



Mysteries According to Humphrey

Betty G. Birney

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EEK-EEK-EEK! Mrs. Brisbane is missing!

Humphrey has always investigated things, like why Speak-Up-Sayeh was so quiet and Tall-Paul and Small-Paul didn't get along, but this is a true mystery--Mrs. Brisbane is missing! She just didn't show up in Room 26 one morning and no one told Humphrey why. The class has a substitute teacher, called Mr. E., but he's no Mrs. Brisbane. Humphrey has just learned about Sherlock Holmes, so he vows to be just as SMART-SMART-SMART about collecting clues and following leads to solve the mystery of Mrs. Brisbane (and a few others along the way).

Nominated for twenty-four state awards and the winner of seven, the Humphrey series is a hit across the country.

Mysteries According to Humphrey Details

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Author : Betty G. Birney

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From Reader Review *Mysteries According to Humphrey* for online ebook

Poppy says

Mysteries According To Humphrey is a thoroughly enjoyable novel to read and it was very addictive!

In this book, Humphrey solves a number of mysteries to help his friends, including Phoebe, Thomas, Joey and more!

I can't wait to read the next book !

Betsy says

I guess I can see why these are so loved by children, but this is a good example of a book that kids might love, but which doesn't translate well to this (old) reader :-).

I usually enjoy talking animal stories, but Humphrey's repetition (SAD-SAD-SAD) is a bit too much. In addition, I felt that his observations on life in his classroom were a tad bit teacher-y. I'm not sure kids would pick up on that, but things were a little too convenient for me. A little too telling, not enough showing. Cute ending, and lots is resolved along the way mystery-wise. And everyone is happy and feels better about themselves.

This is probably a good read aloud choice for early elementary and a good independent reading choice for strong early elementary readers.

madalyn (polaroid books) says

The *Mysteries According to Humphrey*... Ahh, it will forever be a mystery to me.

Honestly, I read this book because I haven't been to the library in a month. I mean, reading skinny punch books has actually been a treat for me. I have almost read ten books this month. That is a big accomplishment for me. The *Mysteries According to Humphrey* wasn't a treat, it was a mystery that I will probably never solve because I am not a detective.

The *Mysteries According to Humphrey* is about a hamster and he supposedly solves mysteries that only hamsters can solve. He didn't really solve a mystery in this book at all. AT ALL. I READ 14 CHAPTERS TO NOT HAVE A MYSTERY!

THINGS THAT DROVE ME BANANAS:

Humphrey could supposedly talk?! Wait, he talks to people and they get what he is saying, but Og the frog just says, "BOING-BOING-BOING!" Obviously if you can not tell, this got annoying.

Humphrey could write. He has a notebook and he writes clues. I didn't know hamsters can write.

People say to me, "Honey, you have to use your imagination." I mostly read YA books. I don't read a lot of middle grade. YA books don't include hamsters that talk in first point of view and they stay in their cage all day long. The reading level for this book was for third graders, but I was beyond desperate to find something to read. Two stars for everyone. This book was not the one for me.

Beverly says

The Humphrey books are one of my favorite elementary grade series. The books are always well written and are just perfect for elementary students. They are a quick read and make an excellent class read a loud. Students will be entertained by Humphrey's antics. Adults will appreciate the lessons he teaches (and students won't mind either as the lessons are relayed in a very kind friendly way).

Kids who are just getting into mysteries will enjoy the mystery of the missing teacher in this latest installment. Adults will enjoy the interesting ideas Birney has for teaching. All in all, as Humphrey would say, this is a book that everyone will LOVE, LOVE, LOVE!

I highly recommend this book (and the whole series) for elementary library collections as well as classroom collections.

Recommended as a read a loud for 2nd grade and up.

Recommended for independent reading: 3rd grade and up.

AR Reading Level: 3.8

Mrs. Archer's rating: 5 of 5!

Ellie Brillhart says

I read this book at the library in the little kids section while waiting for my sister. Even though it was for younger kids it kept me at the edge of my seat. Humphrey the hamster is always going on adventures in the classroom (for he is a class pet). I give this book five stars because it was very good and I am proud to say I will be reading the rest of the series. I recommend this book to any kids or someone young at heart.

Hedwig says

If you love hamsters you will love this book from a class hamster's prespective.

Brenda says

One day Mrs. Brisbane was reading an exciting Sherlock Holmes mystery, The Red Headed League, to the class and is teaching the students of Rm. 26 to be word detectives. The next day she was missing. Humphrey doesn't understand how this could be. When she left the night before she said "See you tomorrow." She'd never broken her word before.

Mrs. Brisbane is gone. Mr. E is the substitute teacher who doesn't seem to be teaching or helping his friends learn. Humphrey must help them on his own. He must collect the clues and bring Mrs. Brisbane back. He must find out what happened and how he is involved. Mrs. Brisbane's first note said, "I was all because of Humphrey." It seems that one mystery leads to more. Humphrey is unsqueakably confused but is as determined as Sherlock Holmes to put all the pieces together until all the mysteries are solved and Mrs. Brisbane is found. Finally then Og, Humphrey and all the students in Rm. 26 can be GLAD GLAD GLAD.

Cassidy says

146 pages

Realistic Fiction

By Betty G. Birney

Mysteries According to Humphrey is the 8th Humphrey book! It is about a classroom hamster, Humphrey, who lives at Longfellow School in Room 26 - Mrs. Brisbane's room. He observes his classmates and tries to help them through their problems (like Be-Careful-Kelsey, who Humphrey helps to become more careful). But one day, Mrs. Brisbane goes missing! Their substitute, Mr. E (which Humphrey pronounces MYSTERY) doesn't teach them anything, plays games all day, and never gives homework! What happened to Mrs. Brisbane, and will she ever return?

I LOVED THIS BOOK. I'd recommend it to anyone 3-95 years old! The story is told from Humphrey's point of view, so you don't know anyone's thoughts. This book keeps you guessing until the very, very end! This is, by far, the best mystery I have ever read... and I have read a LOT of mysteries! I loved how more and more clues are given throughout the book. I loved getting to guess and guess and guess until I was told exactly what had happened! AMAZING!!!! :)

Irene says

I enjoyed this book. I think it's one of the best in the series!

As the title indicates, there's a mystery in this installment. One morning, Mrs. Brisbane does not show up for school, and no one knows why! All the humans find out the reason soon enough, but nobody thinks to tell Humphrey. To him, it's "The Case of the Missing Mrs." The class has a substitute called Mr. E. ("Mister E", "mystery", get it?), and it's also a mystery why he continually leads the class in games instead of teaching them! Mr. E.'s teaching really was an effective portrayal of ineffective teaching. Both my kids (ages 6 and 9) weren't fooled by all the fun, and they quickly realized that a good teacher ought to be organized and clean, keep discipline in the classroom, and actually teach lessons.

The class also spends some time in this book reading "The Red-Headed League", a Sherlock Holmes story. I am almost ashamed to admit that I have never read a Sherlock Holmes book! The references to "The Red-Headed League" sufficiently piqued my interest that I dare say I might try to pick up a Sherlock Holmes book soon.

Tomoya Sugiyama says

①PUFFIN BOOKS, Humphrey series, (just 1st and 2nd contents)

②4/21=70min.

③Humphrey, class, mystery, word, piewhacksion, missing, Mrs.

④"I can understand why someone who teaches children to play games would love rules, because rules are very important to games."

I like these sentences, because I can agree this opinion. It was been explaining that rule is important. But I think it refers to about not only games but also our lives. In our lives, it is important to keep rules. I guessed that sentence tried to show it. So I like this sentence.

⑤ It was interesting. Especially, there was a word quiz in the 1st contents. That was one of the mysteries actually, but also I can enjoy to solve that question simply. Anyway, however, I realized I became to be not able to read a lot. For 70 minutes, I finished reading just 2 contents. It was soooo late. I hardly read books last year. I think I have to read and get a habit of reading again.

Karen says

This was a fun book to read together with my second-grade son. That Humphrey is rather smart, and quite charming.

Mehsi says

I finally found some "new" parts from this series in the new library I subscribed to. I really love Humphrey and I do hope that one day I will be able to read them all!

In this volume we got various things happening. We got mysteries, Halloween, substitute teacher, a mysterious disappearing (which to the rest wasn't so mysterious or disappearing) and of course one cute and very smart hamster.

Humphrey was brilliant again, I love how he thinks and how he tries to help the class, or how he participates in the lessons. He is always very active. It is really great fun to see him get smarter or learn more and more. I really liked how he tried to figure out the mystery of Mrs. Brisbane, how he wrote down little notes in a tiny notebook (how nobody every found it, remains a mystery).

I would have loved having a hamster in my classroom back when I was a little kid. I would be delighted to watch over him and feed him.

The kids in the classroom are fun kids, they really care about their teachers, about their pets and they really

do their best. I will be sad when they will leave and Humphrey will get a new class (since I am guessing this will happen, or maybe the story will just stop at that point).

While most of the story takes place in the school (of course), we also have a few parts where Humphrey leaves for the weekend and gets taken to stay with one of the kids in his class.

Also that cover, how can anyone resist that? I just want to hug the cover, it is so cute.

All in all, this was a delightful read and I can't wait to read the other Humphrey book I got from the library. I would really recommend this cute books to everyone. To little kids who love hamsters or stories from the perspective of a pet, to adults who just need some cuteness in their lives.

Review first posted at <http://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Helen says

The 2017 Summer Reading Challenge theme is Animal Agents. So I thought I'd round off the year's Chatterbooks sessions with a book that fitted the theme. This is a light easy read that will appeal especially to the junior end of the group. It was good fun.

Chloe says

It was the best book I ever read apart from Harry potter

Dolly says

This is another fun story in the Humphrey series by Betty G. Birney. I introduced my oldest to these books when I brought the first one home from England as a present. She has really taken to these books and I am so grateful, since she's read virtually nothing but fairy books for the last two years. We both read these books separately and then discuss the plots and themes. These books involve a class of third graders and the stories have a lot of moral lessons that are very age appropriate for children this age.

In this story, the school year continues, but Mrs. Brisbane mysteriously disappears for several days. Humphrey becomes a detective and each chapter becomes a separate case for him. The story is entertaining and Humphrey learns about the importance of paying attention to clues and using reasoning to solve a puzzle. There's also a bit of a Halloween theme, since it's still the beginning of the school. Our oldest was thrilled to find more books available in this series, but I think she's starting to grow out of them. Still, it was a quick, fun read - it took me about an hour to finish this one.
