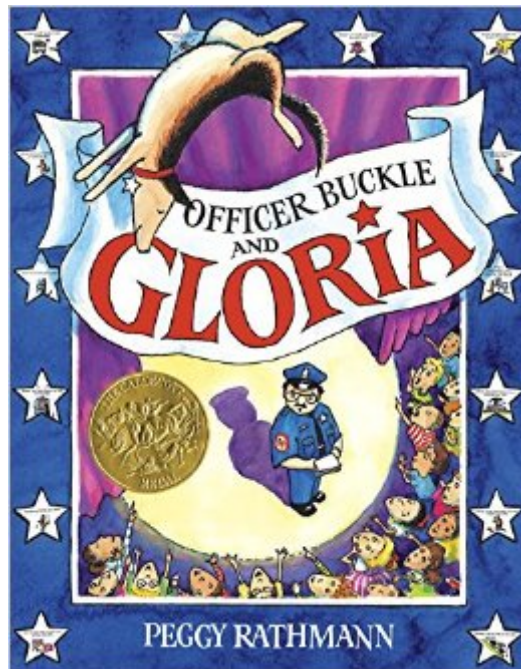


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# Officer Buckle & Gloria (Caldecott Medal Book)



## Synopsis

"Besides the beguiling story, the affable illustrations of the smiling Gloria, the accidental mayhem in the background, and the myriad safety tips -- such as 'always pull the toothpick out of your sandwich' and 'never lick a stop sign in the winter' -- add to the enjoyment. A glorious picture book." -- The Horn Book "Rathmann is a quick rising star in the world of children's books. In this book, she again shows her flair for creating real characters, dramatic situations and for knowing what will make young audiences giggle and think." -- Children's Book Review Magazine "Rathman brings a lighter-than-air comic touch to this outstanding, solid-as-a-brick picture book." -- Publisher's Weekly "A five-star performance." -- School Library Journal

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 510L (What's this?)

Series: Caldecott Medal Book

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (September 28, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399226168

ISBN-13: 978-0399226168

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.5 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (151 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,265 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#) #125 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#) #356 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

One of "Saturday Night Live's" funnier Chevy Chase skits involved his mimicry of Jane Curtin's news delivery. Sitting next to and slightly behind Ms. Curtin, Chase mouths her words and copies her gestures. Jane, suspicious and discomfited by the audience's laughter, turns around, and Chase looks at her innocently, only to begin anew when she faces the camera again. Gloria the dog emulates this act in Peggy Rathmann's delightfully funny "Officer Buckle and Gloria." In the sleepy, accident-prone town of Napville, Officer Buckle takes his safety lectures very seriously. No one else

does. The students at the school auditorium are definitely not listening to him; various kids sleep, draw, and throw a paper airplane. One girl even has an accident while he's talking, spilling her yogurt on the floor. Things change dramatically (literally) when police dog Gloria begins to tag along. She accompanies him on stage, and copies his gestures as he delivers such zingers as "KEEP your SHOELACES tied." Gloria's antics spark the kids' interest, and when Buckle turns to Gloria to see what's up, she gives him a sweet and innocent smile. Gloria's talents extend beyond mere mimicry, however, as she proceeds to act out various accidents that Buckle warns against. She flies in the air, for example, when he states the always enthralling "NEVER leave a THUMB TACK where you might SIT on it." In one hilarious two-page spread, the increasingly renowned Officer Buckle warns a college audience-and a TV crew-to not swim "DURING ELECTRICAL STORMS," and Gloria leaps up, her air looking electrified. Later, while munching popcorn in front of the TV, Officer Buckle discovers the real reason that his safety lectures became so popular.

Most of us learn best when we are laughing, and this book should provide lots of encouragement to learning through laughter. The humor is aimed just perfectly for the 3-6 year old set to be totally fascinated. The humor has a serious purpose. You learn many valuable safety tips, the benefits of teamwork, and the importance of communicating in an interesting way. "Officer Buckle knew more safety tips than anyone else in Napville." "Every time he thought of a new one, he thumbtacked it to his bulletin board." "Safety tip #77 NEVER stand on a SWIVEL CHAIR." Naturally, the book has the principal doing this all the time. There was a problem though. When Officer Buckle shared his tips with the students at school, they fell asleep. And there were more accidents than ever! One day the police department bought a police dog named Gloria. Officer Buckle took her to school. Whenever Officer Buckle would describe a potential danger, Gloria would pantomime the outcome in a humorous way. The children loved it! (and so will yours). Officer Buckle didn't realize why the children were paying attention until he saw a presentation televised. He grew angry. "I'm not giving any more speeches! Nobody looks at me, anyway!" So the school requested that Gloria come by herself. But that was a bad idea. She just "sat on stage looking lonely." Then "she fell asleep, so did the audience." After Gloria left, the Napville School had its biggest accident ever. "It started with a puddle of banana pudding . . . ." A letter comes to Officer Buckle saying, "Gloria missed you yesterday!" Officer Buckle and Gloria made up. Officer Buckle "thought of his best safety tip yet . . . ."

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