African Folk Tales (Dover Children's Thrift Classics)
This exciting collection of traditional African folk tales introduces you to a host of interesting people and unusual animals. Eighteen authentic fables, recorded as they were told by tribal members of Nigerian and other cultures, range from the imaginative "Story of a Farmer and Four Hyenas" to an entertaining account of "The Man with Seven Dogs." In "The Magic Crocodile," you'll meet a reptile with very strange powers, while "The Boy in the Drum" teaches a valuable lesson in the importance of obeying one's parents. In "The Hare and the Crownbird," a fine, feathered friend is rewarded for its acts of kindness. You'll also learn why a ram has a large head and a tortoise a small one in "The Greedy but Cunning Tortoise"; and in "A She-Goat and Her Children," you'll discover how a clever animal managed to provide food for her children. Set in large, easy-to-read type and enhanced with Yuko Green's 19 lively illustrations, this collection of time-honored folk tales will delight readers of all ages.

**Book Information**

Series: Dover Children's Thrift Classics  
Paperback: 64 pages  
Publisher: Dover Publications; unknown edition (January 8, 1999)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0486405532  
Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.2 x 8.2 inches  
Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars  
Best Sellers Rank: #32,507 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  
Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural  
Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > African-American Studies  
Age Range: 8 - 14 years  
Grade Level: 3 - 8

**Customer Reviews**

I got this book as a Kwanzaa gift for my son. It's a great read along book, and an awesome way to reiterate the African Culture to children. The stories leave room for conversation and dialogue between the adult and child, and often after reading these stories my son and God children have
many questions. Its a good way to pass the morals and truths of our ancestors on to our children. Id recommend to people of any color but most definitely to families of African descent and heritage.

This is quite a short book of about 60 pages covering 18 well known West African folk tales. Almost all these traditional stories involve animals of one sort or another, be they tortoises, leopards, elephants, dogs, goats, camels, crocodiles etc. All but a couple of the stories are accompanied by a black and white line illustration and they are reprinted from a book originally published in the late 1950s. Examples of the stories are The Story of a Farmer and Four Hyenas, The Greedy but Cunning Tortoise, The Magic Crocodile and a Good Fortune in Camels. Personally I found these stories quite charming and very evocative of the part of the world they originate from. I imagine children will love them and read this little volume again and again. Perfect for bedtime reading and the stories are about the right length for this.

This is an inexpensive, yet wonderful collection of African folk tales. They are brilliant- a must-have!

I think that this book is a wonderful life lesson to many youngsters out there. From the jungles of Africa to a lion’s mouth, these stories will take your eyes to a whole new world!

I use this book for teaching about different cultures at school. My students enjoy the stories; just make sure you read it first yourself so its a story they can understand depending on the age of the child.

I do not recommend paying more than $3 for this book because it is small, short, and not well bound. However, the stories are decently interesting and my son loved it.

I like this book because it is an easy read. My niece is 7 years old and reads it without any difficulty. It is also great for teaching little parables and values. When she read the book, even my 59 year old dad was impressed with the stories.

I use these books for prizes/awards for youth when I am teaching Youth Storytelling classes and events. They are a perfect size and content is well written. The price is great for buying in quantity for the Storytelling classes and events.

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