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Never Play Music Right Next To The Zoo



Synopsis

This lively and lyrical jaunt from actor and author John Lithgow comes with a CD of his celebrated song! Oh, children! Remember! Whatever you may do, Never play music right next to the zoo. They'll burst from their cages, each beast and each bird, Desperate to play all the music they've heard. A concert gets out of hand when the animals at the neighboring zoo storm the stage and play the instruments themselves in this hilarious picture book based on one of John Lithgow's best-loved tunes. This package includes a CD of John and an orchestra performing the song!

Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Book and CD edition (October 22, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442467436

ISBN-13: 978-1442467439

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (75 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #31,610 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #124 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts](#) #777 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books](#) #2202 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals](#)

Age Range: 2 - 6 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

Customer Reviews

This is a book that everyone in the family will enjoy. John Lithgow has created an adventure in reading and listening that hasn't been equaled since Peter And The Wolf. The story/rhyme is entertaining and the music creates an atmosphere that will pull you right into the dazzling event of an orchestra of zoo animals. I watched an interview with Mr. Lithgow and was so charmed by him and the fact that he said his dog helped him write this adorable book, that I ordered the book with overnight Prime delivery. I was rewarded with a book that is so fun that I wanted to listen to it over and over. Often, illustrators don't get the credit they deserve. I'm completely charmed and captivated with the whimsical and creative talents of Leeza Hernandez. Together Lithgow and Hernandez have fashioned a book that will be passed down to generations for come.

I am an elementary music teacher, and this book is a new hit in my classroom. I just shared it with my second grade students, who had just taken their annual field trip to the zoo. They loved the story, made great comments regarding the animals ability to play the instruments when we listened to the recording, and then made connections to their field trip. The recording really makes this book a great value... although I do wish that the book repeated the chorus to match the recording so I didn't have to flip back through the pages while listening.

This book, like "The Remarkable Farkle McBride", has some wonderful musical elements that can be tied into classroom learning. However, I am pretty careful with the words that I use in the classroom, and there are little parts here and there where I change a word - just a warning before recommending to parents of little ones!

My Grandson who is 4 just received this book today. My son said he wouldn't come to dinner without it. The book was a total hit.

Love John Lithgow! This book captures the color & joy of music, a sensory symphony for the eyes.....but it lacks simple language for children to read, or to hold their attention- even that of a 60-year-old grandma. There's no auditory experience to accompany the visual experience. In the long run, it's more like a textbook with pedantic prose and lively pictures. Even a mixed audience gets confused. Sorry, Mr Lithgow!

I never knew John Lithgow authored children's books. This story is a delight with his narration and the rambunctious music. We love listening to it in the car. Kids love singing it. Will be checking out other books by him for sure!

My two-year-old music lover adores this book. He's obsessed with instruments and animals so this book hits the sweet spot. It features a lot of instruments you don't find everywhere else -- bassoon, stand-up bass, oboe. Same with the animals -- it goes well beyond the usual lions, tigers, and bears. The illustrations are terrific and the prose is lots of fun. Destined to become a classic in our household. Highly recommended. (My son didn't enjoy Lithgow's reading of it on the included CD, although I thought it was great. It's more like a song/performance and a good deal of fun in its own right -- at least for the adults.)

Great book and CD. All the grand children love it. Entertaining and simple - great for kids under 4, but the older ones like it, too. I must get more of John Lithgow's books. This was my first purchase of his authorship - would like to see more!

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