



All Through My Town

Jean Reidy , Leo Timmers (Illustrations)

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Rising, waking

Bread is baking

School bus honks its horn

Who are the people in your neighborhood? Perfect for the pre-K set, this adorable rhyming text takes a walking tour of your community. The fresh modern art of Leo Timmers features hidden details and a perennial theme reminiscent of Richard Scarry. Little ones will beg to re-read again as they discover the characters who repeat throughout the art in this sweet and vibrant story.

All Through My Town Details

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Author : Jean Reidy , Leo Timmers (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review All Through My Town for online ebook

Erica says

It's a journey through town with a little bunny and his mother. All sorts of things happen around town, kids leaving for school, neighbors in their gardens. They take a trip to the local diner, to the farmer's market, past the park and all around downtown, including stopping to read outside the library while waiting at the bus stop. A fun book to read with a younger child who can posit to all of the activities pictured in each spread. It could be an I-spy game. The illustrations are bright and colorful. It reminds me a bit of Richard Scarry's "Busy" books. I saw in Barbara's review that the book could be used to the tune of Skip To My Lou, which would make it a fun addition to story time.

Kaylee says

I think that this is a really cute and bright book to use when talking about communities and cities. The images are so vibrant, very fun to look at.

Bailey Jo says

This is a short and sweet rhyming book. Great for preschool. It beautifully illustrates daily happenings throughout the town, and the ending is cute, funny, and requires a little critical thinking. It was fun to ask the kids what they thought about the ending, and what they thought the ending said about the rest of the book. They got a good kick out of it.

Additional Note: We followed this book up with a felt food grocery store, where they went through and picked out their groceries, and at the end, helped the cashier (me) count the items in their baskets, and then paid for them with paper money. They had a lot of fun, and it was a great STEM activity for that age (preschool).

Another thing I enjoy about this book is that it makes it so easy to throw together a last-minute storytime. There are so many other activities and crafts that could be pulled from these illustrations!

Mathilde / Ikvindlezenleuk says

voorgelezen aan mijn voorleeskinderen (VoorleesExpress)

Josiah says

I received my copy of this book for free via the Goodreads First Reads program.

Oh, there's definitely a Richard Scarry vibe going on in this book. Just as Richard Scarry portrayed a panorama of activity centered around the adventures of a handful of characters, in *All Through My Town* we follow a little bunny and its mother around their hometown, doing errands and interacting with neighbors of all sorts. Kids are heading off to school, everyday business transactions occur, hustle and bustle and commerce and hospitality are carried out as always. The elegance of life in its unremarkable routine is seen at the library, where numerous people seek after their own grand adventures, unaware of the adventures other patrons simultaneously seek; at the corner cafe, where the preparation of food can become a spectacular show; and at the hospital, where the bundle of laughter and curiosity that is a young bunny visiting a sick loved one's room can brighten the outlook of an entire day.

So much is going on in every scene that it's worth looking over each page for longer than it takes to read the brief, rhyming text. You'll notice lots of small things that contribute to the coziness of a town, the feeling of everyone doing one's own thing yet meshing like clockwork gears to form a place that is more than the sum of its parts. The reader's hometown may be vastly different than the one represented in *All Through My Town*, but I think that's the point: showing readers the subtle beauty of any small town anywhere in the world, filled with the little occurrences that comprise our days and months and years. If we can recognize that beauty in a book, then surely it's out there for us to see and appreciate and take part in, all in our own modest hometowns.

Jean Reidy's text is fun, but what makes this book for me is the artwork of Leo Timmers, bringing a piece of Richard Scarry's homespun magic back to the world of board books. No one ever created toddler literature quite like Richard Scarry, but it's nice to see authors and illustrators giving their all to replicate the vivid sense of place found in his books. Scenes I especially appreciate from *All Through My Town* include the bread-baking bear handing a long loaf of bread out a second story window to an elephant waiting in the school bus below, and the library scene next to the outdoor fountain, which treats us to a variety of goings-on all at once. I enjoyed this book, and hope the same will be true for other readers.

Natalie Lorenzi says

All Through My Town is a fun, rollicking romp through a fictitious town from a toddler's point of view. The take-away here is that everyone counts—we all play a role in making our communities hum like a well-oiled machine. The text rolls off the tongue—perfect for reading aloud. Publishers Weekly calls the illustrations “...an undeniable feast for the eyes,” and a feast it is from cover to cover.

Here's my interview with author Jean Reidy on how librarians and teachers can use *All Through My Town* in the classroom: <http://bibliolinks.wordpress.com/2013...>

Annie Payne says

A very sweet, fun read!

Kayla Eklund says

All Through My Town is a cute children's book. It teaches children what different people have to do to get ready in the morning. For example, the florist has to clip flowers and the librarian has to put books on the shelves. All Through My Town also teaches children how much hard work it takes for the children to get the things that they love. Corn takes a lot of work in sowing the seeds and tilling the fields to be able to eat it. The book also shows you have good mornings and sometimes you have bad mornings. No matter what kind of morning you have you should make the best of it. I will definitely be recommending this book to my friend who has a four year old son.

Libby says

The illustrations in this book are some of our favorites! So much to look at and talk about. We prefer looking at the pictures than reading the verb-based text.

Samantha says

Cute story, worked pretty well for storytime.

Barbara says

This is a wonderful book to sing to kids with parts of the tune of the song Skip to My Lou or simply enjoy the rhyming text together. Page through the book and follow a little one and his mom as they stroll through the town. You can see mishaps, monkeys brushing their teeth, mice in a manhole and a multitude of motor vehicles. You'll be able to read this over and over again to find funny scenes and talk to your little ones about what is happening in the pictures.

Melanie says

Illustrated with Richard Scarry-esque characters, this story demonstrates the daily goings-on of a typical town. The pictures offer many opportunities to play I Spy. In the end readers learn that the town is actually a toy town being played with by a young one. A wonderful example of using imagination.

Cemeread says

I've liked Leo Timmers' past books such as Who is Driving? I like the illustrations in this book as well. All the animals busy out and about remind me of Richard Scary in brighter colors. The story itself (not by Leo) is what I call an ing story, meaning most of the words end in ing, describing something going on in the pictures

for the reader to find. This book also offers many good opportunities for counting from the books turtle drops, apples mole eats, items lined up in rows nice and neat and caution cones. I enjoyed the book.

3.5 stars

toddler
preschool

Destiny Dawn Long says

I was immediately drawn to this book because of Timmers's colorful cartoonish illustrations done in acrylic. His attention to detail and ability to create fun expressions give this book some great visual appeal.

The text by Reidy is fun. It's written in rhyme and is chalk full of action words. But I think for younger children to really enjoy and appreciate it, you have to take a lot of pauses to point out the actions in the pictures--and sometimes to explain them. Which is alright--but I feel that if the text were more descriptive or contained more of a story, it might make it more enjoyable.

My daughter loves to look at the pictures, but doesn't seem to be especially interested in listening to the words.

IrenesBookReviews says

I loved this book and that is why I gave it a 5/5 star rating! The illustrations are excellent and the text is funny and easy to read. I would recommend this book for the younger elementary crowd. The illustrations alone are worth getting this book for. They are very colorful and there is much to see on each page. The rhyming text makes it fun to read and easy to listen to. I think all children will enjoy this book!
