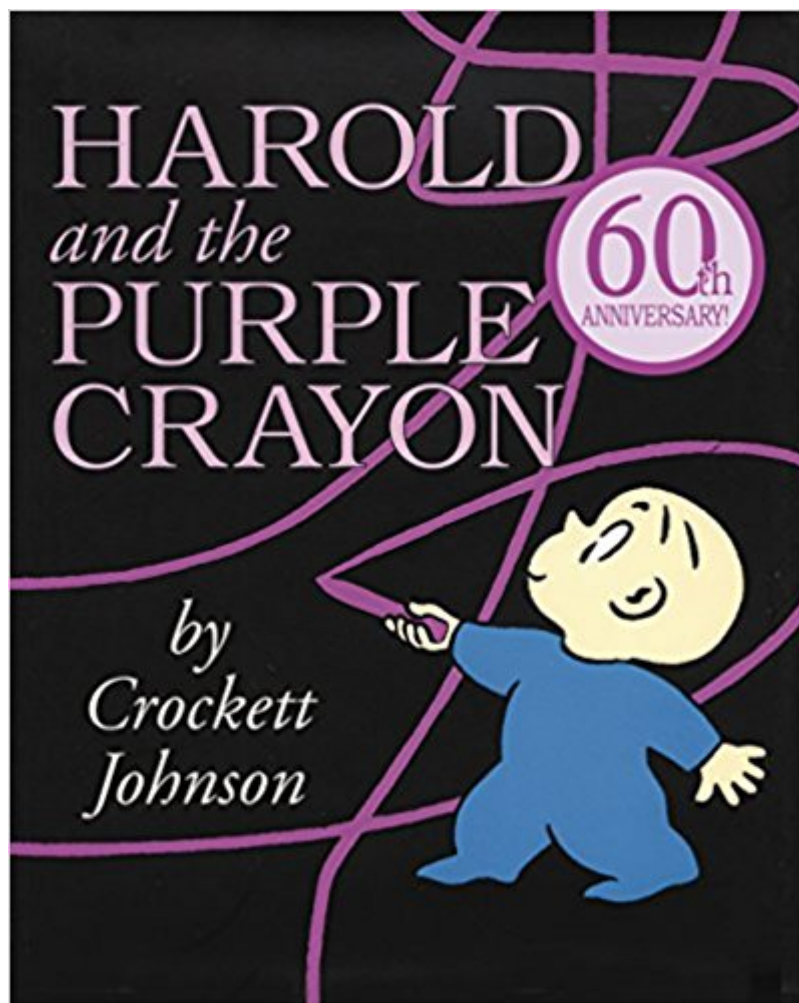


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# Harold And The Purple Crayon (Purple Crayon Books)



## Synopsis

From beloved children's book creator Crockett Johnson comes the timeless classic *Harold and the Purple Crayon*! One evening Harold decides to go for a walk in the moonlight. Armed only with an oversize purple crayon, young Harold draws himself a landscape full of wonder and excitement. Harold and his trusty crayon travel through woods and across seas and past dragons before returning to bed, safe and sound. Full of funny twists and surprises, this charming story shows just how far your imagination can take you. "A satisfying artistic triumph." •Chris Van Allsburg, author-illustrator of *The Polar Express*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490 (What's this?)

Series: Purple Crayon Books

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins (September 29, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064430227

ISBN-13: 978-0064430227

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 6 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 939 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,269 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books #75 in Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

"One night, after thinking it over for some time, Harold decided to go for a walk in the moonlight." So begins this gentle story that shows just how far your imagination can take you. Armed only with an oversized purple crayon, young Harold draws himself a landscape full of beauty and excitement. But this is no hare-brained, impulsive flight of fantasy. Cherubic, round-headed Harold conducts his adventure with the utmost prudence, letting his imagination run free, but keeping his wits about him all the while. He takes the necessary purple-crayon precautions: drawing landmarks to ensure he won't get lost; sketching a boat when he finds himself in deep water; and creating a purple pie picnic when he feels the first pangs of hunger. Crockett Johnson's understated tribute to the imagination

was first published in 1955, and has been inspiring readers of all ages ever since. Harold's quiet but magical journey reminds us of the marvels the mind can create, and also gives us the wondrous sense that anything is possible. (Ages 4 to 8) --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"This popular translation of one of the world's most beloved children's books, "Harold and the Purple Crayon, " is now available in a bold new trim size with a bright and engaging treatment of the original cover art. For generations, children have cherished this ingenious and original little picture story." --"Horn Book"

I won't bother going in to the story of Harold and the Purple Crayon, as I'm certain almost anybody considering this purchase grew up with the book at one time or another. However, I did want to offer this suggestion to everyone: spend the extra money on the hardcover edition. I may have set my expectations a bit high, but since the paperback price was relatively expensive (costing 30 - 50% more than comparable paperbacks) and touted as the 50th Anniversary Edition, I thought it would be "nice". However, I have to say that I was pretty disappointed with the construction quality. Unless you're giving it to a teenager or adult as a keepsake type of gift, the paperback isn't going to stand up against an age-appropriate child, or to time itself. If I hadn't bought it as part of the 4-for-3 promotion, I'd almost certainly exchange it for the hardcover.

The book entitled, Journey by Aaron Becker is basically the more adult version of this book. If your child likes this book as much as mine does then when he is too old for Harold, please do introduce him to "Journey". He will enjoy it equally. With that said; I'm sure all the other reviews have already said about as much as can possibly be said regarding this classic. Yes, it is a great book. Very creative story line and equally cute character. The artwork is simple and yet attention grabbing. I also think this book probably sparks a child's interest in learning to draw. Which is one of the reasons I really love it.

I used to love reading this book to the kids, before the baby became a toddler (see below). The drawings are clear. That little Harold is so darling -- all head and crayon and cuteness. The stories take Harold on adventures that always end safely at home in bed. They are a fun way to imagine... what comes next? When we make up family stories, sometimes we try to find new directions to take a story, especially when one gets sidetracked (by silliness, grossness, etc. -- I have boys). These Harold stories do exactly the same thing: when Harold gets stuck, or nervous, or in danger, he just

imagines his way out of it. The books are very clever. The illustrations are basically line drawings, but they convey the story perfectly. I like this collection because it has 4 Harold stories together. Anyway, my youngest went through a book-ripping phase about a year ago, so we put up all the books with pages and kept the board books down at his level. Somehow, Harold got misplaced. We got it out again this week, and to my joy, yesterday the 6-year old was reading it to the 3-year-old. They were laughing and giggling about the book, and I fell in love with the story all over again. Awesome book. \*\*\*updated\*\*\* this book includes four stories: Harold and the Purple Crayon Harold's Fairy Tale Harold's Trip to the Sky Harold's Circus

"Harold and the Purple Crayon" is charming and delightful. It takes about 10 minutes to read aloud and ends with Harold heading off to sleep. In short, it's a perfect bedtime story. Harold is a kid with an imaginary purple crayon that enables him to draw whatever he needs or desires. The story starts with him wanting to take a walk in the moonlight, so he draws a path and a moon. Soon Harold is creating trees, sailboats, dragons, high-rise buildings, and many other figments from his imagination as he goes on an intricate adventure. When Harold is hungry, he draws pies; when he's falling off a mountain, he creates a balloon that brings him safely to ground. The illustrations, in purple (duh!), are thick, crayon-like line drawings that are expressive and elegant in their simplicity. More than anything, the story is about the power and joy of a life of the imagination. It's a book a child can hear over and over again that can become both a trusted friend and a comfortable entrance into the land of dreams. So read it to a beloved child in your life. Or read it to the child in yourself.

This was a book I read to my brothers when they were young. Rereading it now I was impressed with subtleties I had forgotten, such as when Harold "drew up the covers" of his bed. Harold is imaginative and resourceful. Just remind your young listeners not to actually try this out on your walls, like my young brother did...on our freshly painted house.

This short classic highlights quiet creativity. In "Harold and the Purple Crayon," Harold draws a world line by line, from beginning to end. Along the way, he expresses his adventures. There's no mischief. No real stress. It is an easy bedtime story, but it is full of wonder. What world would your child draw? The words and drawings are great for early readers, with plenty to discuss if you like. I fully recommend "Harold and the Purple Crayon" by Crockett Johnson. Anthony Trendl  
americanspeechwriter.com

A childhood favorite and a classroom must! I teach intensive secondary readers and read this on the first day to remind them that they don't have to be great readers to do great in the world. I read them this story then have them be a "Harold" and write and illustrate a picture of a world they feel they would fit into. they enjoy it and it is a great hook for the year.

My husband and I are expecting our firsts (twins) and as I'm a teacher and he's a librarian, I thought it appropriate that his first Father's Day gift be a set of books he can share and enjoy with his own sons. Harold and his mighty imagination and that iconic purple crayon offer up the perfect bonding material, and the hardcover edition has a beautiful cover and nicely printed pages that will look great adorning the boys' bookshelf. Great story with simple language that covers the complex and intricate topic of imagination - a must read before being all grown up... And then a must read again in adulthood for that easy reminder of what it's like to be a kid.

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