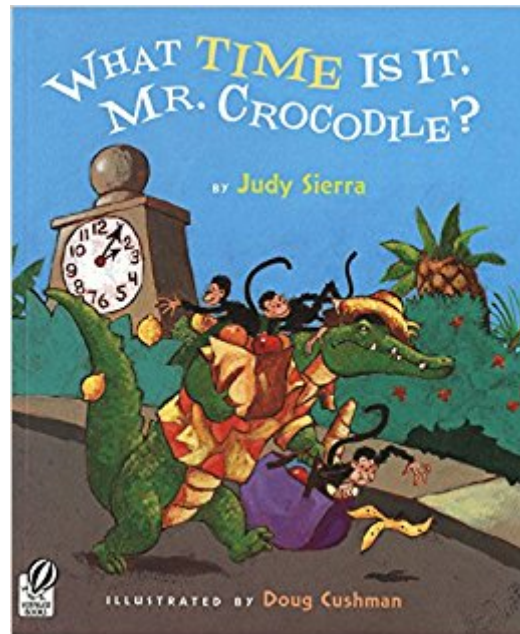




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What Time Is It, Mr. Crocodile?



Synopsis

Mr. Crocodile has big plans for finally catching--and eating--five pesky monkeys, but those little rascals dupe him again and again. By the time the clock strikes six, those mischievous monkeys actually teach Mr. Crocodile a thing or two about friendship . . . and about having fun!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (June 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545004926

ISBN-13: 978-0545004923

ASIN: 0152058508

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #321,462 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Time #80 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Alligators & Crocodiles #284 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Apes & Monkeys

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 3 Two picture-book talents join forces for some memorable monkey business in this entertaining tale. In the introductory spread, Mr. Crocodile lays out his intended schedule for the next day, but his best-laid plans go awry when the monkeys arrive. Sierra again demonstrates her considerable storytelling skill with a series of deftly rhymed answers to the repeated title question: "Time to take a quick look/for a recipe book./HURRY UP! HURRY UP!/I've got monkeys to cook." Although the story is vaguely reminiscent of several folktales involving cross crocodiles and mischievous monkeys, Mr. Crocodile ultimately shows a soft spot that compromises his traditionally sinister persona. The story ends with him revising his daily planner to reflect his new attitude toward the simian smart alecks. Cushman departs from his signature style of watercolor cartoons in favor of a more sophisticated impressionistic technique using vivid acrylics. This bolder, brighter medium and method depict the action and hilarity even more effectively than his past work.

The details, of course, make all the difference, such as the inclusion of a clock in each full-bleed spread with the time corresponding to Mr. Croc's original schedule. Pair this with Sierra's *Counting Crocodiles* (Gulliver, 1997) for even more fun with this reptilian rogue and his pesky primate counterparts, or with Joan M. Lexau and Cushman's *Crocodile and Hen* (HarperCollins, 2001) for another tale of a crocodile befriending his intended dinner.

—Sean George,
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PreS-Gr. 1. By the light of the moon, Mr. Crocodile pecks away on a typewriter, preparing a list of "Things to Do Tomorrow." Kids may be disappointed to see crocodiles doing the same boring stuff humans do: waking up, eating breakfast, shopping, taking a bath. But the list takes on a decidedly reptilian flavor at four, five, and six o'clock, when it is revealed that Mr. Crocodile intends to catch, cook, and eat "those pesky monkeys" that have been annoying him. Cushman's humorous double-page spreads show the croc gamely trying to follow his agenda despite the quintet of mischievous monkeys, who start each hour by teasingly chanting, "What TIME is it, Mr. Crocodile?" Sierra's bouncy rhyming text will make this a fun read-aloud, and the clocks that appear prominently in every spread can be used to introduce or reinforce the concepts of time and following a schedule.

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I'm teaching my daughter how to tell time and this book has been great to help her see different times on the clock showcased through a fun story. In the story, Mr. Crocodile, Esquire, is planning his day and makes a list of all the things he needs to do at certain times. The problem is, there are some pesky monkeys that keep interfering with his plans and causing trouble for him and though he originally plans to cook the monkeys for dinner, he discovers by the end of the day that he enjoys having them to keep him company. The rhyming text is fun to read and my daughter loves to chime in with some of the repetitive phrases like "What time is it, Mr. Crocodile?" The illustrations are very detailed and every time we read it, we notice new things in them. On each page is an analog clock showing the time and my daughter has now learned to look at the clock and tell the even hours. The only negative of the clock faces is that some of them are Roman Numerals, which she didn't understand and doesn't fit with the rest of the book, so it would've been better to have them all be traditional numbers. The digital clock times are also featured on Mr. Crocodile's to do list so they

can see it in both forms. Overall, this is a cute and fun story to help your child start to tell time. Just be aware that it's only "o'clock" even hours, not quarter or half hours.

Great book for teaching kids to tell time. Because of this book my daughter, 4 when she first read it, started being able to tell time. Telling time with an adorable story about monkies and a crocodile is brilliant. The book was in perfect condition and arrived on time.

I had hoped the book would engage my daughter and help her learn how to read the clock. Instead, she figured out the pattern. She lost interest in the story and just kept shouting out the next time. I guess it would be better for K-1 vs a second grader.

I love all the rhyming in this book! It is so well written and the illustrations are great! I got this for my 7 year old cousin who is just learning to tell time, it's perfect because a clock is featured on each page.

I am not sure what it is about this book but my 3-year old daughter loves it so much that she laughs hysterically when I read it to her! We picked it out at the library and as an adult, I didn't really like it that much but my daughter found the rhymes, and the quirky monkeys and crocodile to be adorable! For weeks she asked us "What time is it Mr. Crocodile?" when we were ready to go places, so we knew we had to buy this one. Love to hear my child laugh like that during a story, so it is a winner!

Adorable book and gifted it with the Telly clock.....great gift!

Great book. My son has been wanting me to read it to him everyday. Nice pictures and the rhyming is cute.

My grandkids loved this gift.

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