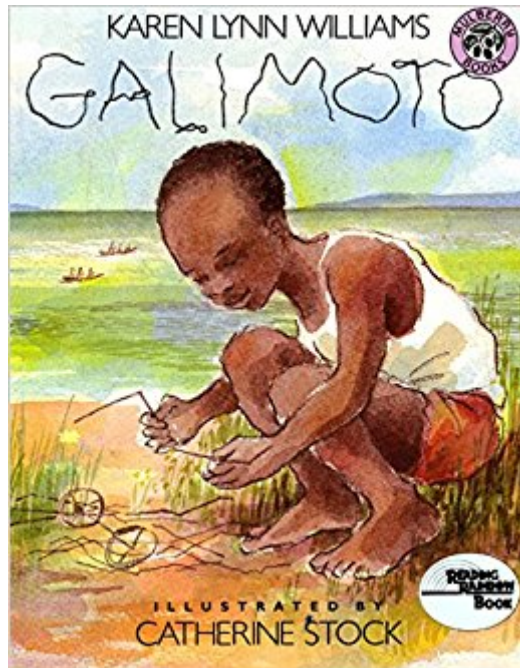




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# Galimoto (Reading Rainbow Book)



## Synopsis

Kondi is determined to make a galimoto -- a toy vehicle made of wires. His brother laughs at the idea, but all day Kondi goes about gathering up the wire he needs. By nightfall, his wonderful galimoto is ready for the village children to play with in the light of the moon.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520L (What's this?)

Series: Reading Rainbow Book

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (August 21, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688109918

ISBN-13: 978-0688109912

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

An African boy collects scraps of wire to make a galimoto --a toy vehicle. In PW 's words, "Williams's gentle text and Stock's soft watercolors capture the essence of life in a small African village. Children . . . will warm to this tale of a boy's persistence and not-so-small accomplishment." Ages 4-8. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 1-3-- When seven-year-old Kondi decides to fashion a galimoto (a generic term for various push-toys made from wires and sticks), his older brother is convinced that a small boy should not undertake such a difficult project. Besides, the elder brother reminds him, Kondi does not have enough wire to make a toy. Readers follow the clever boy through his small African village on his quest to obtain the precious material from adults and other children through persuasion and old-fashioned know-how. Although he encounters many obstacles in his search, Kondi's persistence

is rewarded. Stock's bright watercolor illustrations energize this quiet tale. Readers will cheer Kondi as he sees his goal realized. A good read-aloud choice. --Denia Lewis Hester, Dewey School, Evanston, IL Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is my favorite children's book set in Malawi. I have given it to many American children over the years. In 2007 I bought 6 copies, and took them to Malawi. We gave them to village kids who had never owned a book. They were thrilled!

This is a wonderful, well illustrated book about a young boy who has an idea and finds what he needs to create it. What he needs is just a small amount of wire. It is not clear until the end what a "galimoto" is but by then we are all cheering for him to make one. I read this book to students who are studying to be elementary teachers. I think it would be an excellent book to use in the elementary classroom...it is set in Africa and has many lessons for young readers. I would love to see a whole classroom of "galimotos"!

What I Like:\*The illustrations are beautifully done. They have a spontaneous, almost snapshot quality with the line drawing you might find in a sketchbook.\*It's good to have a children's book about a village setting. Great details about how people use certain materials or the gendered division of labor. The boy spends all day making a toy while his sisters grind maize, haha. Focus is still on the story, unlike some books which have a documentary or textbook feel to them.\*My almost-two year old sits through the entire book because the text flows well and he can follow the pictures. Each page has multiple paragraphs, so this is an accomplishment on the part of the writer.Criticisms:\*Some of the dialogue feels a little stilted or over the top. When the boy cuts in line to ask for parts for his toy, the women waiting to grind maize say angrily "You keep us waiting for a children's plaything. One cannot eat wires." This sounds like a cliché rather than what someone would really say. I haven't spent time in a village like this myself, so I don't know if the little hostilities in the book are normal or just the author trying to make more obstacles for her protagonist.--Mae Hodges

Such a great story! Loved making text to self connections and making pipe cleaner galimotos with students after reading this story.

This little book pulls you into a youngster's life very different from the lives of our children and yet there were engaging elements any child would relate to...formulating an idea...treasure hunting...being wrongly accused...inventing something that functions...sharing the joy of it with others.

"Galimoto" is a children's book about a little boy named Kondi from the Republic of Malawi who works hard to gather metal and scraps to make his dream toy - a galimoto (truck). Using his limited resources, Kondi uses wires and scraps of metal to build his toy, showing the naysayers they were wrong to doubt him. Good, story, great illustrations, and a fun read for various ages (My kids are three and four and a half). Highly recommended!

This book is a delightful glimpse into a typical boy's life in a southern African village. A galimoto is a very popular toy that is prevalent throughout most of the southern part of the continent. It is good for kids to see the toys that can be created from reusable items, a little ingenuity, and a bit of work. Kids of all ages will enjoy this book. They also like attempting to make their own wire cars!

I bought this book because it is about a little boy who makes his own toy car from recycled wire he finds lying around his african village. It is a special book because it is about this little boy who lives in a village in Malawi (the country where I was born and where I grew up). The other big plus about this book are the beautiful illustrations.

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