



Apple

Nikki McClure

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Apple follows the life of an apple throughout the year, demonstrating the cyclical patterns in nature. The youngest readers will delight in following the journey of the bright red apple—the only splash of color in the otherwise black-and-white illustrations—as it travels from tree, to harvest, to snack, to compost, and finally to sprout. A single word complements each illustration, urging early readers to reflect on each stage in the apple's life.

Apple is acclaimed cut-paper artist Nikki McClure's very first book, originally self-published and sold in a limited edition of just 200 copies. Now, 16 years later, it is available in wide release, and fans will relish the chance to own the book that launched McClure's signature style.

Praise for *Apple*

STARRED REVIEW

"Run your fingers across this satisfyingly square book's cover and feel the subtle, smooth outlines of a ripe apple and simple letters. You'll immediately sense the solid, soothing storytelling at work inside, achieved through astute manipulations of paper."

—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

Apple Details

Date : Published August 1st 2012 by Harry N. Abrams

ISBN : 9781419703782

Author : Nikki McClure

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Environment, Nature, Food and Drink, Food

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From Reader Review Apple for online ebook

Elisabeth says

I love this book! I love the simplicity, I love the boldness and starkness.

Lisa Vegan says

Interesting book. It's almost as though it's aimed at two different audiences. The main part of the book, in which each double page has an illustration (all pictures are in red, black & white) and a single word to go with it, seems aimed at kids just learning to read and kids just learning the meaning of the words, and then the one page of detailed information in the back, with its own 4 part (seasons) picture, gives information about the life cycle of an apple tree and information about composting, and that part is aimed at school aged children who are independent readers, although I guess younger children being read to will also be interested to have this knowledge. The main part of the book does tell a story, albeit a very simple one. I liked the paper cut illustrations, though I think I appreciated the idea of them more than finding them all that aesthetically pleasing. This book would be a good adjunct for lessons on composting and apple gardening, and might also be a good one for getting kids interested in eating apples.

KC says

Love this artwork.

Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

Simple tale of how apples come into our hands. Gives young children a deeper connection to the food they eat.

C. says

Despite the simplicity of illustrations and text this picture held my three year olds interest and provided a great opportunity to practice predicting from the text.

Would also work really well with younger readers I feel because of the high contrast of illustrations.

Melody says

I loved the part where the apple gets forgotten and turns into compost! I liked the stark 3 color layout, and the one-word-per-page style. I could see this working with a person who was not quite reading yet- one could look at the one word, writ large enough to trace the letters, and one could talk about the papercut facing, and flesh the story out as much or as little as required. Nicely done.

Elizabeth says

Love the simplicity of this book. It is quiet but powerful.

Melissa says

This is interesting--I'm not always a fan of Nikki McClure's work, but I found myself really responding to the art in this book. (And someone else said they disliked this book but loved other McClure titles!) I appreciated the author's notes at the back, which provided more context about apple trees and compost. Physically the book is a joy as well, with an appealing square shape and nice thick matte pages.

Lynn says

The life cycle of an apple doesn't get much simpler than this! Actually, the cycle is expanded to include the influence of humans who find the apple and ultimately put it into the compost, where it then becomes a new tree.

Sturdy pages hold bold block prints showing the apple's journey from falling from the tree until a new tree sprouts. The text is on the left hand page, and each accompanying print on the right hand side. proving a nice pattern. The apple is in red, of course, and other objects are in black against a white background. Very effective in it's simplicity, and even sitting on display, attracted my eye directly toward this book.

The 'text' is merely one word per page in large bold font, and would be a great introduction to the apple unit. This could be used as a very effective writing exercise in which students extend each word into a sentence to include adjectives and descriptions, or paragraphs for older students. The author also included a paragraph at the end about the cycle and composting which are simple enough for youngsters but include enough detail that it could be used as an information book.

Kendra says

I love this book and how simple it is for kids to learn the life-cycle of an apple. It's such a great concept of the one word line on each page as you follow along. I love the illustrations on how original they are in black and white then the pop of red throughout the book.....

Read more of the review at

<http://lifeofstay-at-homemom.blogspot...>

Leah says

Simple and beautiful.

Carissa says

My son was staring at the pages with interest. The one-word explanation for each illustration left room for creative story embellishment. There's a part at the end that talks about apple trees and composting. At the very very end of the book the author/artist talks about how the book came into being, which I enjoy reading.

Seema Rao says

Spare, poetic images are matches with simple words in this tale that highlights on plant, an apple tree, over four seasons.

Tasha says

Follow the life stages of an apple from the time it falls from the tree, ripe and red, to its return to the soil. Written in single words, the story is told primarily through the images that are done in exquisite cut paper. In each image, red is used solely to illuminate the apple with the rest of the image in black and white. This serves to not only highlight the apple as the focus, but also makes for a dynamic minimalist style.

The simplicity and minimalism really work here. It is a stunning book both in the strength of the illustrations and the focus on life stages. This is a book I would suggest for parents reading to infants, because it has that strong contrast of black, white and red that infants' brains respond to. Even better, it's a book that adults will enjoy reading again and again.

Appropriate for ages 0-3.

Miss Pippi the Librarian says

McClure creates her illustrations from the art of paper cutting. The apple was drawn on black paper then cut out. The apple is the only splash of color in this book, but adds to the highlight of the topic.

The story is simple with a paper cut image on one side and a word on the other. I appreciated the words chosen because they are verbs whether it is taken as a quiet or loud version of the word. I think it depends on the reader.

Reviewed from a library copy.

