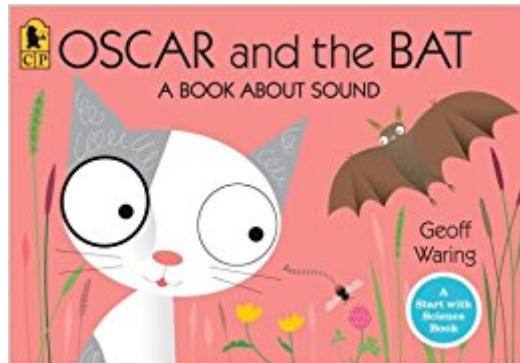




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Oscar And The Bat: A Book About Sound (Start With Science)



Synopsis

Start with Science books introduce kids to core science concepts through engaging stories, fresh illustrations, and supplemental activities. When Oscar hears a blackbird singing in the meadow, Bat swoops in to talk to him about sound. A sudden thunderstorm and a visiting cow give Oscar lots of opportunities to learn about sounds that are loud or soft, near or far, deep or high.

Book Information

Series: Start with Science

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (September 22, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763645133

ISBN-13: 978-0763645137

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.2 x 10.2 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #248,478 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #122 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics](#) #173 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology](#) #3626 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2
A young cat discovers that there's a lot to learn. In the first book, he admires bird songs and then runs from the noise of an approaching thunderstorm while a bat points out some characteristics of sound. In the second title, the feline plays with a ball as a friendly cricket points out the principles behind its motion. Without using scientific vocabulary, the author introduces the concepts of force, resistance, speed or pitch, volume, and proximity. Additional examples are incorporated into the respective story lines. A final spread provides a review of the scientific principles and suggests simple exploratory activities. The digitally produced, full-bleed artwork has muted tones and mostly flat shapes reminiscent of illustrations from the 1950s. Children will recognize themselves in Oscar in these discussion starters. For similar content but a more exuberant approach to motion, try Claire Llewellyn's *And Everyone Shouted, "Pull!"* (Picture

Window, 2005).
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Clear and immediate, this story in the Start with Science fiction series talks about the great variety of sounds around us—harsh, gentle, high, scary, and beautiful. Spacious digital color illustrations show Oscar the Cat in a meadow with his friend Bat, who answers Oscar's questions with fascinating scientific detail, such as how various animals use different parts of their bodies to communicate (dolphins send messages underwater through their blowholes and rattlesnakes lift and shake their tails); what makes sound; and what we can hear when we listen carefully. The two animals also speak about the wonder of silence. Without abstraction, this picture book will fascinate beginning readers and make them aware of the biology and physics involved in listening to the simplest sounds. Preschool-Grade 2. --Hazel Rochman
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I'm a big fan of the Oscar the cat series by Geoff Waring. They all have lovely illustrations and make science topics accessible for young children. I would estimate an appropriate age range to be two(ish) to five years old. Here is a summary of the books I have from the series: 1) Oscar and the Bird (Electricity) - Impressive in its ability to make technical concepts accessible to young children. Doesn't get down to the level of electrons and charge, but does discuss batteries, basic concept of a circuit, different forms of electricity. Helped my youngster understand that electricity can be dangerous and you shouldn't play with it (via discussion of a power line). 2) Oscar and the Moth (Light/Dark) - Not super technical, but discusses concepts such as different sources of light, how lights can be warm, rotation of the earth, shadows, how some animals make lights with their bodies (ie: bio-luminescence). 3) Oscar and the Frog (Growing) - Very nicely done. Concepts such as: different animals/plants grow in different ways (from eggs, from seeds, live births); different living things grow at different rates, animals eat different types of food to grow. 4) Oscar and the Bat (Sound) - probably the least science heavy of the four Oscar books I own. Nice that it talks about how animals can use different parts of their bodies to make sound. Nice that it discusses that sounds get louder the closer they get. Doesn't go into concepts about how sounds are made or propagated (ie: sound waves). This is not necessarily a complaint, I'm not sure I could get a three year old to understand a sound wave either!

Really great book for kids. Its a series that teaches kids about science, in a fun manner. My toddler adores this book, and I highly recommend it. We read it at the library first, and she really wanted her own copy. This one teaches kids all about sound.

Simple enough for young children to understand, this book will make them want to stop and notice all the different sounds around them, as well as pay attention and take a deeper look into their surroundings as they explore.

We have four of the Oscar books. They introduce scientific concepts to YOUNG kids - please do not think you are purchasing a book that will explain echolocation in depth - you are not. I have to admit that the illustrations win me over to these books more than the content. I do recommend them for parents or teachers of preschoolers and/or early elementary students. My two boys thoroughly enjoy following Oscar through each of the books in our collection.

Kids love it!

Love it, great shipper

Bought this for bf's 5 year-old daughter. The book itself is nice, and the author helps teach basic science concepts well. As someone in the sciences, I think it is a great book for young children!

Oscar and the Bat is part of a continuing series of Oscar the cat exploring science concepts with other animal friends around him. Each Oscar book begins with him making an OBSERVATION and following that observation with a QUESTION to help him understand how something works. An animal friend joins him to help find answers and more information about each concept using examples from a variety of animals, natural phenomenon, and sometimes everyday man made devices. Each story presents Oscar APPRECIATING the concept he has learned about and selecting a favorite example. The last two pages of each book summarize concepts for REVIEW and offer ways to add learning REINFORCEMENT GAMES with the child to whom it is read. In Oscar and the Bat, the concept is sound. In this story, Oscar learns why he can hear things he can't see. He also learns that sounds made by animals function as communication and can be made in many different parts of the body (rubbing wings, hissing through holes, whistling with throats or wings, etc.) . He also learns that all sounds aren't talking sounds when he explores sounds from

machinery and nature. Opposite sounds are explored in terms of harsh and gentle, loud and soft, including silence. In the end, Oscar and others pick their favorite sounds. (I won't spoil it for you but the end could make a sensitive sort tear up a little.) This review is intended to help those who care for children in their lives make informed decisions about science books for children.

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