

All Across China

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - Educational

84 Pages

Reviewed on 03/18/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Mamta Madhavan for Readers' Favorite

All Across China by Ellen Weisberg and Ken Yoffe is another interesting book where four loving friends - Ning, Cai, Na, and Song - take readers on a journey through the thirty-four provinces, municipalities, and other regions of China. At each stop, along with the specialties of the place, they also introduce readers to a new friend. This entertaining and exciting way of learning about new countries and places is very educational and informative to all readers, young and old alike. China with its mountains and rivers, different cultures, and farming will definitely encourage readers to learn more about the country and its people.

There is a lot one can learn about China by reading this book. The illustrations and rhyming verses make it even more interesting, and they give clarity to what the authors are trying to convey. All school and public libraries should have a copy of this book as it can be used as a reference guide too. These kinds of books will encourage young readers to explore new destinations and travel to various places. It also captures the diversity of the country.

Books like this are good for children to make learning fun and interactive. It's not only a good bedtime storybook, but can also be used for read aloud sessions in classrooms and school libraries. It is also helpful to teachers and educators to teach kids about new places, cultures, and history in an enjoyable way. It's an excellent idea to bring out books like this on different places.

Fruit of the Vine

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - Educational

24 Pages

Reviewed on 03/17/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Anne-Marie Reynolds for Readers' Favorite

Fruit of the Vine by Ellen Weisberg tells the story of Justin. Justin is a quiet, shy boy who is frequently targeted by his peers because of his looks and his sensitive personality. One night he wakes up to find himself not at home in his bed where he should be. Justin appears to be on an island full of strange creatures and, despite desperately trying to get back home, he gets involved in helping Irvino. You see, Irvino is in the same situation that Justin is in, picked on and ostracized. Justin feels drawn to him, kindred spirits in very different worlds.

By helping Irvino, Justin helps himself to recognise what true friendship is and to see that being different is never a bad thing.

Fruit of the Vine by Ellen Weisberg is an amazing story. The subject of bullying is a highly emotive one these days; we live in a cruel world and it seems that children can be far more brutal than adults. Ellen tells us how one young boy changes from being a shy introvert to a more outgoing person through a dream. The book is exceedingly well written and easy to understand. I feel that it shouldn't just be for children. This is a book that should be read by parents, children, and teachers alike. The illustrations add a great deal to this story and they tell their own story as well. I truly believe that there should be more books like this and that they should be made compulsory reading.

All Across Europe

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - Educational

106 Pages

Reviewed on 03/17/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Mamta Madhavan for Readers' Favorite

All Across Europe by Ellen Weisberg and Ken Yoffe is a fascinating, informative, and educational book for children that takes them on a joy ride to the beautiful continent of Europe. The book gives in-depth details about the continent through the eyes of five friends; Mickey, Tricia, Stevie, Ernie, and Wendy. Each one of them takes readers through the different regions of Europe where around 800 million people from diverse backgrounds live. Readers get to know about the impressive structures in the different regions of the continent, the history, the food, culture, the weather, and landscape that make Europe what it is.

The book gives readers necessary and useful information about places in Europe. Coupled with verses and interesting illustrations, the book reaches out to children who want to know more about the fascinating places in Europe. It's definitely a splendid journey with these five friends as readers explore this incredible continent. I would recommend this book to all school and public libraries as it works as a good reference guide. It can also be used for bedtime story-telling. The introduction to the places is simple and easy for children to understand and remember.

Books like this are welcome as they make learning and teaching attractive and fun. These kinds of stories are the best way children can be taught and also infuse in them a liking for traveling and exploring new destinations. What a charming and fascinating way to tell children all about the continent of Europe!

Friends and Mates in Fifty States

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - Educational

102 Pages

Reviewed on 03/17/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Mamta Madhavan for Readers' Favorite

Friends and Mates in Fifty States by Ellen Weisberg and Ken Yoffe gives an insight into the different states of the United States of America through the eyes of five friends; Wandering Willy, Sightseeing Susie, Nosy Normie, Meandering Mickey, and Exploring Ellie. Together with them, readers learn about the land, culture, and essence of each one of the different states, its importance, and what makes it different from the other states. The United States is full of beaches, deserts, lakes, rivers, canyons, and mountains, and each state is introduced to readers with the help of rhyming verses. These five boys and girls meet their friends and mates while traveling to these states. So sit back and enjoy the trip with these five friends and discover new places!

The book is fascinating, a must-have for all school and public libraries. There is a wealth of information for young readers that teaches them more about new places and destinations in a simple and easy way. The pictures are not only bright and colorful, but insightful too, and they make the rhyming verses more enjoyable to read and understand. It's a good bedtime storybook and helps to teach kids about new places in a fun and interactive way.

Books like this are perfect to make the process of learning fun and enjoyable for children. The book gives just enough information, and the entire presentation and layout makes it very appealing and catchy to readers. I really like the concept and thought that has gone behind the book in making kids familiar with the states of America.

Making Emmie Smile

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - General

16 Pages

Reviewed on 03/17/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Mamta Madhavan for Readers' Favorite

Making Emmie Smile by Ellen Weisberg and Ken Yoffe is a cute little story about Emmie who wouldn't smile as a child. Aunt Janie tried gathering some beautiful flowers, but that did not make Emmie smile. Great-Grandma Mae also tried her bit by giving Emmie delicious food. Emmie still did not smile. As Emmie grew up, she still wouldn't smile. Then Nana Sheila came up with an idea. Why not tickle Emmie? That worked and Emmie started smiling. And

that smile lasted and lasted. The book conveys a beautiful message how simple things in life can bring a smile to a person's face instead of material things.

A smile is a very important thing in anyone's life and this story shows how sometimes we overlook simple things which we can afford to give people. The concept is excellent and it's a good story for read aloud sessions in classrooms and school libraries. It's also a good bedtime storybook and parents and grandparents can read it out to their kids and grandkids. The illustrations are simple and lively, and they convey the author's concept and message with clarity.

Stories with good concepts, simple messages, information, and educational value are perfect for children as it makes them understand these easily when narrated through stories and illustrations. In this book, a small thing like tickling made Emmie smile when everyone around her was trying to buy her things to make her happy. We always tend to overlook small things and this book is a reminder of that.

All Across Canada

by Ellen Weisberg, Ken Yoffe

Children - Educational

40 Pages

Reviewed on 03/18/2016

Book Review

Review Rating: *5 stars!*

Reviewed by Mamta Madhavan for Readers' Favorite

All Across Canada by Ellen Weisberg and Ken Yoffe takes young readers on a beautiful tour of Canada, the second largest country in the world. The lakes, rivers, mountains, and tundra add to the beauty of this country where around 32 million people of diverse backgrounds and cultures reside. Wandering Wally, Hiking Holly, and Ambling Andy will take readers through Canada's thirteen provinces and territories. Readers will also meet their friends as they go on the trip. This fascinating journey through Canada will introduce readers to many new things and educate them about the country, its culture, and various other interesting attractions.

The book is definitely a must-have for all school and public libraries. It's a good source for reference and it's not only for children but also for adults. The rhyming verses and the colorful illustrations make it appealing to children and make learning fun and enjoyable. It's also a good bedtime storybook for children, and parents and grandparents can teach a lot of new things to their kids and grandkids by reading it out during bedtime. Teachers and educators will find it helpful to teach children about new countries and places, and it can be used for read aloud sessions in classrooms and school libraries.

The trip with these three friends is so real that one gets a feeling of actually being there in Canada and experiencing everything first hand. Traveling is an education in itself and that is exactly what this book tries to tell us. It's a lovely book that will encourage readers to travel and explore new destinations.