



Pick a Pup

Marsha Wilson Chall , Jed Henry (Illustrator)

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Today is the day that Sam picks a pup! But how will he ever decide which one? He and his gram take a trip to the city animal shelter, greeting their neighbors' dogs as they go. There are sleepy pups, hyper pups, glamorous pups--and some that are a mix of everything!

This energetic book, with its fun rhyming text and adorable illustrations, is sure to thrill the young dog lover. Anyone who's ever adopted a furry friend will already know the true trick to picking a pup . . . the pup picks YOU!

Pick a Pup Details

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Author : Marsha Wilson Chall , Jed Henry (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Pick a Pup for online ebook

Dione Basseri says

So, obvious warning to families, don't hand this to your kid unless you're about to go get a dog! And don't give this as a gift to someone's kid unless you know the dog thing is happening. That could be a huge let-down for the little ones.

But this would be a great choice for a preschool or kindergarten class to talk about their pets. Not only to highlight the differences in pets, but to tell the story of how they became part of the family. Adopted? Child of an earlier pet? Just showed up one day and decided to stay?

Going back to the family thing, it's also a great intro for a discussion about a pet's needs and an owner's responsibilities. So many dogs with different temperaments are described, making it easy for children to understand that each dog is different.

Overall, the rhyming verse is fine, with a good rhythm. The art is consistent, and pleasantly bright. While this book won't be a great pick for every family, I think this is a must to at least borrow iff you're going to surprise your child with a new family friend.

Alicia says

Sam is going with his grandmother to pick out a puppy at the shelter and his biggest concern is how will he know which pup to pick? The wonderful rhyme is adorable and in the end, just like it happens in real life, the pup picks you!

Kyle Turck says

Pick a Pup is a well-written phonemic awareness book that uses a very solid rhyming pattern as well as manipulation of words, both of which can truly help young children with phonics. The story is about a young boy named Sam who is getting ready to pick out his very own puppy, yet on the way to the animal shelter he starts to realize he might not know how to pick the right one, especially after having seen everyone else with their unique dogs. In the end, Sam realizes that picking out the right puppy is a lot easier than he thought!

I would recommend this to early elementary students, Kindergarten and 1st grade especially, as there are some very good phonics elements in this book. The book also doesn't stick with a constant rhyming pattern throughout, switching it up in the middle to show a new element of phonemic awareness, so this book is definitely valuable as a teaching tool.

Kelsey says

Sam worries about picking a new pup from the shelter. He sees many different kinds of dogs on the way to

shelter. When they finally reach the shelter, a pup jumps out at Sam and picks him. Chall includes a rhyming description of each kind of pup, which helps to promote phonological awareness. Children will enjoy the cute pictures of all the puppies and will be relieved to find that Sam finally makes the perfect choice.

Amy says

My daughter, age 9, approves of this book because she is a firm believer in letting an animal choose you, as her newest cat has done. The 2 year old I read this to loved it and wanted it over and over.

Jeanette Johnson says

Darling story and illustrations. A boy get to choose a puppy and doesn't know how he will ever be able to make a decision. Along the way to the kennel he thinks about all the dogs he knows. done in rhyme, this heartwarming story is great for all ages.

Melissa says

A "list" picture book that actually manages to have a narrative arc and satisfying resolution! Great bouncy rhymes about each of the different kinds of dogs. The wordless page where the little yellow lab leaps up from the pack = priceless for its textual and emotional timing.

Barbara says

Today's the day that Sam will get to pick out a new pup for his very own. On the way to the shelter, he and his grandmother pay attention to the different dogs others have. Each dog has something special, described in playful fashion--one is a "never-lopey-mopey pup" while another one is an "always-wakes-you-up pup." But once Sam arrives at the shelter, he realizes that he may not be the one who does the choosing. I like how the author reminds readers that different types of dogs suit different lifestyles and celebrates the bond between humans and animals although that walk to the shelter must have been awfully long. The watercolor and digital illustrations capture each dog's unique personality as well as Sam's excitement over adding a new member to his family.

Meg McGregor says

For any little boy or girl who has ever wanted a puppy, this book will quickly become one of their favorites.

Today is the day, Sam gets to go down to the shelter and pick out a puppy for his very own. But he is desperate to know the secret. He wants to pick out the perfect pup for him but how to do it?

When he gets to the shelter, the secret to picking out the perfect pup is revealed.

And that secret is exactly correct. That is how every one of the dogs in my life have been picked!

Crystal says

Cute message about dogs picking their owners and different types and adopting from shelters but a lot of the sentences just didn't flow.

Emyrose8 says

Aww, cute. A boy goes to pick a dog from the shelter, but worries how he'll know it's the right one. Some of the rhymes are a bit forced, but I don't think kids will notice. Good read aloud book.

Peacegal says

This is a wonderful little book that gently promotes shelter adoption, all the while illustrating the many great dogs who are available in shelters. In the end, the little boy and his Gran don't pick a pup as much as the pup picks them!

This is a wonderful read-aloud story for shelter outreach to kindergartens and preschools.

Whole And says

A sweet rhythmic tale of a little boy wondering how he's going to choose his new pup from the shelter. Gram assures him he'll just know which one is the right one and to his delight, the right pup chooses him.

Heidi-Marie says

Not quite my book. Great for the dog and puppy lovers. A fun choice if a child is about to get a dog themselves. Cute pictures. I liked that there was rhyming, though it didn't always flow for me. I liked seeing the different types of dogs, too, as I've seen quite a few like them. A preschool storytime could work, but it would be best for one who likes dogs (like my co-worker!).

4/24/17 Grabbed this for movement storytime. Didn't remember anything about it, but the kids liked it. Huge crowd, so they may have fed off each other. But I had them joining in the different actions of dogs. And they liked seeing the dog pick Sam.

Heather says

The use of the animal shelter where to pick a pup makes this book a five. The rhyming and content plus the size of physical size of the book is exhausting for my kiddo. But we loved the variations of perspective in the illustrations. Having the grandma as a guardian in this book was a great lesson to expand his understanding of family. Cute book.
