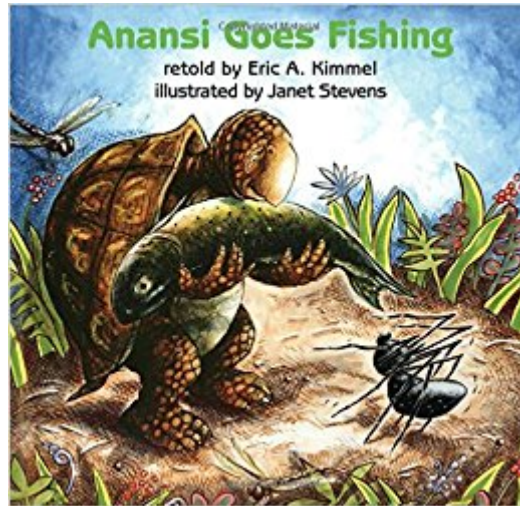




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Anansi Goes Fishing



Synopsis

Anansi the Spider tries to trick Turtle into fishing for his dinner.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 340L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Live Oak Media; Reprint edition (March 1, 1993)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #81,641 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > African](#) #85 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural](#) #2222 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic](#)

Age Range: 3 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 2-- In a companion volume to *Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock* (Holiday, 1990), Kimmel and Stevens team up again to extend the humor of a trickster tale from Africa.

Anansi joins Turtle on a fishing excursion, intending to con him out of all the fish. Anansi's stubborn selfishness proves to be his undoing day after day until, at last, he realizes the folly of his ways because he has been tricked into doing all the work and is still hungry. Kimmel has adapted Joyce Cooper Arkhurst's sparer version found in *The Adventures of Spider*, (Little, 1964; o.p.)

transforming the fisherman into a turtle and judiciously exercising his storyteller's prerogative to add humorous details and lively dialogue that follows a repetitive pattern. Although the ending has been changed substantially from the original source, it is nonetheless satisfying and suits this variation of the tale. Stevens's watercolor illustrations feature bright colors and bold black outlines and range from broad humor to subtle slyness. She, too, has taken liberties in her interpretation by affording Turtle human trappings and consistently portraying Anansi as an unadorned spider. Together, the text and art combine in a fresh new version that is a fine choice for oral presentation or for

independent reading. --Starr LaTronica, North Berkeley Library, CA Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In what the author describes on the jacket as ``a variation of a [West African] tale found in Joyce Cooper Arkhurst's *The Adventures of Spider*," the spider trickster is roundly tricked by his friend Turtle. Turtle agrees to teach Anansi to fish, describing the first step, netmaking, as hard work they can share: ``One of us can work while the other gets tired." Lazy Anansi is quick to choose work, while Turtle lounges peacefully in the chair he has brought, ``getting very tired." So it goes until a fish is finally caught and consumed by Turtle: ``One of us should eat while the other gets full." Finally catching on, the hungry Anansi goes to Warthog for justice but gets no sympathy--his reputation is known, and his story, though true, is outrageously implausible. At least he's learned to weave a web. Kimmel's funny, accessible telling is nicely complemented in Stevens's art, depicting the lively events in bold lines and assertive colors and adding amusing details like Turtle's accumulating beach-style paraphernalia--including a loudly flowered shirt and a boombox. Sure to delight the picture book crowd. (Folklore/Picture book. 4-10) -- Copyright ©1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a fantastic story. I own a ridiculous number of books, but this book was so wonderful I had to own it. My 8-year old thought it was hilarious.

I have followed Eric Kimmel for years and burst with laughter at his West African tales. My friend who is fluent in Minde described similar stories from his work in Sierra Leone when I worked there. Janet Stevens does an excellent job of illustrating the stories just like I had imagined the characters in my mind.

All the books in the Anansi series are fun! We love to read them to our children for many reasons: They learn something (at least somewhat) useful, they're enjoyable for them AND they're enjoyable for us! The kids love to see how someone will trick this lazy spider! The first time we found this book was in a library, and it was a 'book on tape' set. If you can find this, we recommend it, too, as the reader is very funny! :) In this book, Anansi wants a fish just like his friend the turtle has just caught. And what fun it is to see the logic turtle uses to get Anansi to do all the work while turtle 'gets tired'! We love this book! It is good clean fun! :)

Anansi, lazy spider, plans to trick Turtle out of his fish. Unfortunately, everybody knows what sort of a person Anansi is, and Turtle tricks him first. Well, truth be told, it's pretty funny to see how Anansi manages to outwit himself. Sure, Turtle facilitates it, but this is a prime example of how being lazy doesn't work if you don't also think. (And if you want to go deeper, the end of the story shows how if you constantly trick people, nobody believes you when you're the wronged party.) Really funny book, and there's probably a moral in there somewhere.

Anansi Goes Fishing by Eric Kimmel is a wonderful example of a trickster tale. It has vivid and colorful illustrations that make the story pop. The storytelling is captivating and fun. My class of third graders really enjoy this book and really appreciate the fact that trickster tales come from all over the world.

I so love Anansi books, and I needed one in a hurry for a class- arrived on time and in perfect condition. Thank you!

Kids adore Anansi the spider stories and this one is really great. Anansi the trickster has the tables turn on him by a lovable turtle.

I bought this book to introduce folktales to my students.

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