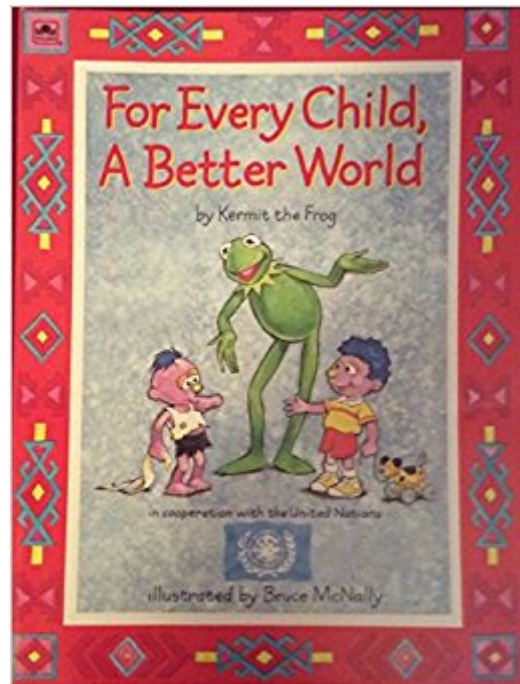




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For Every Child A Better World



Synopsis

The familiar character of Kermit the Frog teaches young readers about the plight of young children who lack the basic human necessities and the efforts of the United Nations to provide such essentials as housing, water, food, and medical aid.

Book Information

Paperback: 18 pages

Publisher: Golden Books (March 15, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307156281

ISBN-13: 978-0307156280

Product Dimensions: 11.4 x 8.7 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #607,767 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Babysitting, Day Care & Child Care #324 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General #7066 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Parenting

Customer Reviews

This eager-to-please picture book wins plaudits for good intentions, though unfortunately for little else. Executed in a style that could well be called "Muppet multicultural" (the critters appear in just about every skin color imaginable, including purple, green and blue), the work is dedicated to the memory of Audrey Hepburn and published "in cooperation with the United Nations" (a portion of the proceeds will help support various U.N. projects). The double-spread pages present a series of happy/sad contrasts that employ minimal text ("Every child needs food to eat") and cartoon-like illustrations to depict the world's haves and have-nots. Kermit the Frog narrates and appears on the "happy" pages, declaring what every child has a right to--food, clean water, clean air to breathe, a home, education. The bright borders of these scenes evoke various settings--Africa, the Australian Outback, India, Greece, the Tyrol--and contrast sharply with the drab, mud-colored "sad" pages ("But sometimes there isn't enough"). The book's motive--to open children's minds and hearts to the world's problems--is admirable; however, the commercial tone and simplistic format lack subtlety and depth. Ages 5-9. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Nine statements outlining children's basic needs and how they often go unmet--e.g., "Every child needs food to eat. But sometimes there isn't enough to go around." The accompanying art depicts Kermit the Frog as narrator and features Sesame Street- style characters in many colors (blue, purple, pink, green). But while the characters are in a cartoon style, they express real emotions, and their settings are composed of realistic elements: a smoke-spewing city where the air is too dirty to breathe, an orderly classroom, an ineffective shelter in a rainstorm, a battlefield with shattered household goods (including a toy bear and the wounded in the background silhouetted against yellow flames). The result is that the concepts are made immediately accessible but not trivialized. Images and motifs from many cultures appear in the illustrations and borders (a painting of Mount Fuji in a well-equipped hospital), implying that plenty and deprivation occur all over the world. A serious book, with appeal for a wide audience, that can do only good. (Picture book. 4-9) --
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Sold as used but it was like new. I absolutely love the message of this book. This book is great to teach children to be grateful for what they have because there are other children in the world who may not have some things that we might take for granted. I think this is a must have book for all children.

Great book in great condition!

I have this book and love it a lot, so I bought one for my daughter to add to her must-have library. For a used book, it was in excellent condition. The book made it in time to give to my daughter before she left us, which was great since she was visiting for a very short time.

This book was recommended in Harvey and Goudvis's book "Strategies That Work". What a beautiful book! It is so powerful in presenting these statements, yet the use of Muppet characters does not present a grotesque picture for young children. I've never seen a book impact students' thinking of the world in the way that this book does. Could great reviews like the ones published on your site possibly encourage the initial publisher to re-print this book once again? I believe every classroom teacher and parent should have a copy of this book as we continue to become a more global society.

Older book but still important today!

Great book to explain empathy to toddlers, a difficult topic but done beautifully and provides opportunities to talk about what's in the book.

Great story,

As a professor of English and Cultural Studies, I try to introduce my children to as much of the world as I can and try to help them understand that as much as we might want to believe that things are fair, that everyone is treated equally, that everyone has equal opportunities, etc. these are all myths. I also want them to know that there is joy beyond material things, satisfaction beyond consumption and success beyond monetary gain. Thus, I cannot disagree more with the parents who wanted this book banned for fear children would be exposed to the reality that life isn't fair and that people struggle. Children will ask questions. Who better to answer them than their parents? Moreover, what message does that send if parents are afraid to confront or even speak to the issues? Your kids will get answers on their own. Simply put, this book is a must for it is a book of hope more than anything. Indeed, that is the heart of the title.

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