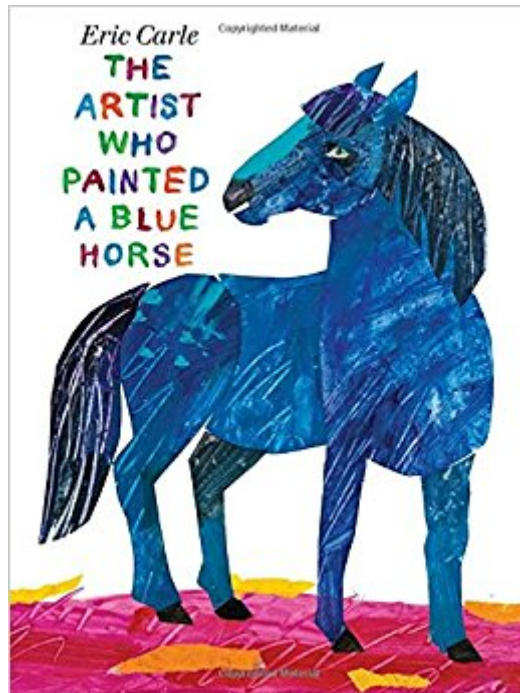




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The Artist Who Painted A Blue Horse



Synopsis

A brilliant new Eric Carle picture book for the artist in us all. Every child has an artist inside them, and this vibrant picture book from Eric Carle will help let it out. The artist in this book paints the world as he sees it, just like a child. There's a red crocodile, an orange elephant, a purple fox and a polka-dotted donkey. More than anything, there's imagination. Filled with some of the most magnificently colorful animals of Eric Carle's career, this tribute to the creative life celebrates the power of art.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 107 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #28,077 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Horses #55 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Colors #101 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

Best Books of the Month, October 2011: The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse is a joyous celebration of art and creativity. As a young man, Carle was influenced by the work of Franz Marc, an Expressionist artist famous for his paintings of blue horses, and this book is a fitting tribute to his legacy. Carle's brilliant, unusual, color pairings--a red crocodile, a polka-dotted donkey--capture the limitless imagination of children and the brief text is simple, yet memorable. The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse is destined to become a well-worn classic, inspiring readers of all ages to embrace their inner artist.--Seira Wilson

Eric Carle lives in Northampton, Massachusetts. Visit the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts.

On the surface, *The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse* seems pretty simple and rather plain. For me, it took only a little further exploration and one opportunity to read it to a group of two year olds for this this book to reveal it's brilliance and depth. The illustrations are vintage Carle. The format is large and the colors are bold. The text is very minimal. We start out with a boy introducing himself by saying "I am an artist and I paint...". We are then treated to a variety of animals all in different and totally unexpected colors. We have a blue horse, a red crocodile, a yellow cow, a black polar bear and best of all, a polka dotted donkey. The book concludes back with our young artist stating "I am a good artist". When I shared this with a group, we started just making all the animal sounds, but it wasn't long before the kids caught on to the fact that these animals weren't the right colors, and that's when smiles broke out all around. When we arrived at the black polar bear, some kids were confused and it gave us a good chance to talk about art and the freedom to make things whatever color you want. By the time we arrived at the polka dotted donkey, I heard chuckles and I hope maybe a few parents went home to encourage their young artists to make their own polka dotted animals. The very idea of this book celebrates joyous, free expression and I would recommend it for any story time audience of toddlers or young preschoolers. It goes far in giving youngsters permission to think outside of the box, all done in a way that makes perfect sense to them. Try this book out for your story time group and watch their eyes light up with the possibilities. This is also an excellent choice for any young family wishing to encourage creativity and free thinking. I can't think of a better literary first step.

This is the most wonderful book I have seen for children. I purchased it for my new Great-Grandchild and it is an imaginative and creative delight. It is perfect from rocking chair reads through adult hood. In the last pages, the author relates his inspiration as Franz Marc's Blue Horses paintings, so besides teaching creativity and fostering imagination it finishes with exploring artists and art history.....

Who could not love the bright colors and simple shapes! I was so pleased that a kindergartener could read this to me. I love all of his books and I know I am in good company!

I am a preschool teacher and I purchased this book to do a theme on Eric Carle. This book is a great book to set up a child's imagination and to let him/her believe that there is no wrong way to create art. Anyone can be an artist and art is in the eye of the beholder. It is an easy read. I read it

to my 2 year old twice and she can already read it back to me. Cute book with a great message!

My son and I have enjoyed reading many of Eric Carle's wonderful books since he was born (he's almost 3 now) and this book is no exception. This book is particularly special for us because my son really loves horses and for some reason or another he recently went through about a 4-month spell where he kept telling me he wanted a "blue horse" (I think maybe it is because there is a blue horse in 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you Hear?'). So this book was like a dream come true for him. He loves to look at and comment on every animal/illustration in the book, and of course he especially loves the blue horse. So, in short, fans of Eric Carle (big and small) won't be disappointed with this latest installment.

Nice message - that it is OK to paint what you want. You don't have to stay in the lines and you can paint things 'as you see them' - not as they are 'supposed to be' using someone else's standards. I think this is a great lesson for both adults and children. It is OK - even Good - to be yourself. The very simple message stays with you through the 'different' images he offers - thus the recommendation for both child and adult artists.

Before reading this story everyone should read why Eric Carle wrote it. Even first graders are impressed by this part. THEN the story...and all children love the colors and the idea of a green lion makes them giggle. Children also tell me what color they would paint other animals not in the book. They "help" me read the story and can hardly wait for me to turn the page. My granddaughter who is three picks out the letters of her name from the printing on the pages. Thank you, Eric Carle.

I used it in a Pre-K/K summer-rec classroom during an art themed week.

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