



Benjamin Bear in Bright Ideas

Philippe Coudray (Illustrations)

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Benjamin Bear walks on water, rides a square-wheeled bicycle, and wears a fishbowl helmet under the sea.

Benjamin Bear walks on water, rides a square-wheeled bicycle, and wears a fishbowl helmet under the sea. Told in the form of one-page comic strips, each of Benjamin's adventures is a hilarious gag, a puzzle, a mini physics lesson, or sometimes all three. Of the first Benjamin book, Horn Book wrote, "Original, deep-down funny . . . steeped in the rare quality of imaginative kindness." Kirkus called it, "A visually formatted joke book to inspire thinking as well as laughs."

Benjamin Bear in Bright Ideas Details

Date : Published March 26th 2013 by TOON Books

ISBN : 9781935179221

Author : Philippe Coudray (Illustrations)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Graphic Novels, Humor, Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Comics

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From Reader Review Benjamin Bear in Bright Ideas for online ebook

Lori says

Benjamin Bear in Bright Ideas!

1)Each page is a new adventure of Benjamin Bear and his friends. The pictures and dialogue are very simple but have a comic punch at the end of each. The students will be able to read each one but then need to put the picture and words together to get the joke. In “Hot and Cold” a lamb tells Benjamin Bear he’s hot so he shears the lamb’s wool off, the lamb then says that now he’s cold so the final panel shows the kind bear (with a disgusted look on his face) knitting a sweater for the lamb. Simple and clever.

2)Grade level: (I’m relying on the reviews I read to determine age and grade levels since this is a new genre for me and I don’t have any personal experience in this area.) Reviews place the grade level for this book at K-2.

Audiences and/or Book Bundle topics: Animal Lovers, Humor Lovers, Boys AND Girls

3)If students are NOT at the level of being able to put text and illustrations together to comprehend, they will find this book frustrating. If students ARE at the level of beginning and/or beyond imaginative comprehension, this book will be relished! (A very fine line I believe!)

Samantha says

Love these! They are so funny! I love how each page is its own comic.

Kylee says

A clever bear and a great early reader graphic novel.

Barbara says

Benjamin Bear always has bright ideas about how to solve problems such as crossing a stream, helping a lamb cool off--and then stay warm again--or how to rid himself of fleas. Each of the comics in this book is one page in length, and all of them are funny, quirky, and guaranteed to endear Benjamin Bear to readers. One of the funniest ones concerns his eagerness to help his rabbit friend achieve his dream of having a house in the woods. By the time the house is built, there are no woods nearby.

Deann says

Benjamin Bear in Bright Idea By Philippe Coudray Primary Book

The story plots are very short. Each page is a different story about Benjamin Bear. He has a new adventure every time you turn the page. It was a little confusing at first. I was not reading the whole page. There is a title on the top of the pages. The panels are large and easy to follow. The students will be able to determine the focus on for each story. They will be able to understand the stories.

I could use this book to teach speech bubbles and dialog in writing. I would use it to help students who are reluctant readers. This is a great beginner graphic novel. I would use it for first grade.

The large graphic and readability are two positive attributes. It would be a little harder to teach from because there is a different story on each page.

Sopana T says

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Annie Cheesman says

I really like this elementary aged graphic novel because it is so childlike and it intriguing to young readers. The vibrant colors pop out to the reader throughout the book, especially on the front and back cover. I really like the front cover because it is an action in a picture and it is engaging the reader not just a boring plain cover like other books. I also really enjoy how the book involves all animals and not just people because I think young children will enjoy seeing the different animals and creating names for each animal to personalize the story to the reader's personality. The dark contrasting first two pages really help the reader get excited about what is going to happen because its just a chicken image as a pattern all over the two pages so it does not spill any detail to the reader. The most interesting and I think helpful part of the book is the last two pages where it describes tips to parents and teachers on how to read comics with kids. This is a brilliant idea because it provides easy ways to teach children how to understand such little writing in the book but also can enjoy the book due to explaining what it means. I never really enjoyed graphic novels as a child because I loved reading lots of words to deeper understand the overall message, but this graphic novel does a great job of having simplified images so young readers can understand what is happening because the illustrations are so enjoyable to look at and understand the message so easily. Even I as an adult really enjoyed and laughed throughout this graphic novel because it is enjoyable for all ages and it depicts a humorous friendship among a few different animals through a limited amount of words and many illustrations. I really like how the illustrations are so plain because the reader can fully depict the story just from the illustrations and I think that is a great way a graphic novel should be. Each page depicts a different story and I really enjoy how each new page has a title kinda like a chapter book, but it represents a different page of the story of Benjamin Bear and I think children will really enjoy that detail. I really enjoy the humor

the author put into this graphic novel because it is humor that children will understand and I think that is very significant.

Asho says

This book was in the Easy Reader section at our library, although perhaps it would better be shelved as a comic book or graphic novel. Each page is a stand-alone 6 or so panel comic that shows the antics of a bear and, often, his rabbit friend. The gags went right over the head of my 3-year-old but were the perfect fit for my almost-6-year-old. The majority of the jokes are wordless, depicted through the illustrations, so this is good for independent reading but also worked as a read aloud since in a few instances I had to help my son to connect the dots to fully understand the humor. I'd say 80-90% of the time he got the jokes without my explanation, though. The jokes are good, clean fun, and clever! No sophomoric potty humor here. In general, he thought this book was a riot. I'll have to look for more Benjamin Bear books, as I understand this is a series (or at least one of two books featuring this character).

Sarah Wheeland says

Benjamin Bear in "Bright Ideas"

Positives: This is a very cute story and a safe way to introduce the graphic novel concept to young readers. The pictures are detailed nicely and the text consists of simple sentences and lots of sight words. It will support emerging readers as the frames will help them track what is going on in the story.

Audience: K-2nd Grade, Language Arts, Emerging Readers

Applications: This would be a great and easy book to use to introduce emerging readers to the concept of sequence of events. Each page is a short story within itself and students can describe what happens first, then, next and last. Many of the frames do not have sentences so young students can help you create a sentence that describes the picture. Also, the fact that each story is a self-contained page makes it easy to use for several different lessons over time.

(2013, May). School Library Journal. <http://www.flr.follett.com/search?SID...>

Amy Lafleur Meyers says

Funny 1-page comics about Benjamin Bear and his adventures. This is one of the "Easy-to-read Comics for Emerging Readers" as it calls them. Vocabulary is simple and repetitive with a few characters. Amusing comic for early readers.

Fjóla says

Probably our favorite Toon Book so far: Not a story, but a series of vignettes giving you something to chuckle at on every page. The jokes on these pages however, despite being so basic and simple that a 4-5 year old should be able to get it most of the time (at least with a little hint from the parent), are all the while amazingly clever and inventive. This is not crude, mean or slapstick humor, in the style of maybe The Stupids , or even George and Martha. No, this is a gentle, thoughtful tale of friendship that both young and old will enjoy. Made me laugh out loud several times, and so did my son.

This could fall under "easy reader", it certainly is. It's not challenging though in any way, and does not in fact contain all that much text, as many of the gags are wordless.

Anne Washington says

i really like these little books, they are very funny. Good for little readers.

Melissa says

Of course anything I spot in the children's section with "Benjamin" is a must read for us these days! And this one turned out to be hilarious. Each page is its own mini-story with minimal text for early readers - but in each one, Benjamin Bear and his friends are presented with every day conundrums that he solves in hilarious fashion. (Sadly I read this weeks ago and I can't remember now what my favorites were - but I remember literally laughing out loud on more than one occasion!)

Tasha says

This is the second Benjamin Bear book and it is just as wonderful and successful as the first! This graphic novel offers single-page comic spreads that tell very short but very clever stories that are filled with humor. Sometimes the gag is visual, other times there is a verbal joke. What Coudray does best though is to vary the stories enough to make the book entirely surprising and great fun to read. One never knows what the next page will bring, just that it will be funny and a delight.

As with the first book, Coudray's illustrations have a crispness to them. Done in flat color and fine black lines, the illustrations are made for fun. If there is humor to have, then Coudray does not shrink away from making it wonderfully bold and large.

This is a great book for reluctant readers and a graphic novel for elementary-aged children that belongs in every public library. Appropriate for ages 5-8.

Emma says

lol!
