



Going West

Laura Ingalls Wilder , Renée Graef (Illustrator)

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The Little House books tell the story of a little pioneer girl and her family as they traveled by covered wagon across the Midwest. Laura Ingalls Wilder's classic books, illustrated with Garth Williams' timeless artwork, have been cherished by millions of readers ever since they were first published over sixty years ago.

It's a fond good-bye to the Big Woods as Laura and her family pack up the covered wagon and begin their journey westward to the prairie in this latest addition to the best-selling My First Little House Books series. Renée Graef's enchanting full-color illustrations, inspired by Garth Williams's classic artwork, bring Laura and her family lovingly to life in this seventh title in the My First Little House Books series, picture books adapted from Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved storybooks.

Going West Details

Date : Published September 6th 1997 by HarperCollins (first published 1996)

ISBN : 9780064406932

Author : Laura Ingalls Wilder , Renée Graef (Illustrator)

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review Going West for online ebook

Danette says

7/27/16 Read with Naomi & Arielle.

12/4/17 Read with Naomi.

Angela Early says

This is the first of many of the My First Little House Books by Laura Ingalls Wilder, adapted for the ages 3 – 8. It very simply depicts the story of Laura and her family preparing to leave the big woods of Wisconsin and travel west in their covered wagon. It has amazingly vivid illustrations that appeal to all ages.

What I love best about this book is the way it easily introduces a new way of life to this young age group. The readers can identify with Laura, being a young person herself. This is most likely the first introduction young readers have had to the ways of life during this time period. Covered wagons and petticoats are most likely foreign concepts to them.

This book also emphasizes the importance of family. All of the members work together to get ready for the journey west. I just love how my four year old daughter already talks about Ma, Pa, Mary, Carrie, and Laura. I am looking forward to reading the rest of this series with her and my son.

Brigid says

We read this after we read A Little Prairie House and I wish we had read it first as it talks about the house in the big woods in Minnesota and getting ready to move to the Great Plains. It raised some good questions from my daughter about why they moved and how it feels to move away from family.

Kimberlydaniels says

Genre: Historical Fiction Copy right 1995

I own several Laura Ingalls Wilder books and my students really enjoy them read aloud. I found this one in our school library because I thought "going west" would be a good addition to historical fiction as it represents an American family struggling in hard times. I am not sure I would use it as a read aloud (I currently use a Christmas story from LIW in my classroom) but I would definitely be sure to have it as a book in my library.

Hannah Marshall says

The Little House on the Prairie series is one of my favorites so I love that they made younger reader versions of the series. I love how they don't have to read the whole chapter books but still get to understand the story. The illustrations are beautiful and make it seem like you are there right along with Laura. I could see myself reading this to my own classroom some day.

Genre: historical fiction

Grade range: K-2

Kim♥ says

Much to my delight, my boys who are five and two absolutely *love* these books! The "My First Little House" series takes stories out of the original little house books and illustrates them beautifully. My boys love to point out each family member and my five year old asks lots of questions. These books have become a wonderful way to introduce history and "the simple life" to my little ones. These books have great family values. :)

Steve Holden says

*We wrapped up our unit with a reading of this story. Again, it was well liked by my class and very approachable to them in terms of content and connection. We read it while working very hard on first person narratives of a pioneer-inspired character. This story really does the trick in pushing their creative writing further. This is a very good read!

This is incorporated into our reading curriculum during our pioneer unit. This does a fantastic job of telling a short narrative of the anxieties, struggles, and potential successes that pioneers faced in making the westward journey. We teach about the history of this time, but also teach narrative writing at the same time in this unit, so this serves two purposes wonderfully. One of my favorite units in our curriculum currently.

Rita says

Simple storybook to begin discussion of covered-wagons and moving West. Good introduction to Little House books to come.

Sarah says

Laura and her family say goodbye to the Big Woods and their family and head out in a covered wagon.

Megan Staten says

Basically just a short version to the first few chapters of Little House in the Big Woods. It has great illustrations.

Bree says

Notes:

All the books in this series are beautiful.

Great intro to pioneer life, but may not connect to preschoolers with no frame of reference.

Son read them after he first learned to read.

Excerpted from Wilder's actual books.

Rosa Cline says

The more I read these books the more I fall in love with them! My 2 year old granddaughter and my two special needs teenage sons even like them! They are simple enough to not loose young readers-listeners BUT not loose the true stories that Laura Wilder wanted to bring out in her stories. And the illustrations are so very good! (Except the fact that in each book they have Laura's eyes as blue and they were brown...but hey, that's just a little fact.) This story talks about the Ingallas family leaving the little house in the woods, and written so well that I had tears in my eyes and my adult daughter told me with her eyes kind of teared up too... "It would have been so sad to live back then and to move...knowing you would probably never see your family again...no grandma, no grandpa, etc." Again written for a young child but moving for us adults...as Little House always has been!

Laura says

Loved this book. It is the "Little House" books series but for younger readers. Although sometimes the comments made about Native Americans are not politically correct, I think it is still a great point of discussion on how our thinking has changed and we are more careful how we speak of people who are different from us.

Randee Bontrager says

Going West by Laura Ingalls Wilder is an excellent book to read. This book interested me because each page included large text and didn't have many words on each page. The illustrations were amazing because it let the readers know what is happening. Going West is about a little girl and her family traveling by Wagon from Wisconsin to the West. It talks about their journey and how it is different to travel now then it was back then.

The intended audience for this book would be for 3rd or 4th graders. For an elementary classroom you can

have the students bring in their grandparents and have their grandparents talk about how they traveled when they were little and how it is different today.

Andrea Flory says

This book is good for grades k-2, 3-4. It gives children a glimpse of what children like Laura had to do when they left their homes and say good bye to families that they might never see again. It's a good book to have in a classroom. The genre is biography.
