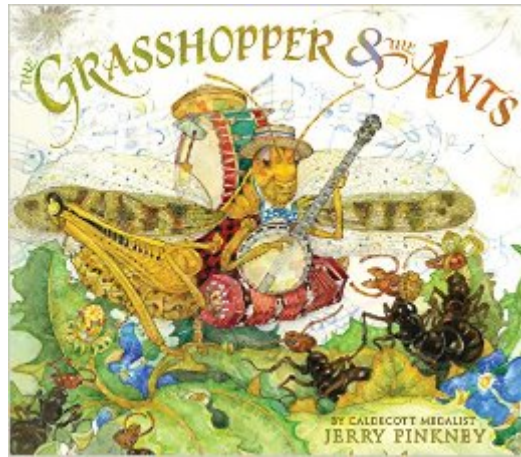


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# The Grasshopper & The Ants



## Synopsis

In this stunning companion to the Caldecott Medal-winning *The Lion & the Mouse* and the highly acclaimed *The Tortoise & the Hare*, a playful grasshopper wonders why the busy ants around him won't join in his merrymaking as the seasons pass by. But when winter arrives, he soon sees the value of his friends' hard work--just as the ants learn the value of sharing what they've worked for. Featuring a striking, surprise gatefold page, this third book in Jerry Pinkney's gorgeous trilogy of picture book fables subtly suggests a resonant moral: Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do today.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.5 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #288,969 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #379 in Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #482 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders #718 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I wanted to like this book more. I love Jerry Pinkney and the illustrations do not disappoint for fans - they are lively, detailed, beautiful, and fun. I love the Aesop story that this is based on, but I didn't think this book did a good enough job illustrating the moral.

Summary: Why do those ants work all the time? The Grasshopper can't understand it, and urges them to enjoy the spring, summer, and fall. He's a musician, traveling around with his banjo in his hands and a drum set on his back. When winter comes, though, he's out in the cold while the ants enjoy the cozy home they have made. Finally, the Queen Ant ventures out into the snow to

invite him in for a cup of tea. A gracious guest, the Grasshopper repays her kindness by providing all the ants with some music for a cold winter's night. Pros: Jerry Pinkney doesn't disappoint on another gorgeously illustrated fable that could be a Caldecott contender. The story is simple, but the pictures are filled with details all rendered in beautiful watercolors. Kids will pore over all the activities in the ants' winter home. Cons: Maybe it is the subject matter (grasshopper versus lion), but for me, this book is a notch below *The Lion and the Mouse*.

Jim Pinkney's, *The Grasshopper and the Ants*, is a slightly more pleasant version of the Aesop version. In this story Grasshopper is happy it's spring and all ready to make merry music. He tells the ants that they are working much too hard and should be out having fun, making music, fishing and enjoying the weather. The busy worker ants opt not to play and continue with their hard work. As the seasons change and Grasshopper continues to play in leaves and make music. Before long snow has fallen and Grasshopper finds himself outdoors wet and freezing after making a snowangel. As Grasshopper peers into the Ants home he sees that it looks all cozy and warm and there's even food on the table, while Grasshopper is outside cold and hungry. While some of the Ants are knitting near a cozy fire, Grasshopper is initially turned away, but eventually, the good hearted Queen Ant invites him in for hot tea and cookies. Together ALL the critters make music together and enjoy the warmth. Clearly, it is the gorgeous, full-color, detailed drawings that make this book special. The art work contains such things as, beautiful flowers, woodland scenes, minute details like snowflakes, dragonfly wings, musical instruments, spinning wheels etc, that will truly amaze adults and delight children alike. It is easy to see why the author/illustrator has been a Caldecott winner. A great addition for collectors.

Such a wonderfully colorful book that updates the old tale of the grasshopper & the ants. When I go to the library to borrow books, I am always looking for books that would appeal to each of my different grandchildren's personalities. This beautiful book is for an incredibly picky grand daughter who just loved the book. When I find the perfect book, I always turn to , locate the book, add it to my wish list & purchase it when I have the funds. The books are always delivered quickly & are in perfect condition. I add a customized label & then give it to the little kiddo with a flourish of kisses to add to their expanding library! Thanks for being part of this Grandmother's book gifting tradition!!

I love this story, this fable about the grasshopper that would rather spend his time playing and having a great time than thinking about his future. As the ants around him hastily gather supplies for

the winter, grasshopper can't understand why their work is so extensive. The grasshopper is having a wonderful time enjoying his life: his day is full of picnics, fishing, jumping in the leaves, playing in the snow and playing his musical instruments. The grasshopper is not flaunting his activity or being selfish in his actions as he asks the ants numerous times to join him but the ants being steadfast in their work, tell him that they have a task to complete. As the snow falls, the ants disappear and grasshopper finds himself, all alone. Grasshopper is lonely. Finding a tree with a soft yellow glow, he approaches it. Peering inside a window, he sees the ants and they see him, all alone out in the cold. Can they leave him out in the snow by himself as they enjoy their benefits from their hard work? As they gathered their supplies, the grasshopper enjoys being with the ants, he is like their entertainment as they struggled to meet their deadline. Carrying around his instruments on his back, and commenting on the world around them, he is making them aware of the world around them. As he plays a tune on his instruments and tells them what he sees, he is making their work easier. I liked the text in this children's book and the colors they used for it, it made the story fun to read. I found the illustrations a bit overwhelming and busy. I realize that this reflected the activity of the ants but some of the illustrations were way too much for me. I enjoyed the Artist's Note in the back of the book, explaining the moral of the story as not everyone understands morals.

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