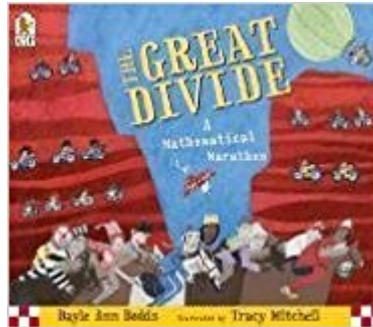


The book was found

The Great Divide: A Mathematical Marathon



Synopsis

"In this crafty story of a cross-country race, numerical division accounts for the narrowing of the field. . . . All lessons should be this gratifying." —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (starred review)"Bang!" goes the gun. The race is on. Eighty racers explode from the starting gate, determined to win The Great Divide. They surge ahead, rushing toward the wide hungry mouth of a grand canyon that claims half the racers. And this is only the beginning. More dangers lie ahead, waiting to divide the group once, twice, three times, and more. Will there be anyone left to cross the finish line?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 430L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (February 3, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763615927

ISBN-13: 978-0763615925

Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 0.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #117,765 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Cycling #11 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Track & Field #122 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Math > Arithmetic

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

In this crafty story of a cross-country race called "The Great Divide," numerical division accounts for the narrowing of the field. Eighty costumed competitors (in 10 groups of eight) begin the event on bicycles, but only half of them ford a rocky red canyon to continue: "On with the race./ Head for a boat!/ Forty racers now have to float!" These 40 (now 10 groups of four) climb aboard two big rowboats, and a whirlpool diminishes their number by half again. Dodds (Sing, Sophie!) continues reducing the group to 10 and to five, at which point "one runner stops with a rock in her shoe," enabling the final four to grab tandem bikes. The author demonstrates rather than describes the math, and her terse rhymes reinforce the racers' sense of urgency. Meanwhile Mitchell's

individualized portraits of the athletes raise the book's quotient of pleasure. The illustrator, making a notable picture-book debut, carefully includes the dwindling number of eight clowns, eight cowhands, eight flappers, eight pirates and so on in her well-organized acrylic paintings; aspiring number crunchers can count the participants with ease. Among the top contenders, likable characters emerge: a jailbird wears a determined grin, a grandmotherly lady rides a galloping horse and a firefighter sticks out her tongue in exhaustion. All lessons should be this gratifying. Ages 5-10. (Nov.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Grade 1-4-This rhyming tale of a great race demonstrates the basic principle of division. Eighty contestants start out on bikes; they come to a fork in the path and half blunder left, where their tires pop. The other 40 keep going by boat, until they reach a whirlpool where half of them are again knocked out of the race. This continues until only five contestants are left, and Dodds sneaks past this tricky problem by having one contestant stop with a rock in her shoe while the other four move on, only to be thwarted. In a surprise ending, the fifth contestant sneaks back in to win the race. Though the plot is minimal, the story does an effective job of getting the concept across in a fun way. The illustrations, done in acrylics over modeling paste, are bold enough to keep pace with the action. A variety of faces and costumes appear among the contestants, from old ladies to clowns to cowboys and sailors. Elinor Pinczes's *One Hundred Hungry Ants* (Houghton, 1993) offers a similar concept in a more engaging story, but the pictures here are certainly appealing. With the current demand for math-related picture books, this is a natural addition for libraries. Kathleen M. Kelly MacMillan, Carroll County Public Library, Eldersburg, MD Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This book is a good start to develop math sense about division. Certainly it isn't going to teach rules, but my kids seem to get it. They are young (2 and 5) and keep asking for this book; they like the story and illustration. It compliments "2X2=Boo!," which I highly recommend for younger kids.

Just as another reviewer stated, students in my classroom actually choose to pick this book for silent reading (4th grade). They really like the photos in the book but the story keeps them interested!

My students loved the story

Really cute book for introducing division! My class loved it...and so did my kids at home.

Great Read Aloud for division

My 3rd graders enjoyed this as a read aloud and oodles of them waited to reread it independently, as well. The illustrations are fun, the phrasing easy to read out loud,...overall, I was pleased.

I thought this book was very cute. It was a great way to introduce the concept of division in my class.

Great book!

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