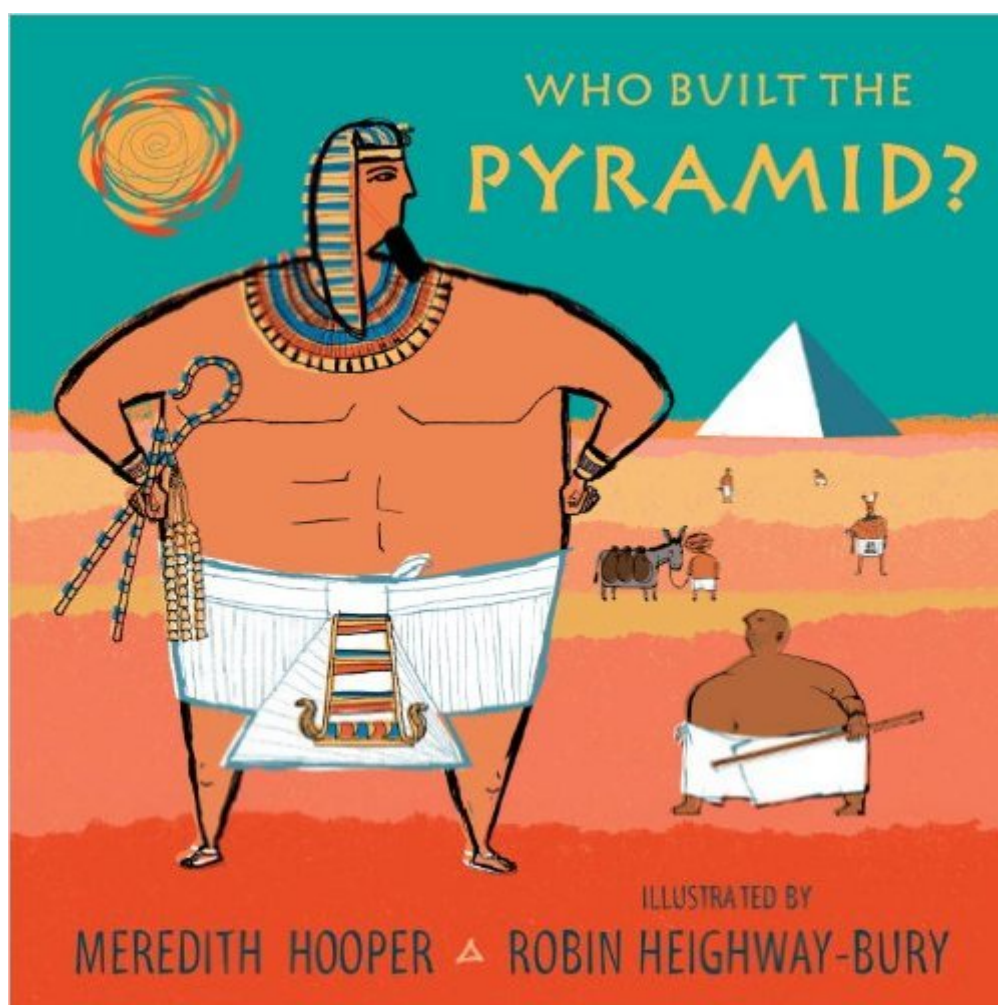


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Who Built The Pyramid?



Synopsis

A truly egalitarian look at how a real pyramid was built. Who DID build the pyramid? In this innovative nonfiction title, everyone from the mighty king to the lowly water carrier claims to have built this massive monument. And whether you're asking the high priest or the stone mason, each person has a good reason to claim credit for a real pyramid that was built more than four thousand years ago. With lively text and bold illustrations, Meredith Hooper and Robin Heighway-Bury create an unusual, carefully researched look at one of the wonders of ancient Egypt. Meredith Hooper has worked with Egyptologists at the British Museum in London and at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City to create this story—and fact-filled endnotes provide even more fascinating information.

Book Information

Paperback: 40 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #428,488 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Africa #107 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Architecture #127 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

I really liked the way this book speaks to the right of everyone involved in a project to feel ownership of the project. It gives a nice sense of the complexity of ancient Egyptian society, but I liked that the perspective would be as applicable to modern US society as well, I think -- everyone from the humblest worker to the middle management to the pharaoh can feel proud of their participation in our human group project known as civilization. But not the least bit preachy.

Another reviewer mentioned using this with young children, but I've also seen it used very effectively by a teacher in a sixth grade classroom during a unit on Ancient Egypt. It was used to build background for students with limited knowledge about the pyramids and led really well into activities on the various social classes in Ancient Egypt. That teacher also used another book available on : Hands-On History: Ancient Civilizations which is a guide to using classroom simulations when teaching about Ancient Civilizations. The simulations were great, but it was necessary to have done some pre-teaching about social classes etc. before using them. Who Built the Pyramid was a perfect way to start that teaching. Highly recommended even for older students.

The artwork is quite distinctive ("Mom, can we read the "fat Pharaoh" book TODAY?!?") and enjoyable, if extreme. The text speaks to the truth that it did take the work of a whole nation to build the pyramids for their King's burial sites. Made for interesting discussion about how everyone else was buried.... The more "dense" text on the last few pages tells the rest of the story about Senwosret I's final resting place - what we know of it, what is left of it, why it's special. A fun read!

I teach preschool age children---for two years I've taught Egypt and read this to them---they LOVE it! The art is bold, so are the characters! Everyone has a right to claim---they built the pyramid. This story invites all sorts of questions from the kids, such as, "why is that man's face like that? Why is that man darker than the others? Why are they wearing diapers?" :) Which, thrillingly, invites discussion answers, such as, "that man is pulling a huge stone up a ramp. He's big because it's hard work, he's sweaty because it's hot in the desert and he's dark from being in the sun all day with hardly any clothes on....etc"" See the river in the background? That's the Nile! Remember, the river that flows upwards?" I also liked the part where they DO mention that you can't fit a piece of paper between each stone block of the pyramid. Another amazing fact that just happens to be in there and contributes to the overall quality. The story takes a page from each person who might have contributed to the entire construction of a pyramid, from Pharaoh down to water carrier. At the end of the book, there are some pictures of what the pyramid and Senwosret the Pharaoh looked like. Enjoyable for a variety of childhood ages and levels. The kids really pick up on the theme and are educated at the same time---hey, why aren't there more books like this out there???

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