



A Poor Excuse for a Dragon (Step into Reading)

Geoffrey Hayes

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"Punchy dialogue and compact sentences should make this a read-aloud delight."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Part-slapstick, part-fairy tale, the gently humorous plot has enough twists and turns to keep newly independent readers engaged."—*School Library Journal*

Fred the dragon has a list of tasks he must complete in order to be a successful dragon—none of which comes naturally. But he's determined to make #5—eat people—work. Before you can say "pass the salt" he's gobbled up three people even though he doesn't have the stomach for it. Luckily a local shepherd, with the help of a giant and a witch, knows how to cure what ails him and get those pesky people out of his belly. It's happily-ever-after for everyone in ways you'd never expect.

Geisel award-winning author/illustrator Geoffrey Hayes is a stepped reader maestro. The common threads between his wildly popular Uncle Tooth and Otto SIRs and the more recent Benny and Penny series (Toon Books) are clear and constant. The art is adorable, the characters are bursting with personality, and the stories are humorously subversive. From marauding pirates to misbehaving mice to a dragon who swallows people whole (and then continues to communicate with them in his belly!), Geoffrey always hits that sweet spot for the stepped reader audience—easy to decode, illustrative tales that tickle the funnybone.

From the Trade Paperback edition.

A Poor Excuse for a Dragon (Step into Reading) Details

Date : Published August 23rd 2011 by Random House Books for Young Readers

ISBN :

Author : Geoffrey Hayes

Format : Kindle Edition 48 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Dragons, Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction



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From Reader Review A Poor Excuse for a Dragon (Step into Reading) for online ebook

Amy For says

cute story

Beverly says

A very cute transitional reader; funny story and cute illustrations. The characters look like plush animals or toys; some very round and cuddly looking.

Tam says

This is a "Level 4 Reader" meaning it has challenging vocabulary, short paragraphs and exciting stories for newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence and recommended for grades 2 - 3.

midnightfaerie says

A book my 5 yr old loved, a little old for my preschoolers. A solid reading level 4 book, this reader has a good amount of advanced vocabulary words, but not so long that it discourages a new reader. Used it for his read out loud book, which was perfect. It took about 20 mins for him to read and had just enough new vocabulary words to make it challenging. Also, it was a fun and interesting story he could get into. He liked it so much, he asked for more by this author. Great reading book!

K. says

Try as he might Fred the dragon just doesn't have a ferocious bone in his body. My kids (and me) really enjoyed this cute and funny story of Fred the dragon trying to become this big scary dragon but failing miserably. This book is great for 1st-3rd graders as it does contain bigger and more words in regards to your child reading it. Of course, if you the parent will be doing the reading then younger kids will enjoy this story as well.

OCLS Staff says

A short chapter book about a dragon that is not good at being scary, but with help from his friends he finds

out what he is really good at.

Dream Big (Summer Reading Program 2012) recommended book

Available from OCLS in print and eBook.

Felicia says

The story is cute, a simple dragon coming-of-age. The illustrations are made to look like everyone is a child's toy. I'd call it a good pick for readers transitioning from simple sentences to slightly more complex structure.

Dolly says

Our girls liked this book, but I just thought it was okay. The narrative is humorous, but just didn't engage me and the illustrations, while colorful really seemed strangely off. Princess Viniver's head, for example, looks like a balloon. Very odd. Still, it's a quick read and will likely appeal to beginning readers.

Rochelle says

Super cute and fun read!

Krystal says

Mrs. Hooty Witch!!!!!!

maria says

Good

Nice the book is good and it is for fourth grade I'm in third grade I don't know how I can do it

Jerilynn says

Good leveled reading book for kids. Holds their interest and is funny.

Andrea Labonte says

Very funny book. If you like Dragons read this book.

Kim says

Fun story, challenging sentences, cute illustrations.

themes: dragons, giants, princesses, talking animals, witches

Tricia says

Fred is a dragon who doesn't have a strong roar or the ability to breathe fire with zing...yet finds his place the world. Readers will enjoy that he finds his place.
