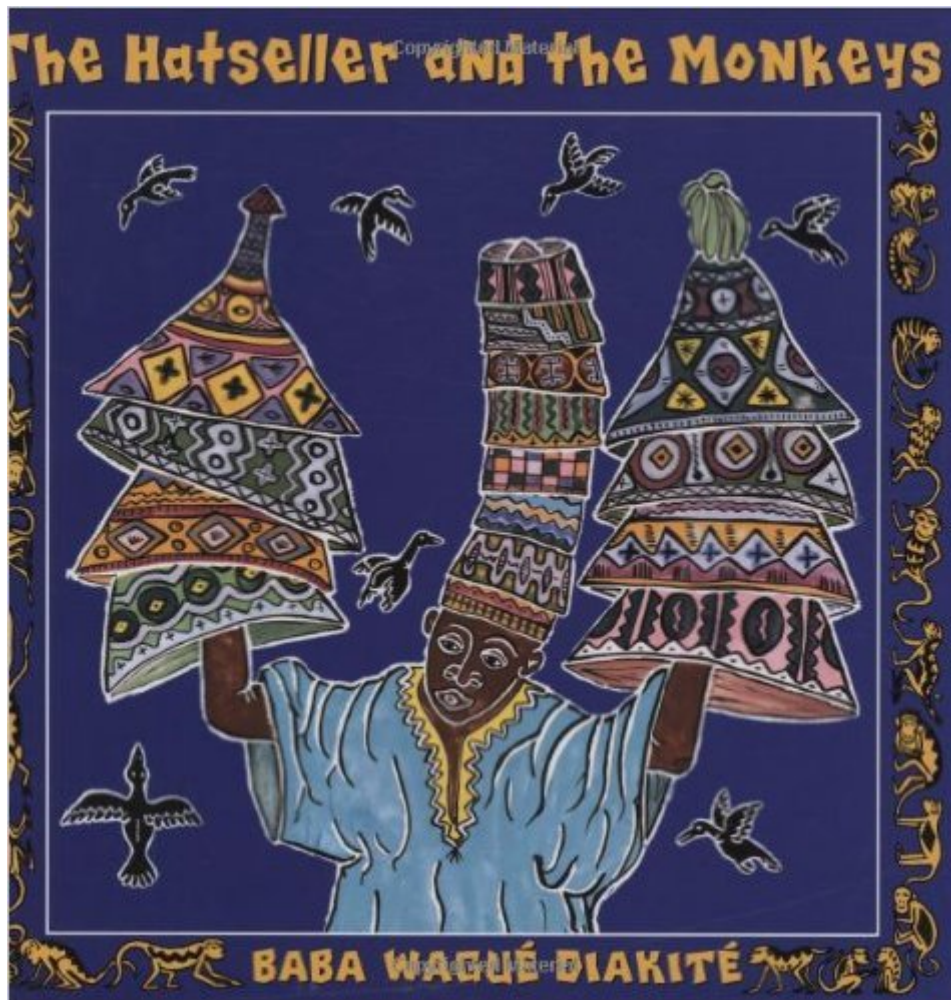


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# The Hatseller And The Monkeys



## Synopsis

Everyone familiar with the popular story, *Caps for Sale*, will immediately recognize this authentic African tale. Readers will love the mischievous monkeys that steal the peddler's caps. And they will laugh at the monkeys' funny antics as the peddler outsmarts them and gets his caps back.

## Book Information

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Lexile Measure: AD650L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press (February 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590960695

ISBN-13: 978-0590960694

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 10.2 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,227,701 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Children's](#)

[Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > African](#) #684 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General](#) #1191 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy](#)

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## Customer Reviews

This is a West African variation of a wonderful old folk tale. An ambitious hatseller encounters a tree full of curious, clever and comical monkeys who not only steal his hats and make fun of him but also teach him the best way to start each day! The text is lyrical, with some African words and expressions, and the illustrations are colorful and lively. A fun read-aloud.

Strongly stylized art and a little background about the hatseller is what makes this book stand out. The author discusses how BaMusa (the hatseller) learned to make hats and caps from rice stalks when he was a boy. It also gives the name of some of the hats and how they differ in style because they are intended for different purposes. There are the wide brimmed dibiri hats and the embroidered fugulan caps. In addition, the author emphasizes how important breakfast is to clear thinking and having a good day: "an empty satchel can not stand." Four Stars. Strongly stylized art. Good Read-aloud. Additional background information about the hatseller makes this book stand out.

My children were already familiar Caps for Sale, which is an older version of the same folktale. I thought the kids would think this was cute, but prefer Caps for Sale, as the text is more rhythmic and shorter. I was wrong. My kids REALLY like The Hatseller and the Monkeys! Diakite's charming, colorful illustrations, well-described setting (monkeys in Mali makes a heck of a lot more sense than monkeys in Eastern Europe), and sound moral set this book apart. My 2 y o clamored for it to be read again and again. The two books would be great paired in a folktale unit for grades K-2.

Acquired this book for Treehouse Books in Philadelphia for their kids. This organization is helping to grow and sustain a community of readers, writers and thinkers in NW Philadelphia. Kudos!

Love this! Came as promised, excellent condition. I use this in my pre- k class to compare and contrast with our curriculum book, Caps For Sale!

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