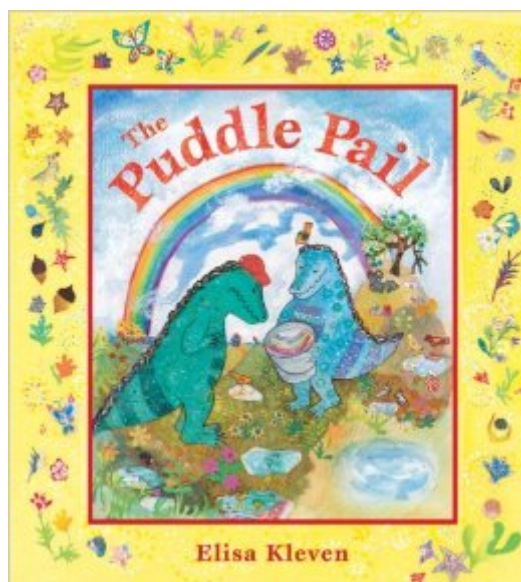


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# The Puddle Pail



## Synopsis

Elisa Kleven's beloved little blue crocodile, Ernst, stars in this story about two brothers. While sensible Sol collects things like feathers and shells, Ernst has a more whimsical approach: He wants to collect puddles and all they reflect--clouds, stripes, colors, and stars. Ernst's imagination soars once he begins his amazing collection. Two brothers have very different ideas about what to collect--one likes bottlecaps, the other likes...puddles! Elisa Kleven's second book featuring Ernst, the inquisitive crocodile. Previous editions sold 28,000 copies Will appeal to budding naturalists and collectors.

## Book Information

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Lexile Measure: 0430 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Tricycle Press; Reprint edition (August 31, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1582462062

ISBN-13: 978-1582462066

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.1 x 10 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #140,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Alligators & Crocodiles](#) #793 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings](#) #11780 in [Books > Education & Teaching](#)

## Customer Reviews

I think this is a great book for kids about imagination and about "doing your own thing". The illustrations are absolutely wonderful - you discover something new everytime you read it.

This is a sweet story about a young boy with an artistic imagination (Ernst the blue crocodile, the hero of a couple of other Elisa Kleven books...) Ernst goes for a walk with his older, more literal-minded brother, Sol, who is into collecting stuff like feathers and rocks and sea shells. Sol encourages Ernst to start a collection, too, but Ernst wants to collect magical things, like clouds or stars. He finally decides to gather up a bunch of puddles, because he can see so many other things inside their reflections -- a puddle can have flowers or clouds houses in it, as well as being all

watery and wet. Ernst gathers different "kinds" of puddles together in one pail, and later uses them to stir his watercolors to life, when he wants to paint the things he saw. A lovely, allegorical celebration of artistic vision, creative thinking as well as the fun of doing things you like, even if other people think they're silly. Nice relationship between the two brothers, too: Sol doesn't really get what Ernst is up to, but he isn't mean about it, and tries to encourage the younger boy to enjoy himself. Also, more of Kleven's delightfully detailed, kaleidoscopically colorful artwork, with plenty of stuff going on in the margins to capture the eyes of readers of all ages. This is one of my favorite Elisa Kleven books... Highly recommended! (Reissued by Tricycle Press in March '07.)

We love Elisa Kleven's books. We have several of them, some even autographed by the author. Ms Kleven has an amazing ability to write stories where the "kid" characters solve all their problems without any adult intervention. And the illustrations are fabulous; we find new things every time we look at them. This book is our favorite; my newborn daughter "brought" this for my son when she came home from the hospital. In the Puddle Pail, the brothers understand, accept and learn to treasure each other's differences. This book also makes a great gift!

This is essential reading for every child entering school. It highlights the concept that eccentricities can yield unexpectedly beautiful things. It also models steadfast perseverance to continue creative vision even when peers find it strange. A well-told and sweetly illustrated tale.

Hott Synopsis:"Everyone needs a collection"Crocodile brothers go out to play in very different ways. One brother collects everything and everything. The other has nothing. Why? The things he'd like to collect are either too far away, too big, or too cold. Is there a way for him to bring his collection home?Hott Review:What I liked: Adorable! I really enjoyed this book & will absolutely share it with all of my nephews. It's a great book I'll be buying for other's libraries!What I didn't like: Nothing!More...Author: Elisa KlevenSource: JKS CommunicationsGrade: AAges: 2-8

The Puddle Pail is for the artist in us all. It teaches us to see through the eyes of Ernst's magical imagination, where everything is brighter and more beautiful than what it appears to be. Ernst is not discouraged by his older brother's lack of understanding and criticism. He believes in his own vision of the world, which in the end his brother is able to share. A great book for children, artists and anyone needing a fresh point of view. Elisa Kleven's illustrations are truly gorgeous and unique.

and that's saying a lot since all of Kleven's books are outstanding! Puddle pail is particularly sweet and imaginative (but then again, so are all Kleven's books). Doesn't get any better than this for 3 to 7.

This tender story about Ernst and his brother Sol touches the hearts of everyone. Our favorite birthday gift! It teaches us to respect the uniqueness in each of us. The incredible illustrations capture the imagination of young and old. We love reading this story over and over again.

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