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Big Ernie's New Home: A Story For Young Children Who Are Moving



Synopsis

Affirms the normal sadness, anger, and anxiety that young children feel after a move. This work discusses the feelings that young children face when moving and offers suggestions for smoothing their adjustment.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

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Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (42 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #23,942 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving #92 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets #178 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Cats

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

We bought this book to help my 3-year-old when we were transitioning to a new home.

WONDERFUL. It was an absolute anchor for her and we must have read it close to 100 times, no exaggeration. Best aspects: "Big Ernie" is the cat who is struggling with the move. It was a risk-free way for my daughter to identify with some of the feelings and experiences of moving without it feeling quite so scary, because it was the cat who was struggling, not her. In addition, Henry, Ernie's owner, is a little boy who rises to the occasion as a supportive, helpful friend for Ernie as they weather the transition together. That was brilliant. Rather than only the adults being calm and supportive, my daughter saw someone her own age as a role model. It opened up the possibility for my daughter that one can experience the chaotic feelings that go along with the moving experience without being victimized by them. End result: she knew what to expect with moving logistics. She was ok feeling sad and used "I feel like Ernie" as her language when she was feeling a little scared. She was open to exploring when we arrived in her new environment. We had our moments, for sure, but overall, she thrived through this move and this book was a big part of helping her

understand the move and be ok with some sad or scary feelings.

We purchased this book for my two-year old when we were about a month away from moving to a different state. First, I should say that my son loves it. I mean, LOVES it. He wants to read it over and over again. And the book does get the point across. It talks about feelings that may come up during a move: sadness, loneliness, anger, etc. But it is long, people. LONG. It goes into a lot of detail where detail really isn't necessary, so it becomes very tedious to read. I noticed that other reviewers also didn't like that the story is told from the perspective of the cat (with the boy acting as comforter to his worried pet), but I actually thought that element of the story was okay, even cute. The illustrations were nice, too. For me, it was just the level of detail that became annoying.

This book is a little strange. I was looking for a book for my two year old about moving to a new home - this talks more about moving to a new city. I don't know that I would recommend it, but my daughter seemed to like it.

This is such a great book for kids who are moving. I work with a lot of kids moving cross-culturally, and I used this in my program this summer. It's definitely going on my bibliography for parents. I especially love that the cat is the one who is hesitant.

I bought this for my two year old before moving to a new home. He refused to let me read it for about a month, but now, he asks for it every night. It is a sweet story about a cat who is having a hard time adjusting to moving to a new home. I guess that makes it a little less threatening than if it were a child as the main character. The cat has a boy, Little Henry, who my son calls, Boo's Mom (Boo being my son's cat), and Little Henry does seem to be the maternal figure in the cat's life, so that makes sense. It does have a picture of the cat in a cat carrier, which seems to upset my son, but it gives us an opportunity to talk about how sometimes cats need to be in cat carriers, and children in strollers, to stay safe. The story includes many details about the physical locations of the old and new homes, which would seem to make it less relevant to our situation, but my son doesn't seem bothered by it.

This book deals with the issues of moving but puts the worry in the lap of the cat, not the child. I read the book to him a couple times before we moved and I didn't get much feedback from my 5.5 year old at the time. But once in the house, he wanted to "go on an adventure walk, like Ernie" each

of the first few days in our new home. I was surprised how much he referenced the book later. It's the best of all the moving books I looked at / purchased.

I purchased this book for my 4 1/2 year old daughter when we made a long distance move. Before the move, it helped her understand what to expect with all the boxes and confusion. After the move, she identified with the cat's feelings and seemed comforted by the cat's experiences in his new home. It's a great tool for helping a small child through a stressful process.

This book has a great story for a child living the adventure of a life move. The star character, a cat, is a wonderful associative character that is easy to tie into mentally for a young, innocent and mostly powerless child who happens to be living a similar, scary story. The only thing I would have changed (and I did when I read it to my son) was the link of something bad about to happen with going to the doctor. That is a whole other adventure.

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