Coyote And The Laughing Butterflies

Coyote and the Laughing Butterflies

Harriet Peck Taylor

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This delightful retelling of a Native American folktale is a satisfying selection, creatively designed, with beautiful pictures and striking imagery. Coyote is used to playing tricks, but in this tale, the tables are turned. Stopping to take a quick nap by the big salty lake where he’s supposed to bring home salt for cooking, Coyote’s discovered by some mischievous butterflies. Playing their own trick, they carry Coyote home without his salt. Coyote is completely confused—until the third time when Coyote wakes up at home with his salt and discovers the butterflies have been having a bit of fun.

**Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 810 (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (April 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0027888460


Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.3 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

**Customer Reviews**

As a children’s librarian, I am always looking for folk tales from around the world to read or tell to children in the 4-8 year old group. This tale is fun to tell, but reading it and showing the colorful illustrations of the Southwestern United States is a good way to show children in Maine a different region of our country. The listeners loved having the coyote outwitted by butterflies, and many were able to re-tell the tale to parents. I used a coyote puppet to tell the tale, and the children did a butterfly color page after story time. I would highly recommend it to children’s librarians and to parents.
The only thing that I had to complain about with this book was that the jacket was slightly torn when I received it. Otherwise, great condition, and the story itself was lovely! I'll definitely be looking for similar titles, the second and third graders to whom I read the story thought it was cool.

Coyote and the laughing Butterflies is a magical book about a coyote and his duty to bring salt to his wife from a huge salt lake. It hooked my attention right away and I didn't want to put it down until I was done. The illustrations in this book are gorgeous and since I'm an animal lover the cover and title attracted me right away. In the book because of the vivid word choice I could imagine everything the author was telling me in my mind. It was wonderfully written and was very descriptive during parts of the story. I loved the way the author described the beautiful butterflies and the huge salt lake. Even at times were I couldn't picture sections of the book in my head the illustrations definitely helped me. I highly recommend this book to young kids who like animals and adventures. Don't pass this wonderful book up!

Coyote and the Laughing Butterflies is a very amusing bit of Native American folklore that can be enjoyed by all ages. It is a beautifully illustrated work in vivid color, written in explanation of why butterflies always fly in an erratic, fluttering way. It is funny, interesting, and compassionate. It is delightful light reading to be lovingly shared with your children to introduce them to Native American folk stories.

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