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A Piece of String Is a Wonderful Thing (Read and Wonder)

By Judy Hindley

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A fun-filled collection of rousing verse traces the evolution of string through history--from rawhide strips to three-ply rope, and from ancient Egypt to modern times--all accompanied by colorful illustrations depicting various uses for string.

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- Sales Rank: #5989102 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Candlewick
- Published on: 1993-04-01
- Released on: 1993-04-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.25" h x 9.25" w x .25" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 3-- Jolly, cartoon-style illustrations in inks, watercolors, gouache, and acrylics, filled with active little people and animals, swoop and curl appropriately across the pages to show how important strings, ropes, cables, chains, straps, thongs, and the like have been throughout the ages. Even sinews, or "living strings," are included. The concept is interesting and entertaining, but the execution is confusing, nonchronological, and cluttered. After a jumbled introductory page, the time jumps back 2.5 million years to ancient man and then proceeds forward by fits and starts, often detailing totally unrelated events. A sprightly but haphazard text extols stringy things throughout--sometimes it rhymes, but not always, and the mood changes from serious to humorous. Sometimes, it has no connection to the pictures that accompany it. Despite the charm of the separate elements, the whole is a disjointed informational overload that often loses its focus. --Patricia Pearl Dole, formerly at First Presbyterian School, Martinsville, VA Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Full of facts and surprises... a distinguished array of artists and authors, and a (narrative) approach more serendipitous than encyclopaedic. Each book has an entirely original slant on its subject." The Guardian "The best information books are so interesting that they make you want to find out more. The Read and Wonder books do just that." Margaret Meek, Emeritus Reader, Institute of Education, University of London

About the Author

Judy Hindley is a children's author who has written over fifty books, many in verse, and about different sorts of subject matter, from spies to string. Her works include, Sleepy Places, Crazy ABC and Isn't It Time? Margaret Chamberlain first illustrated a book while still at the RCA. She has illustrated numerous books - one of the most successful was called The Man Whose Mother was a Pirate, which is still a bestseller after 20 years.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jonathan Flannagan:

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