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Katharine Holabird, Helen Craig

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Angelina is so busy dancing that she does nothing else. Her parents are in despair until they send her to ballet school.

Angelina Ballerina Details

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From Reader Review Angelina Ballerina for online ebook

Carole says

Angelina mouse doesn't care about anything but dancing as a ballerina. Her parents enroll her in ballerina school which leads to her dream of becoming a professional ballerina.

Sarah Sammis says

I first heard of Angelina Ballerina by Katharine Holabird through the animated series. We were in Bend, Oregon on a trip. Harriet was getting over a stomach bug and I was coming down with one. We were holed up in our hotel room eating take out and watching kids television. Harriet was just learning to walk at the time. I don't know if her first exposure to Angelina Ballerina made any lasting impression or not.

Fast forward two and a half years to Harriet being in preschool. She started taking a dance class that teaches both tap and ballet. She loves her dancing class and even participated in the recital. She'll be doing that again this year.

Around the same time we started getting Netflix through our Wii. There were the Angelina Ballerina episodes. Harriet started watching them and fell completely in love with them, both the older traditionally animated ones as well as the weirder CGI version.

So with Harriet so passionate about her dancing and interested in the Angelina Ballerina episodes I decided to check out the book that inspired the series. Despite her love of the series, we read the book only once. I guess once was enough.

In this first book, Angelina is just a young mouse but she's passionate about dancing. She desperately wants to take dance lessons but her parents think it's just a passing phase. Of course it isn't and eventually the parents give in, allowing her to take lessons with Miss Lily.

The ending of the book explains why it is that Angelina is so often the lead in the school performances. She does grow up to be a star ballerina.

Although it's a simple story, it was nice to see where everything began.

Maggie says

My favorite series growing up.

Kathryn Bergeron says

There was only a slim chance that I wasn't going to like this book, and I did! I'm sorry, a mouse wearing pink

and dancing ballet? Of course I love it. It also shows good parenting by redirecting passion into a constructive form, and that hard work can help you fulfill your dreams.

Marissa Magnaghi says

- i) Summary: In Angelina Ballerina, by Katharine Holabird and illustrated by Helen Craig, a young mouse who aspires to be ballerina enjoys twirling and leaping all around. At first, Angelina seems to get herself into trouble by practicing her ballet when she isn't supposed to. Because of this, her mom and dad decide to buy her ballet slippers, a ballet dress, and ballet lessons at Miss Lily's Ballet School so she can practice ballet in the correct time and place. After this, Angelina no longer gets in trouble because of ballet. In the end, she works very hard to eventually become the famous ballerina Mademoiselle Angelina when she grows up.
- ii) Theme: The major themes of this book are following directions, appropriate behavior, and hard work.
- iii) Rating: I would give this book a five out of five rating because it is so fun and playful, yet it teaches such an important lesson of responsibility and dedication to your dreams.
- iv) Personal Response: To me, this story reminds me of my long hours of dedication to ballet and how I used to run into things all the time twirling around in my own house.
- v) Recommendation: I would recommend this book to young children because of its charming illustrations and uplifting and motivating ending.

Erik says

Greataret and fun story as angelina doesn't let anything get in her way as she works towards becoming a famous ballerina.

Jamie Reynolds Spellerberg says

Cute little story and sweet illustrations. Using in conjunction with Firebird by Misty Copeland in a home literacy bag teaching social emotional learning (practice leads to success).

Katy-Margaret Doss says

This is a review for Angelina Ballerina by Katharine Holabird. This book is about a little mouse named Angelina who dreams of being a ballerina. Every moment of the day no matter what she is doing, Angelina is dancing. Her parents are frustrated because Angelina's dancing often causes her to not do something she is suppose to or mess up something she is doing. One day, her parents decided it is time for her to take ballet lessons and they buy her a beautiful ballerina outfit for her first day of dance lessons. Angelina loves her ballet class and her teacher Miss Lilly. Angelina works hard for many years and finally becomes a famous ballerina. I really loved this book and thought it was very cute. This is a book that I think younger children would enjoy reading and especially those children who take dance and love ballet. I would use this book in therapy to work on sequencing events in a story, problem solving, and answering who, what, when, where, and why questions in a story.

Cyan Gaeta says

This was one of my favorites! Love love love! It is so cute with the story and pictures, you just want to read it over and over again. This is an adorable story of how if you are super passionate and dedicated to something you love, you can do anything to set out to do. I feel like is important because when kids have dreams of being certain things when they grow up, I want to show kids that if you truly want to do something you can do with hard work throughout your schooling.

Wenting says

Read during a laundry trip, short and sweet. Got interested in that "cheddar cheese pie" that Mrs. Mouseling was preparing. American kids' books are cool =)

Jennifer B. says

This is so cute! Ballet and mice, two of my favorite things!!

Lauralai says

I loved this book as a little girl, and now it's my birthday and it's four in the morning and I'm not crying
YOU'RE CRYING

smetchie says

The illustrations are lovely and extremely detailed. Every time I look at the picture of Angelina dancing around her kitchen I see something new. scrub brushes under the sink. herbs drying in the window. oven mitts above the stove.

Evelyn Westbury says

Cute Children's Book!

Jessica Rawden says

Angelina loves to dance;so much so, that she forgets to clean and to get ready for school--so much so, that

she even ruins her neighbors pansies in the process! So, her parents decide to buy her a brand new, pink ballet dress and slippers. This is the "Oh, Angelina syndrome"--she means well, ya know, she doesn't know any better. After she gets her brand new gear, Angelina attends dance class and is more responsible at home. She eventually becomes a famous ballerina.

How is any of this logical?

I understand that Angelina has a dream and nothing will stop her, even her parents, even the rules. I just don't see how this is a nice lesson or story for children. It's almost saying don't pay any attention to the people around you, behave selfishly, and you will eventually push them to give you what they want. This story would have been better if her parents had taught her to have respect for her family and for the property of others and if she had learned all of these things, perhaps they would be able to help her begin to dance.

As a side note, I also hate the campy glitter on the cover of the new edition. This book is clearly geared for young girls (4-8).

ABC says

I had heard about Angelina Ballerina so I was expecting a lot, but this book wasn't outstanding or anything. DS did learn the word "curtsy" from this book.

Elle says

Angelina is a small mouse who has big dreams. Her dream was to be a professional ballerina one day, she even let it get in the way of her daily routine. When her parents would ask her to do her chores, when she was walking to school, or even when she was playing on the playground, she was always dancing. Finally, her parents figured out a way for her to get the best of both worlds.

The major themes of this book are believing in yourself and to never give up.

This book was always one of my favorites when I was growing up because Angelina was always so fun to watch dance through the pages. I recommend this book to little kids any age from 2-8+, but anyone could love this book.

Kelly says

Angelina dreams of being a ballerina and she dances all day; before school, at school, while she's supposed to be doing her chores.

Juwairiyah Sa-eed Abubakar says

LOVED THIS BOOK AS A CHILD.

Claire says

I loved this book when I was little! The illustrations and story were just so adorable!
