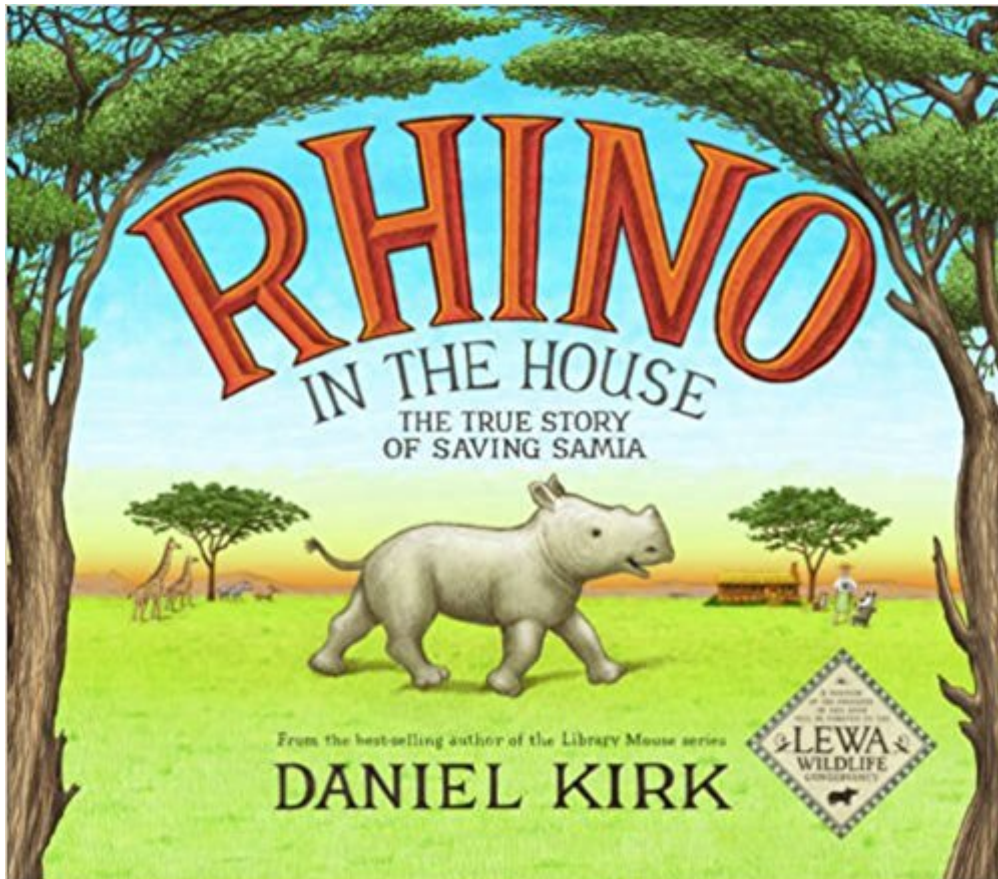




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# Rhino In The House: The Story Of Saving Samia



## Synopsis

From the award-winning author of the bestselling Library Mouse series comes a biographical picture book about the true story of rhino champion Anna Merz and the black rhinoceros Samia. With a portion of the proceeds being donated to the Lewa Downs Conservancy, this engaging story is perfect for animal lovers, animal rights enthusiasts, and fans of *Me . . . Jane*.   
When Anna Merz traveled to East Africa, she became appalled at the rampant poaching that took place there, specifically toward the black rhinoceros. Anna devoted her life to protecting the wildlife of the region, founding a reserve in Kenya called Lewa Downs to care for them. Anna kept a watchful eye on the animals, especially the rhinos. One day, Anna found a small black rhino calf, likely abandoned by its mother. So she nurtured the calf, named it Samia, fed it special formula, and even let it sleep in her bed.   
Everywhere Anna went Samia was never far behind. The two became so close, in fact, that Anna soon learned how rhinos communicate with one another. Anna was able to distinguish the rhino's many different grunts and what she meant by them: "Snort! Snuff," cried Samia. "This is fun!"; "Hoo-hoo-hoo!" she called. "I'm coming!" But with time, Samia got bigger . . . and bigger . . . and bigger to the point where she couldn't fit inside Anna's house any longer. It was time for Anna to make the tough decision she always knew she would have to make at some point or another: She would need to reintroduce Samia to the wild so she could lead her life with the rest of her kind.   
Richly illustrated with pen, ink, and watercolors, Daniel Kirk's first nonfiction picture book brings awareness to wildlife protection and fosters further understanding of animal rescue and welfare, positioned in a sensitive way that's appropriate for young readers. Kirk traveled to Kenya to see the reserve firsthand and his photographs grace the back matter, which includes an author's note and bibliography.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Abrams Books for Young Readers (March 14, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1419723162

ISBN-13: 978-1419723162

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.2 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,081,640 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Africa #447 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #29651 in Books > Children's Books > Animals

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

"A solid introduction to wildlife conservation...Samia saves the story, offering great appeal for young readers and moving the lively narrative along with her antics." (Kirkus)"Kirkus's full-color, playful illustrations render the amiable rhino with cute features, and the savannah scenes are rich with lively detail...A playful glimpse into the life of a conservationist." (Booklist)"This straightforward description of a wild animal's rescue stands out for the specificity of its setting, made clear to young readers with maps of the world and of Africa with all its countries... A pleasant addition to storytimes about animal rescue and rehabilitation." (School Library Journal)"This wonderfully illustrated, charming true story is another great book for introducing environmental issues and some of the joys and challenges they engender." (School Library Connection)

Daniel Kirk is a graduate of Ohio State University and is the bestselling author of the beloved Library Mouse series, as well as a range of picture books and novels for young readers, including The Thing About Spring, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, and the Elf Realm trilogy. He currently lives with his family in Glen Ridge, New Jersey. While researching Rhino in the House, he visited Lewa Downs Conservancy in Kenya where he went on a photo safari, saw Anna Merz's home, and interviewed those who had known her and who are carrying on her work.

I have actually visited the African Game Preserve that this book is written about. I learned of it from one of my Pre-School students whose Mother knew I was working to aid the protection of White Rhinos in Africa. I immediately bought it and love it. Also recommended to my associates who are dedicated to protecting this beautiful species. I highly recommend it for parents who want to start their children young in learning about the impact we have on the animals of this world. It is sweet and a happy book.

The little rhino is so cute and the story represents a good message. I'm happy that there are books that introduce Africa to my daughter.

A great true story, children will like. Plus it gives a good conservation message.

The story begins with Anna Merz who longed to give the rhinos of Africa a safe place to live. When one of the baby rhinos was being neglected by its mother, Anna knew she had to take the baby home or it wouldn't live. Samia and Anna spent so much time together! This book takes you through the day and life of Anna and Samia. With rhinos in so much danger, it's wonderful knowing that there are people like Anna Merz offering a sanctuary for endangered African animals. Finding out about the real Anna Merz through the author's note was absolutely wonderful. Great book!

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