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Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!



Synopsis

Tippy, tippy, tippy, Pat! That's the sound three hungry bunnies make when the sun goes down and the moon comes up and Mr. McGreely's garden smells yum, yum, yummy. While he's dreaming of his mouth-watering carrots, the bunnies are diving over fences and swimming trenches to get the veggies first! Hammer, hammer, hammer, Saw! That's the sound Mr. McGreely makes when the sun comes up and the moon goes down and he sees what those twitch-whiskers have done....Nibbled leaves! Empty stalks! Mr. McGreely will build something bigger and better, sure to keep even pesky puff-tails away. Children will cheer for the bunnies -- or for Mr. McGreely -- as they delight in Candace Fleming's clever sound effects and G. Brian Karas's vibrant, funny illustrations.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD560L (What's this?)

Series: Anne Schwartz Books

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (January 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689831528

ISBN-13: 978-0689831522

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #119,067 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #151 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Rabbits](#)

Age Range: 3 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

After years of dreaming of planting a garden, Mr. McGreely finally takes hoe and watering can in hand and makes his dream come true. Unfortunately for him (but luckily for readers), this is not the happily-ever-after part of the story. Late one night, three hungry bunnies appear: "Tippy-tippy-tippy, Pat! Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!" The next morning finds our farmer gnashing his teeth over the gnawed sprouts. So he builds a small wire fence. That night... "Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!" So Mr. McGreely builds a tall wooden wall. You get the idea. Young readers will hang on every word until

they find out, once and for all, who will win the battle of the broccoli. Packed with repetitive and onomatopoeic phrases, Candace Fleming's tale of man against nature will keep kids giggling--it may even inspire them to chomp on a few carrots themselves! G. Brian Karas's lively illustrations in gouache and pencil are full of visual wit, as the audacious "twitch-whiskers" patiently watch Mr. McGreeley at his seemingly futile endeavors. (Ages 3 to 7) --Emilie Coulter

This onomatopoeic romp opens calmly, with a hopeful gardener planting a vegetable patch behind his brownstone house. Bright green leaves sprout from the rich soil. " `Yum! Yum! Yummy!' said Mr. McGreeley. `I'll soon fill my tummy with crisp, fresh veggies.' " He doesn't notice a cottontail trio watching expectantly from the garden wall. "And the sun went down. And the moon came up. And / Tippy-tippy-tippy, Pat!/ Spring-hurdle,/ Dash! Dash! Dash!/ Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!" The brazen "twitch-whiskers" hop and dig their way to a fresh-picked salad, and Mr. McGreeley awakens to a row of gnawed stems. Karas (*Saving Sweetness*), who works in chalky gray pencil with brick-red, kale-green and creamy-yellow gouache, pictures the bunnies waiting patiently as the incensed Mr. McGreeley builds a wire fence, a moat and an enormous cinderblock tower with searchlights. Fleming (*Gabriella's Song*) demonstrates an ear for language as the suburban farmer battles his furry foes, night after night. The ritual culminates in the "gotcha" finale, in which the rabbits seem defeated, only to burst into view with a vigorous repeat of the title. Fleming and Karas demonstrate great comic timing in this high-spirited tale of one-upmanship. Ages 3-7. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

I bought this book to read with a little neighbor girl who was having trouble learning to read, and who liked to come visit me. Although I had a good selection of books to read with her, she chose this one over and over again. The story held her interest, with enough complexity to entertain, without being overwhelming for her as a struggling reader. And she loved the way I said "Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!" because of course I hammed that up to keep her amused. :-))I was so proud of her the day she finally became comfortable enough with the text that she started reading it to me, rather than having me read it to her. She's since moved away, but I will always feel all happy when I think of this book helping a little child who was struggling to gain some more confidence in herself as a reader.

Unfortunately, my order arrived after our little study of rabbits. But I've taken it out of the library in the past and always got a good response. It's cute and simple. After the read aloud, I use a bunny puppet and have the kids feed it toy food. The bunny reacts favorably when fed fruits and

vegetables and unfavorably when fed junk food. I'll probably use this book and activity this summer when I introduce vegetables to my preschool class.

Great preschooler book. My children love this book.

My kids love this book! The repetition is great for learning readers, and the book uses positional words like over, under, and around that are good for preschool and kindergarten aged kids. It also has a vegetable-positive message! Hasn't convinced my older child to give veggies a chance yet, but at least it's a good try!

Love this book. It's engaging for young children. I used it for the beginning of a science lesson and engineering project on designing a fence to keep rabbits out of a garden. At the end the students did have trouble understanding what had happened because the artwork isn't very clear. It was necessary to point out the rabbits in the basket and question students about what they were doing there.

This book is so much fun to read aloud!

OMGosh! My kids were so engaged during this book!

my grandsons and I have been reading this book for 8 yrs. they are excellent students at 12 and 14 but still laugh when we read it together!! Actually we all have it memorized and read different parts. I love this book.

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