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# Over The Hills And Far Away: A Treasury Of Nursery Rhymes



## Synopsis

A spectacular treasury of 150 classic nursery rhymes and new discoveries, featuring a star-studded roster of seventy-seven illustrators. Nursery rhymes have entertained and comforted children for centuries. *Over the Hills and Far Away* is a unique collection of rhymes and verse from across the globe—rhymes from the English-speaking world as well as verse that entered English from Chinese, Latino, African, and other cultures. With illustrations from seventy-seven artists, many celebrated throughout the world, and some just emerging, this volume is truly an adventure in language, image, and imagination. A magnificent gift for little ones hearing these verses for the first time as well as a wonderful book for family sharing across generations.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

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Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2—Originally published in Great Britain, this collection includes 150 nursery rhymes—many of them familiar—from 23 countries and cultures, accompanied by color illustrations created by 76 artists, many well known, in a wide variety of styles and mediums: photos, soft watercolor scenes, hand-colored prints, comic strips and cartoons, collage, realistic paintings, and more. Several pages of rhymes are handwritten—some in childlike printing or cursive, others in flowing calligraphy. Jump rope rhymes, riddle rhymes, counting and clapping rhymes, finger games, songs, lullabies, and nonsense rhymes are included. In her two-page

introduction, collector Hammill refers to nursery rhymes as "tiny masterpieces of verse" that "have outlasted their origins as street cries, folk songs, political satire, remnants of custom and proverb and have been polished into perfect form over time." Although all of the poems are in English, regional spelling has been used in some poems, such as the Jamaican verse, "Dis lickle pig go a markit,/Dis lickle pig tan a yaad." Appended are an "Index of First Lines," some brief information about each of the artists, and a listing of sources. Four "Contents" pages list poems and artists in order of appearance. The English versions of many familiar poems differ somewhat from the American wording. VERDICT This artistically appealing compilation will delight both children and adults and might be useful in elementary writing projects. — Susan Scheps, formerly at Shaker Public Library, OH

A sumptuous multicultural collection of nursery rhymes includes art by over 70 illustrators. The diversity of illustration styles and subjects coincides nicely with the diversity of rhymes, which refreshingly move beyond Anglophone origins. Hammill's skills as collector are especially sharp in juxtaposing cultural variants of rhymes... Delightful. ... Never mind far away, keep this collection close by. — Kirkus Reviews (starred review) The careful juxtaposition of the rhymes highlights both their diversity and cross-cultural commonalities: versions of "Little Miss Muffet" from England, America, Australia, and Jamaica have the girl being frightened by a spider, grasshopper, wombat, and "bredda Anancy." A rich and wonderfully varied addition to the bookshelf of nursery-rhyme collections. — Publishers Weekly (starred review) This artistically appealing compilation will delight both children and adults. — School Library Journal Hammill has clearly created the very first nursery rhyme collection of note for the 21st century.... If you own only one nursery rhyme collection on your shelves, own this one. — A Fuse #8 Production (blog) This bountiful collection of colorfully illustrated nursery rhymes showcases both the verse and artists. — Booklist Importing verses from all over the world and from a wide variety of cultures enhanced by beautifully illustrated pages by over 70 celebrated artists, this handsome anthology provides a diverse collection of poems that is a visual and literary delight. — Literacy Daily

There are lots and lots of Nursery Rhyme books to choose from.. Some are old standards, some are jokey and cartoony and then there is this one. The rhymes were chosen with care, and juxtaposed creatively. The artists are some of the best known illustrators of children's books, like Eric Carle, and Shirley Hughes, and others are emerging talents like the sparkling Yasmeen Ismail. (Go To Bed Fred!) The beautiful cover art by Pamela Zagarenski is dreamily gorgeous. Many of the illustrations

are delightfully humorous. There are well known rhymes from Britain and America, as well as rhymes from African American , Native American and the First people of Australia and New Zealand. Parents and grandparents will love reading this to children, and slightly older children will ,I imagine ,page endlessly through these wonderful pages, loving the pictures and memorizing the rhymes. I can't imagine any collection of Children's books being without this volume now that it is here. I only wish for a companion recording to go with the book. Now that would be complete perfection.

Love this book! I'm a new mom and needed a nursery rhyme book for my daughter. I wanted to find something that was extra special and this book was perfect! The illustrations are amazing and greatly diverse in style! While my daughter is still too young to appreciate them, I certainly enjoy them while I read to her. I also love how the rhymes are grouped together by theme. And it's interesting to learn new ones from other cultures. This would definitely make a great baby shower gift for someone trying to give something extra special.

Kids just don't know nursery rhymes anymore, but this book has them all. My daughter loves it and I'm glad she won't be missing out on these fun rhymes!

good

As an adult it was fun to be a child again! I enjoyed the layout of the book and the lovely drawings.

Beautiful edition of children's poetry.

Grandchildren love it.

A special book that will make evening reads memorable. Eclectic selection bridges nationalities and artists used represent some of the best illustrators.

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