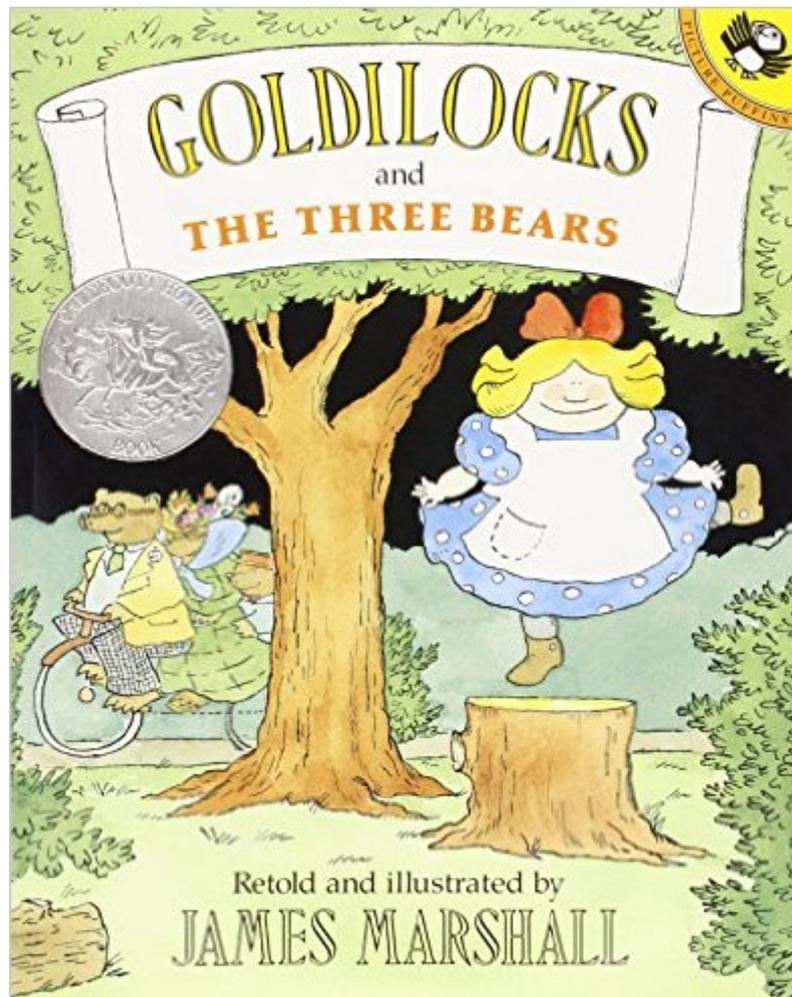


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Goldilocks And The Three Bears (Picture Puffin Books)



Synopsis

"What a sweet child," says a newcomer in town about Goldilocks. "That's what you think," a neighbor replies. For Goldilocks is one of those naughty little girls who does exactly as she pleases—even if that means sampling the three bears' porridge, breaking Baby Bear's chair, and sleeping in his bed. James Marshall's offbeat and inventive telling of this familiar tale will enchant readers, young and old. A delightfully irreverent retelling of an old favorite is illustrated with delicious humor and contemporary touches. ? ? Booklist, starred review

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD520L (What's this?)

Series: Picture Puffin Books

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (January 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140563660

ISBN-13: 978-0140563665

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #17,496 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology #430 in Â Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths #1168 in Â Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

The only qualities shared by James Marshall's Goldilocks and that other famous eating-sitting-and-sleeping girl are their hair color and a very low tolerance for porridges, chairs, and beds that aren't just right. This Goldilocks is...well...a brat, "one of those naughty little girls who do exactly what they please. Ignoring her mother's directive, as well as several "Roadrunner"-like signs ("Turn Back," "Go The Other Way," "Not a Good Idea), she takes the forbidden shortcut and happens upon the house of Papa, Mama, and Baby Bear. Marshall's revives this old chestnut with his prank-loving, slightly mean-spirited heroine. Aside from disobeying her mother, she seems gluttonous, spoiled, and not overly bright. ALthough pictures of bears hang all over the walls, and

she notices "a lot of coarse brown fur," all she can think is "They must have kitties." She devours baby Bear's porridge, breaks the chair, and has the nerve to crawl into Papa's bed after finding the other two unsuitable. Her rationale is the repeated "I don't mind if I do." The animals' language accounts for much of the humor. The chair is not just broken--it's broken to "smithereens!" Papa Bear cries "Patooi!" after scalding his tongue, and when Baby Bear gets similarly dramatic, Mama Bear, who represents the happy medium both in size and disposition, admonishes them "Now really, that's quite enough." While the Bears are pleasant and dressed in Easter-best clothes, Papa Bear is clearly "not amused" when he sees his rumpled bed. And what does Papa Bear do when he catches Goldilocks in bed, her teetech clutching a blue blanket? Marshall combines a mild message--like that uttered by some proper English landowner--with an animal delivery: "Now see here!" roared Papa Bear.

In this 1989 Caldecott Honor Medal Winner we see a re-telling of the famous children's story of a girl named Goldilocks and her interference with the three bears' home. We first see that Goldilocks gets sent on an errand, by her mother, who specifically tells her she cannot take the shortcut. Goldilocks is an impetuous child who likes to do what she wants, instead of what she is told. On her shortcut, she sees a house and wanders inside, without even knocking the door. She sees porridge on the table and begins saying first from the big bowl, which was too hot. Second from the medium bowl, which was too cold. Third from the small bowl, which was just right and she ate it all. The same happens with the chairs, finding just right the little rocking chair, which she rocked in until it broke. After all this she gets tired, so without permission, she heads to the rooms where she finds three beds. She also tries each, starting with the biggest one, only to find the small one just right, where she falls asleep and does not hear the bears come home. The three bears look around their eaten plates, sat-on chairs, and used beds until the little bear spots Goldilocks still in his. As Papa Bear spoke, Goldilocks woke up startled. She got out of bed, jumped out the window, and ran far away. The three bears wondered who was the obnoxious girl who entered their home, and wished she would never be seen by them again. And they never did see her again. This story is an excellent choice for reading to smaller children. This book even serves as a book of manners, since once you do the opposite of what Goldilocks did, you are using your manners. There is absolutely no violence in this book, unless you count the sacrilege Goldilocks does with little bear's rocking chair; so it is recommended for all ages.

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