



Spot the Plot: A Riddle Book of Book Riddles

J. Patrick Lewis , Lynn Munsinger (Illustrator)

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Thirteen witty and wacky poems pose riddles that challenge readers to "Name That Book." With a glass slipper here and a spiderweb there, Lynn Munsinger's adorable illustrations lead young readers to the solutions. From *Goodnight Moon* to *Madeline*, children and parents alike will delight in recognizing their most cherished stories.

Spot the Plot: A Riddle Book of Book Riddles Details

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Author : J. Patrick Lewis , Lynn Munsinger (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Spot the Plot: A Riddle Book of Book Riddles for online ebook

Matthew says

Not unlike "Once Upon a Time...The End" or the more recent "Fairly Fairy Tales" by Esme Raji Codell this is a fractured anthology of fairy tales in game form. Basically, the individual tales are stripped to their barest bones and the reader is asked to "name that book". The end contains an answer key and the reader can smack their foreheads about anything they missed. What I liked about this one than most books in this style is that he chose to use some more modern classics. One can only have fun identifying the same Mother Goose Tales and Brothers Grimm stories so many times before the love is gone. This used some of the "modern classics" and it revived a basically dead genre for the moment. Nicely done, though with J. Patrick Lewis that's usually the case.

Karli Abels says

Audience: This book would be good for students of both genders. This book would also be good for students who are reluctant to reading.

Appeal: This books appeal is the sense of humor and the riddles all throughout. Many students will find interest in the riddles and rhymes that they are able to guess and fill out while reading. The pictures in the book are also very appealing. Lastly, the book focuses on new and classic stories that students all know (cinderella, tacky the penguin, and click, clack, moo: cows that type).

Application: I would use this book if students are learning about riddles and rhymes. This offers a new look to riddles that students can often have a hard time grasping. This book would be fun in a lesson to have the students thinking on their toes and guessing along.

Award: This book was a Golden Sower Nominee in 2011-2012

Bridget R. Wilson says

In riddles (or poems), J. Patrick Lewis offers a review or synopsis of 13 children's books. Some are old classics. Some are beloved favorites. Can you guess the book in each riddle?

What I thought: What a book of books! I look that Lewis mixes classics with newer books. I wonder how he chose the 13 titles he did. Munsinger's illustrations are great. I love the 2 detectives and their canine cohort. I hope we'll see a sequel to Spot the Plot.

Story Time Ideas: The possibilities are endless. A fairy tale theme is possible as Lewis mentions two. Children's classics is another theme (using Peter Rabbit, Madeline, and Ferdinand). New favorites is yet another them (Tacky and Click, Clack, Moo). With older children, they can write riddles for their favorite books.

Jessica Davis says

The book *Spot the Plot* by J. Patrick Lewis intended for ages 2 to 5 years of age. It received the Red Dot Book Award.

This book is a poem book that is in riddles where you have to figure out which story they are talking about.

I gave this book 4 stars. There are many colors in this book. Also, a lot of illustrations included. It was fun to try and figure out which story they were writing about. Some of them were harder than others.

I find this book appealing to children of this age because they love to guess at things and with the hints that it gives it would bring joy to them. Especially when they have the correct answer.

kristen says

This is such a clever, fun book! It is magical when one of my students literally runs in the classroom from library with a book they are so excited about. *Spot the Plot* was one of these! My 2nd grader quickly drew a crowd and within moments the whole class was gathered around feeding off of the riddle he was reading, trying to guess the book. Perfect spontaneous fun prompted by a fabulous book! Doesn't get better than that!

Treasa says

In this book, each two-page spread is a riddle. The reader has to read the poem and look at the picture and try to figure out what children's book is the answer to the riddle. This is a fun book for people who have read all the books that are referenced in the riddles. (There was one book that I had not read or even heard of.) And it would be a good book to use with a group of children who had read the books - maybe even just picking a few of the riddles would be a good idea, since it is hard to know what books children in the group would have read (unless you have read the books to them yourself).

The idea of this book is a lot of fun. The illustrations and the poems are both entertaining, and I really enjoyed figuring out the answers to the riddles. I think I would have liked it even more if the books that were selected had all been ones that most children would know. Riddles are only fun when the answer is guessable.

Laura says

A cute collection of rhyming riddles about books. Each two page spread includes a short rhyme and an illustration. Most of the selections are well-known books (or movies) for children. The book will be attractive to younger readers and most of the titles are ones that students in grades 1 - 2 are familiar with. As much as I love *Charlotte's Web*, I didn't think that it was a great choice for this book; most students who are at that reading level will have outgrown this charming but young selection.

A picky note: The illustration for *The Wizard of Oz* includes Dorothy wearing red slippers. She wore silver

slippers in the book and ruby slippers in the movie.

Jessica says

This is a great book for a class visit. There are several short poems, each describing a well-known children's book (Charlotte's Web, Madeline, Where's Waldo?, etc.) that you have to solve. However, they are pretty easy, particularly if you can see the picture ("Cinderella" has a big picture of a cracked pumpkin-carriage, etc.), so I recommend it more for younger children. I read this for a class of accelerated third graders, and they guessed the story after I had read only one stanza of a poem. However, they had tons of fun with this book.

Grades 1-3

Scottsdale Public Library says

This riddle-tastic romp is a fun way to entice little ones to figure out which plot, from what book is being described. Once they find the story in question, they'll want to read or reread it again and again. - Jen K.

Katie Fitzgerald says

This is a collection of riddle poems. Each page provides clues that hint at a particular beloved children's book, and the reader must guess at the title. A child would have to be fairly well-read to appreciate this book, but it's a wonderful opportunity to introduce a preschooler to such favorites as Madeline and Tacky the Penguin. It also provides the greatest summary of Rapunzel I've ever heard: Her hair's the stairs.

Read during a 5th grade class visit on 9/30/11: [http://storytimesecrets.blogspot.com/...](http://storytimesecrets.blogspot.com/)

Read at 3rd and 4th grade class visits on 5/17/13:
[http://storytimesecrets.blogspot.com/...](http://storytimesecrets.blogspot.com/)

Karen says

Spot the Plots takes the reader, along with two young detectives and their dog to figure out the stories that are being discussed on each page. The riddles, which are set up as poems, are interesting because they are of many various forms and lengths. Sometimes their forms are even part of the clues. The illustrations, By Lynn Munsinger, also has tons of clues to the answers to the riddles/poems. The illustrations are done in bright watercolors.

The illustrations give such great clues that if reading this book to others, I would recommend not showing the illustrations at first. I would read the text and let them guess, and then if they still struggled, I would show them the illustrations as another clue. I also found that when doing this, my children loved to find all the clues in the pictures that could have lead them to answers.

Part of my favorite part about this book is that while J. Patrick Lewis chooses very common books, he does

go away from the "normal" books that everyone would pick. He also picks books that are common for a few different age groups. Some of the books are preschool, while others a younger elementary.

I would recommend this book to younger elementary because I feel that they will have read majority (if not all) of the books by that time. If students had not read one of the books, these riddles could also spark an interest into reading a new title. Another idea is for students to come up with their own riddles/poems for books that are read throughout the year. A class anthology could be made to give as a gift to the students at the end of the year!

Lindsay Stier says

Audience: Primary

Genre: Fiction - Includes references to Traditional Literature

Prereading Strategy: Think - Pair - Share

This book is full of riddles referencing many famous stories. To introduce students to solving riddles I will have the students think of their favorite food. They then need to come up with 5 words to describe that food. Then they will pair up and have their partner guess what their favorite food is from those 5 words. We will then discuss the students word choices and if they did or did not help their partner guess their food and come up with alternatives that may work better.

I would use this book as a mentor text for a writing lesson. This strategy will be helpful for students understand how important it is include enough details and to show how vital word choice is when you are writing riddles.

Heidi says

I love this book. Not only does this book have clever riddles, but also cute illustrations. I enjoy sharing these with my students and having them try to guess what book is being described. For the older students I wait to show the pictures until they've had a few guesses because the illustrations really give some great clues.

Several of the books highlighted have been made into movies so the younger students have a good chance at guessing most of the titles. Some of the books included are: The Wizard of Oz, Madeline, The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Cinderella, Rapunzel, Where's Waldo, Goodnight Moon, and Pinocchio. Interestingly, the one that students consistently don't know is The Story of Ferdinand. I remember loving that story when I was younger, but I guess fewer kids are exposed to it these days. Anyway, this book provides lots of book-related fun. My only complaint? I wish there were more riddles included. :)

Kathy says

Cute. My third grader enjoyed it. He spent a while looking for Waldo on the Where's Waldo page. He got very excited about the books that he knew. This book gives the reader hints in rhyme and in pictures for well known books. The last page shows the titles of the books that the reader has guessed about throughout the book.

Amy Forrester says

The thirteen riddle poems in this book give readers clues to the titles of classic children's books. From Tacky the Penguin to The Polar Express, Goodnight Moon to Madeline follow two book young book detectives and their canine companion as they sort through the textual and visual evidence. Humorously illustrated by Munsinger, these poems will have readers shouting out the names of their favorite books and characters.

Each two page spread is devoted to a different poem/book and features the young detectives (a boy and a girl), their dog, and a giant book. Characters and elements of each story peek and tumble out of each book and the landscape changes to reflect the story. For instance, the boy and girl examine a blue waistcoat while in the garden of Farmer McGregor and they pull yards and yards of hair from a book that resembles a tower. Some of the poems are just a handful of words while others are a few stanzas. Although most of the poems rhyme, they take different forms such as the riddle about Click, Clack, Moo:Cows That Type, which is in the form of a letter to the farmer from the cows. The answers, including author and illustrator, are included on the last page of the book.

Full Review at Picture-Book-a-Day: <http://picturebookaday.blogspot.com/2...>
