So Say The Little Monkeys
Synopsis

JUMP, JABBA JABBA, RUN, JABBA JABBA, MUNCH, JABBA JABBA, Tiny, tiny monkeys having fun! But when are they going to remember to build themselves a shelter from the rain, PLINKA PLINKA, and the wind, WOOYA WOOYA, and - scariest of all - the jaguar, GURR-YUH GURR-YUH? Surely not when they can play! Based on a tale from the Brazilian rain forest about blackmouth monkeys, SO SAY THE LITTLE MONKEYS is a completely irresistible read-aloud that also contains a gentle message: Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do today. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up
Hardcover
Publisher: Topeka Bindery (November 2001)
Language: English
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Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars  (13 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #16,436,491 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #79 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Latin American  #2277 in Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America  #3679 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Apes & Monkeys

Customer Reviews

Never mind the review that says this for age 3+. My 14 month old won't go to bed until we've read this at least three times. He's barely talking but he picks up the books and says "Whee!" And his older brother (age 4) chimes in with the "Jibba Jibba Jabba" every time!

It took me a while to be able to read this musically, but my daughter and I fell in love with it at the library and finally had to buy our own copy. These rainforest monkeys play and sing all day and never get around to making a nest. Very lovely language and cadence when read out loud.

This is a wonderful book with a lyric structure, fun rhymes, and an important moral. This item is for the softback copy. We discovered the book as a hardcover at our local library, and liked it so much
that we decided to purchase it. The hardcover has larger pages and a bit more illustration, but you can’t go wrong with either version.

The talents of the prolific Nancy Van Laan ("In a Circle Long Ago," and many others) and illustrator Yumi Heo ("Sometimes I’m Bombaloo") combine in this cheery retelling of a Brazilian folktale about blackmouth monkeys. The monkeys frolic through the Brazilian rainforest, swinging from vine to vine, and, most importantly, climbing the thorny tall trees:

Still they climb, UP-UP!And they slide, Down-Down!They sing, "Jibba-jibba-jabba."swinging round and roundJUMP, JABBA JABBA, RUN, JABBA JABBA, SLIDE, JABBA JABBA, Tiny monkeys having fun!But these same trees keep them from having a comfortable home, unlike their neighbors the armadillo and the toucan. The monkeys SAY they’re going to build a house, but fun and delicious things (e.g., bananas!) keep them from doing it!The short rhymes and wonderful animal and nature sounds make this a very fun book to read out loud. The rhythms are musical, and the capitalized sounds (e.g., PLINKA PLINKA, WOOYA WOOYA, GURR-YUH GURR-YUH) are your cue to turn up the narrative volume for your little one. They’ll eat it up. Slightly older toddlers may also enjoy the monkeys’ priorities of fun and food over practicality. Yumi Heo has an unusual palette: I love the blues in her bubbling river and stormy sky. Her repetition of the playing monkeys nicely complements the repeated sounds of the text, and her flat, "folkish" drawings, filled with repeated designs and iconic imagery, evoke the teeming rainforest. The book was included in “The 3rd Edition of The New York Times Parent’s Guide to the Best Books for Children.” A simple but superb performance by van Laan and Heo.

Both my three year old daughter and I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It’s rhyming verse is fun to read and the pictures are captivating. The actual story of how the carefree monkeys avoid making their night-time nests is light-hearted and amusing. My daughter and I borrowed this entertaining book from our local library. We liked it so well that I intend to buy it for her collection of favorites.

"A leaf or a twig or a fat fat stick!"This was one of my favorite stories from teaching Kindergarten (and using Harcourt Trophies). I am excited to share it with my guys!

Just as expected. Thank you! My son heard this book at school but couldn’t remember the title but we found it here and in great condition. Lifesavor!

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