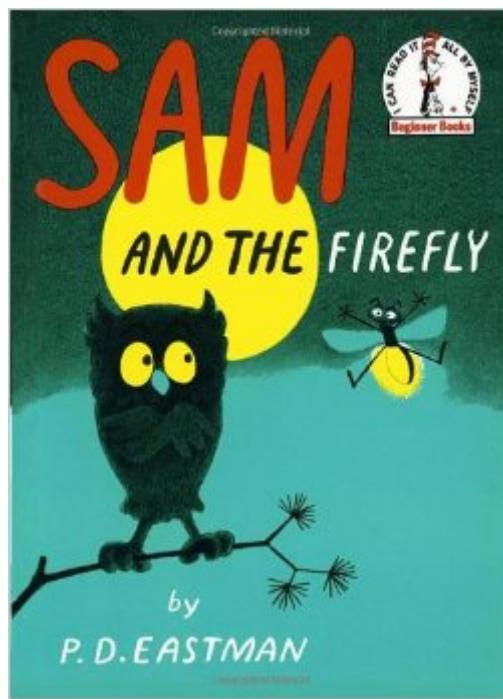


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Sam And The Firefly



Synopsis

Sam the Owl and Gus the Firefly literally light up the sky in this classic Beginner Book edited by Dr. Seuss. In Sam and the Firefly, P. D. Eastman (author of Are You My Mother? and Go, Dog. Go!) introduces us to the dynamic duo of Sam and Gus, who soar through the air writing words in the night sky. But when Gus's words end up causing confusion and chaos for the people on the ground, it's up to Sam to help Gus rewrite his wrongs. Originally created by Dr. Seuss, Beginner Books encourage children to read all by themselves, with simple words and illustrations that give clues to their meaning. "...provides interest, suspense and word repetition. Illustrations excellent. Recommended."--(starred) School Library Journal.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0140 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 72 pages

Publisher: Beginner Books (September 12, 1958)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394800060

ISBN-13: 978-0394800066

Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (111 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #12,711 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders #53 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds #105 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Beginner Readers

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

I have never forgotten reading *Sam and the Firefly* as a child, and I never will. One of my children projects all of his naughty deeds onto Sam; the other wants me to be sure to read every single word on every single page. This is a book that, on all levels, just plain works. Gus is a law-abiding owl who teaches Sam to make words with his fire-fly light. Sam likes the words but soon is into mischief, writing "cold dogs" above a hot dog stand and nearly causing a riot by writing "free" above a movie theater. His tricks border on the dark as he almost causes cars to collide. The scary darkness of the tale never comes to anything but engages the reader completely. My children worried about the

outcome, and wondered (like Gus) how to control Sam. The book even becomes tense when Sam ends up in a closed glass jar and needs rescuing. Yes, Gus is a lot like a parent. Sam is a lot like a child. And the book is full of learning to read and testing limits and innocently causing real danger and true friendship and sticking together and...it amazes me how seamlessly Eastman puts all of this material together in a riveting story. This may be the best Eastman book of all. It may also be one of the least preachy and most educational books I know. Dark and light, good and bad. It's all there.

Sam and the firefly is a super book for many reasons. First of all, Sam and the Firefly is the first book I learned how to read. My mother read it to me every night, until she started letting me read some of the words, and soon, I could read the whole book. (I didn't memorize the book, either.) I highly recommend that you give this book to youngsters who are beginning to read. This book also has a cute plot that will capture youngster's attention, and the illustrations are very fun. This book is a fun read, and I will treasure it forever.

I was able to get a super clean original printing of this on here. It was almost exactly the same as the copy I remember looking at in the late eighties at my grandparents' house outside of Erie, PA (that copy was probably twenty or so years old at that time). Just like the Ten Highly Effective Habits of People or that book about God that people use in church, this deceptively thin children's book contains pretty much everything you need to understand how the world works. There are responsible people in the world (Sam the Owl) and then weird free spirits who are always pushing the limit (Gus the Firefly). The free spirits are the ones who make art, music, and mislabel "hot dogs" as "cold dogs" while the responsible people have to come around and pump the others' stomachs, keep the infrastructure together, and help the free spirits escape from the sealed mason jars of hot dog chefs. The only way the world works and society progresses is with both types of people and that's really a wonderful story for kids when you think about it. If I had kids, I'd be reading this book to them at night along with One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. The colors in this book are beautiful, comprising a distinctive blue and black (always reminded me of a jazz album cover) accented with hits of yellow moonlight and bioluminescence. Just a gorgeous, fun read all together, and makes me think back to childhood when I would alternate back between which character I liked more. As a kid I generally, though not always, veered towards Gus, but became a Sam as I got older.

This is a great going-to-bed book-but only for the first seven pages. During this opening sequence, Sam the Owl calls out "who wants to play," but the misty blue-grey landscape reveals sleeping animals only. Then, on pages 8-9, Sam sees the light-or rather-a light, the one on the tail of the very spirited Gus the Firefly! Following Sam, firefly Gus illuminates the night sky with zigs and zags, and he begins to spell brightly lit words in the night sky. Intoxicated by the power of words, Gus misdirects airplanes, advertises a "FREE SHOW" at the theater, changes "hot dogs" to "COLD dogs," and performs other 'bad tricks.' But what will happen when the understandably angry hotdog seller captures Gus? P. D. Eastman's enduring story is funny, exciting, and easy to read. The firefly's bright yellow words are dazzling, especially for small fry, and the story shows the power of words (for good and for bad) and the value of friendship. A great find you may remember from years past, this is another fine volume in the "Beginners Book" series from Random House.

This was my favorite book growing up. I owned a copy and I still checked it out of the library so I could read it at school. At age 4, the story was engaging and the moral easy to understand. At 5-6, the story was still great, but the challenge of reading words with such a wide range of difficulty kept me interested for years.

Great classic story that has been around for a few generations. It's a great beginning reader that the children in 5K and first grade love to read. It's a story that I as a teacher can get the students to comprehend the plot, characters problem and solution in the story. Shipping was quick and the book was in excellent condition.

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