



Welcome to the Zoo!

Alison Jay

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In this fanciful visit, Alison Jay summons her unique perspective and sense of humor to create a zoo like no other?where more than just the animals are on display. Children will delight in discovering small details and tracking narratives that play out bit by bit. Before the tour is over, kids will meet hippos, giraffes, penguins pursuing a platter of fish, exotic birds, bears, mischievous monkeys, and much more. There?s a search-and-find element too: The last spread invites readers to go back and discover a number of amusing details throughout the book. With so much to explore, children are sure to?as the sign at the end proclaims?come again soon!

Welcome to the Zoo! Details

Date : Published October 16th 2008 by Dial Books

ISBN : 9780803731776

Author : Alison Jay

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals

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From Reader Review Welcome to the Zoo! for online ebook

Angelina says

A wonderful wordless book. The illustrations are just lovely - playful and fun, with lots of interesting small details and showing different animals. I also loved the fact that there were no cages visible .

Tiffany Sanders says

The wordless book is great to explain animals in the zoo to children in the classrooms. When you read the book you can break down the counting the animals and what type of animal it is. The oversized animals will bring excitement to the class.

Ava says

This is a beautifully illustrated book with lots of animals and families to make stories about. There is no text and little plot guidance so kids are free to make it up as they wish.

Asho says

This wordless picture book was in the zoo books bundle that we picked up at the library. It's much too complex for my toddler, but I loved the illustrations and the seek-and-find aspect, and I hope I remember to check this one out again in a few years because I think a 4 year-old would really get a kick out of it. Personally, I loved that all of the zoo animals in this book were roaming freely and that the people were as much on display as the animals.

Abigail Steiner says

As cute as this book was I found it a bit boring as far as picture books go. With very simple words this book would be good for small children. This book also has very colorful illustrations that would be good for children.

Bridget R. Wilson says

Follow one family as they tour the zoo. Look closely to see all the animals and their antics. Start all over again to make sure you don't miss a minute of the day out at the zoo.

What I thought: A wordless picture book about a visit to the zoo--I love it! The illustrations are so detailed

and appealing. I had to go through several times to catch all the action. This would be a good book for story time. The kids can help me "read" it. Welcome to the Zoo is also a great book to use one-on-one. It takes time to see all the action.

Story Time Themes: Zoo, Animal emphasis Baby Sit & Sign

Virginia says

Can I really read a book that has no words? Well, the pictures are lovely and my children enjoyed finding and identifying all the animals. It is drawn and unfolds like a walk through an actual zoo. Fun!

Katya Lazukina says

A book with no words.

I put this book under Pre-K and ages 5-7 because the kids could look at it without having to read, but if I was to use this book in a class room I would use it for the art. The style is different, the animals are not proportional. I would use it to show the different kinds of art in a fifth grade class when going through art.

Will says

Welcome to the Zoo, while on the surface seems like a simple walk through an imaginary zoo, on closer inspection finds a challenging game of observation. It took me quite a bit to figure out that there was an order to the exhibits and previews of the next page in the current page. Also, that there were not simply just random faceless visitors to the zoo, but rather families that each had their own little adventure at the zoo. The most obvious connection I see is this book does remind me of my numerous trips to the Henry Doorly Zoo, and gets me excited to start going again now that the weather is getting better.

This book also has a very Where's Waldo vibe to it, which in retrospect would have been a fantastic wordless book to do.

This book show how much fun a day at the zoo can be, and all the varied wild life that lives there. It also shows the hard work that the zookeepers go through to keep the whole place running.

Carrie says

A family of four enters the zoo and becomes part of whimsical scenery in which animals and humans frolic freely rather than being separated by cages. Rather than being captive in a zoo, these animals appear to be lounging in a resort. They are happy and non-threatening as they play with each other and the people. Jay's crackle-finish oil paintings amuse the reader and tickle the imagination suggesting that, perhaps, the people are actually on display rather than the animals. The illustrations in this

book are more sophisticated than many children's picture books. In fact, they are of an artistic caliber that could be hung for decoration. That written, I don't think this book is as visually appealing as some other wordless picture books and would be best read one-on-one so that parents and children could work together describing the pictures.

Gabrielle Blockton says

Date: April 29th, 2015

Author/Illustrator: Alison Jay

Title: Welcome to the Zoo

Plot: This very colorful wordless picture book showcases a family of four and their adventures at the local zoo.

Setting: The Zoo (More than likely in a City)

Characters: Various characters are throughout the book. The family of four is consistently present throughout the picture book, but they remain nameless.

Point-Of-View: This book allows you to tell the story in any point-of-view you may choose.

Theme: Adventures, Family, Nature

Style: Wordless Picture Book; Children's Book

Copyright: 2008

Notes: I have always been a fan of wordless picture books. As a reader who also enjoys writing, I love the idea of "reading" a book and creating my own stories with images on a page. I would use this book for a Creative Writing lesson that involves students writing their own stories and plots by looking at a single picture or image.

Megan says

I checked this one out from the library, enjoyed the illustrations, thought briefly about ordering artwork like this for the boy's bedroom, went through it all once, and then returned it.

Several months later it ended up in our library bag again, and this time Lachlan and I spent 50 minutes pouring over every page in this wordless book. We overlooked so many funny things the first time around. There are stories that take place on every page, surprises we had never noticed, it was really brilliant. And then we read it again and again and again with the older boys, and they found more things we had missed.

Warning: Don't underestimate this book. It deserves "search and find" skills to uncover all of its greatness.

Some things to look for: People at the zoo who are dressed like the animals they're looking at. The Ostrich hunting zookeeper on every page. Who joins the baby in the carriage on the way out of the zoo? The hat. The Poodle. The lunch bag. Make sure and do both search and find activities at the back of the book.

Ginny says

A review of this and a handful of other lovely children's books from our local children's library:

<https://littlelifebookworm.wordpress....>

Abbie Stice says

I enjoyed this wordless book because students can see the creativity and it is visually pleasing. I also like the interaction that it has set in place at the beginning and the end of the book. On the other hand I think if it was for younger students that have never been to the zoo it might give them the wrong idea about the way a zoo works.

Shannon Connors says

Alison Jay uses oil paint with a crackle varnish to create the pottery-like illustrations in *Welcome to the Zoo*. The nearly wordless book seems to tell endless stories at once. All pages are filled with pastel colors and are framed in white. Animals come in and out of the frames, starting right at the zoo's entrance, possibly suggesting that this is no ordinary zoo! Further exploration confirms this prediction, as animals in the zoo wander freely. As the reader turns more and more pages, the animal pictures become bigger and the zoo's guests are relegated to the right side of the spread, almost conveying the idea that the animals may be taking over.

Though the colors are bright and the crackle varnish technique unique, I had a hard time seeing this book as a single narrative. It seems almost like a search and find book, and indeed that's what the author shows on the back cover. It would be a fun introduction to books, especially for younger children. However, someone looking for a well-told story may not find that in this book.
