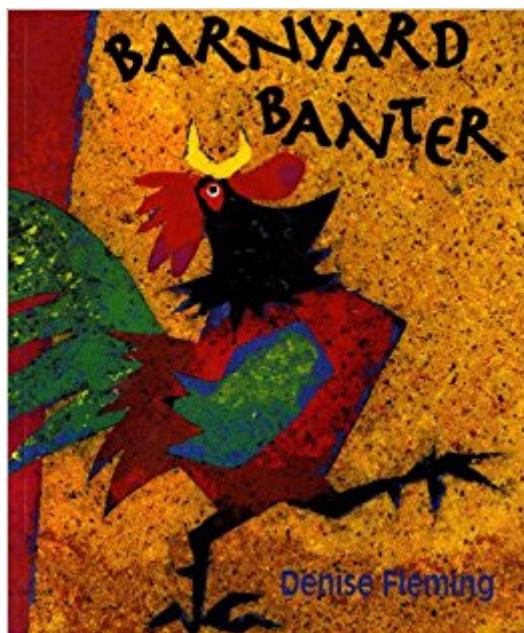


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Barnyard Banter (Avenues)



Synopsis

This farm favorite is now a board book, perfect for preschoolers. "Cows in the pasture, moo, moo, moo. Roosters in the barnyard, cock-a-doodle-doo . . ." It's another noisy morning on the farm, and all of the animals are where they should be -- except Goose. And where is Goose? Young children will enjoy clucking, mucking, mewing, and cooing while they search for Goose on every gorgeously illustrated spread.

Book Information

Series: Avenues

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; 1 edition (October 15, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805055819

ISBN-13: 978-0805055818

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #59,773 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Sounds #97 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Sense & Sensation #154 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

This book for very young children is a presentation of Old Mac Donald's farm animals in delightful colors page after page. Fleming's style of "pulp painting" which she used to create images is very innovative. On each spread is an interesting combination of sculpture, painting and collage using bright colors. Among other natural materials, she used colored cotton pulp, ground coffee, kernels of oats and a piece of burlap potato sack that rendered texture on her artwork that one can almost actually feel and smell! In Barnyard Banter, the cows in the pasture moo, the hens in the henhouse cluck, and the pigs in the wallow muck. While she started the book with familiar animals, Fleming added new animals like the mice in the grain bin that squeak, the peacocks that shriek, the pigeons that coo, the crows that caw and the crickets that chirp. The little readers may have difficulty

distiguishing the pigs from the background, but once they find the pigs' eyes and snouts, they will see that the pigs are having fun wallowing in the mud. Adults and kids will have fun sharing this books as they read, play and sing with it. Infants who are attracted with different sounds and voice intonations will be fascinated with the different sounds of the animals, not to mention their bright colors. One-year-olds can start pointing to the animals and later on imitate their sounds. The two's and three's can identify the animals and create their own sounds. Fleming also invites the kids to look for the goose that is hiding among the different animals in each spread. Children between one and two years old ae capable of spotting details and older kids will enjoy looking for partly hidden objects. Fleming made this game more interesting by showing only parts of the goose in some pages.

It's a back-handed compliment, to say the least, to mention that every time I read a new Denise Fleming book I'm shocked by how much I enjoy reading it. When I haven't perused a Fleming creation in a while, I have a nasty tendency to lump her in with fellow author/illustrators Lois Ehlert or Eric Carle. But Fleming has something those two will never have. A keen sense of what makes a colored cotton pulp illustration funny. Ever since I first laid eyes on her clever "Lunch" (a title I highly recommend) I became a real fan. And with "Barnyard Banter", I can clearly state that this is a children's picture book writer with a highly entertaining gaggle of tricks up her sleeve. This is a book that initially seems to be best categorized as one of those baryard sound titles. The first two-page spread shows a three cow herd of red-eyed (some might say demonic) heifers accompanied by the words, "Cows in the pasture, moo, moo, moo". On the next page are two strutting birds with a, "Roosters in the barnyard, cocka-doodle-doo". You get the idea. Each two-page spread rhymes with the next, which makes for some creative stretches on the part of the author (apparently frogs say "burp burp burp"). As this jouncy book continues, once in a while the words, "But where's Goose?" appear in a corner. The goose, for its part, actually appears in every single animal's spotlight in some way. When we're viewing pigeons in the rafters, goose is far below perpetually chasing an elusive butterfly. When we're amidst the crows of the cornfield, the goose's beak peeks out from the lower right-hand side, stretching towards the flutterby above. This means that kids can have a lot of fun going through the book and finding that semi-obsessive goosey.

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