphabetically, from Abner to Oscar to Yodel and finally, a puppy named Zoom, her household gets more and more cheerfully crowded.

Laima says

I love this book!! Filled with beautiful illustrations and rhyming verse, this is a wonderful read aloud story for children ages 3 to 7.

This book is also a great tool for teaching the alphabet and counting to 26.

Mrs. McTats has one cat named Abner. Each time she opens the door more cats show up and she takes them inside. Finally, she has 25 cats, each named for a letter of the alphabet. Who will show up and be named after the letter Z??

Not who you think.

Overall, a very cute story young children can enjoy and learn from.

Ronda says

Part of what makes this one fun is the suspense factor--which you can really play up. Will Mrs. McTats keep just 3 more cats? Six more? It's also fun to see how long it takes them to figure out that it IS an ABC book--and a counting book. If Mrs. McTats only had one cat to begin with, hears a scratch on the door, and five more cats come in, how many cats does she have? Watching the kids' expressions as they start adding up the number of critters is almost as fun as their expression at the surprise 26th visitor. This story is great as a read-aloud for kids K-2, and keeping 2nd graders interested in ABC books can be difficult.

Jamie Davis says

Cute story with great illustrations. Great rhyming book, good for predicting the next cat's name, and a lovely surprise ending. My favorite is when a child in the class tells me "that's too many cats for one house"!

Rachel says

Very cute book with lovely watercolor illustrations. Mrs. McTats lives with her one cat Abner, until other cats start adopting her and she ends up with 24 more. She names them alphabetically starting with Basil and ending with Yodel, but something is missing. She ends up also adopting a puppy called Zoom, bringing the grand total of animals to 26. Recommended for ages 3-7.

Sandi says

Mrs. McTats and her houseful of cats is one ABC book I can really get behind! Mrs. McTats finds a cat. So, of course, she names it. Then another, then another. Each cat is alphabetically named until there's 25 cats...and then one more surprise visitor shows up. *Mrs. McTats and Her Houseful of Cats* is a fun, rhythmic read that practically purrs!

Dolly says

As we read this book aloud together, I was absolutely sure that I'd read it before, but I hadn't logged it here, so I'm not sure when. Still, it's an entertaining alphabet book featuring a lady with far too many pets.

The rhyming narrative is rhythmic and fun to read aloud, although I felt like it stumbled in a few places (perhaps that was just me.)

The watercolor illustrations have a soft, cozy feel and the different cats are hilarious. We enjoyed reading this book together (and I loved that one of the cats is named Dolly.)
