



Nimpentoad

Henry L. Herz , Harrison Herz (Contributor) , Bill Maus (Illustrator) , Sean Eddingfield (Illustrator) , Josh Herz

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Nimpentoad is the tale of a courageous and resourceful little Nibling who leads his tribe through the perilous Grunwald forest, overcoming obstacles and encountering strange creatures along the way. Nimpentoad is an engaging story with fantastic illustrations, and positive lessons of teamwork, creativity, perseverance and leadership.

Nimpentoad is an early chapter book intended for kids 7-9.

For more info, see www.nimpentoad.com

Nimpentoad Details

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Author : Henry L. Herz , Harrison Herz (Contributor) , Bill Maus (Illustrator) , Sean Eddingfield (Illustrator) , Josh Herz

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Download and Read Free Online Nimpentoad Henry L. Herz , Harrison Herz (Contributor) , Bill Maus (Illustrator) , Sean Eddingfield (Illustrator) , Josh Herz

From Reader Review Nimpentoad for online ebook

Susan says

This delightful little book is full of great illustrations in each chapter that are just as beautiful as the cover. While the book only took me perhaps 10 minutes to read, I lingered over the illustrations. I believe this book will appeal to small kids for the illustrations alone, and for the silly names and adventures also. Built into the story line are lessons on various polite manners, such as chewing with your mouth closed, along with the more serious theme of bullying. I also enjoyed that the three authors are a family team in creating this story.

For me personally, as an adult in my 30s, I enjoyed how many mushrooms (delectable, not hallucinatory) that the Nibblings cooked & consumed in various ways. For each malevolent group of bullies they came across, they met the problem a different way each time, showing inventiveness and the ability to flex with the circumstances. And then there are the illustrations. I know. I keep coming back to them, but they truly are gorgeous.

If I must talk about the short comings of the book, there is only one that comes to mind. As an adult reading this, the obvious lessons in manners and on bullying occasionally eclipse the adventure story of making it safely through the woods. I myself prefer more subtlety, but this is a book written for small kids and subtlety would probably be lost on that age group.

Mark says

this is a cute children's story that teaches a lot of good lessons in a short few pages. i loved nimpentoad's resourcefulness and also the good teaching moments that young children need to hear. for those with young kids who love a cute adventure, then this book is for you! :)

A.E. Curzon says

The story begins in Grunwald Forest where the Nibblings live. Nibblings are dexterous little creatures who love to cook. They are not, however, very popular with the others of the forest. In fact, they are continuously picked on and pushed around. The forest is also inhabited by Orcs and Goblins and Neebles, to name but a few, and each and every one has had a go at the Nibblings. The Nibblings are tired of this and decide to seek help from the Goofus, the giant who lives in the castle. Where Nibblings are very nimble-fingered, Goofus is downright clumsy. They sensibly decide they each have something to offer the other. They could help Goofus around the castle with the everyday tasks he fails at so often, and so miserably, and he in turn could protect them from the mean bullies. The challenge is to get through to the castle before anyone has them for supper. There are many tests along the way, but Nibblings, it seems, are very clever and resourceful, and the large mean bullies are not.

This is a sweet little adventure story with appealing illustrations. It is well written, original and funny. There are some great names for some of the creatures and the descriptions are wonderful. It shows how teamwork can overcome the bullies and how using your brain is often better than fighting. This is a great little book for readers aged 5 to perhaps 9 or 10 years old.

Jennifer says

Having been contacted by Henry to read and review Nimpentoad, after reading the description I gladly accepted. If I would of had a copy of Nimpentoad when I was a child, it would of been one of my favorite books. Goblins, giant wolves, Orcs, Rhinotaurs are some of the creatures the little Nibblings encounter on their travels through the Grunwald Forest. They might not sound like anything to fear, unless you are a Nibbling! Nibblings are the smallest of creatures found in the forest, and peculiar they are. They love mushrooms, berries, and bug eggs and they are great cooks. Because they are so small, they are on their way to Goofus the Giant's castle to ask if they can work for him in exchange for protection from the other forest creatures. After all, being the smallest creatures they get picked on and made fun of by the other forest creatures. Their path is full of adventure, bravery, and imagination, thanks to a Nibbling named Nimpentoad!

A short little story with many lessons, I can't wait to read this to my daycare children! The descriptions are so vibrant, the story is easy to imagine in your mind. Written by a father and his two elementary age sons, this tale is sure to be a favorite for young and old! Highly recommended!

Yaritza says

Received the book from the writer himself. I totally enjoyed this book. To have such a character that is small but smarter than all the bigger creatures was hilarious. It was great that Nimpentoad came up with such excellent ideas that kept all the Nibblings safe. A very quick book to read and totally awesome pictures. Description of the characters definitely portrayed the characters in the pictures. Thanks for giving me a chance to have read such an adventure...

Mary says

Subtle lessons beautifully taught!

Nimpentoad is a beautifully written and illustrated fantasy adventure book for children. It is a subtle way to teach lessons about friendship, trust, courage, and thinking through situations. Herz also includes manners and trying new vegetables! I bet children actually eat vegetables after reading this story.

Nimpentoad is a Nibbling and he lives in Grunwald Forest. There are many other creatures that live in the forest, some are nice and some are not. Nibblings are very small and because of this they are picked on a lot every day in the forest.

Finally, Nimpentoad has had enough bullying. He comes up with a plan to travel with all the other Nibblings to live with Goofus the Giant. His plan is to help the Giant do all the things he can't because he is too big. So children also learn being small has advantages, especially after seeing the Nibbling's being bullied for so long because they were small.

It's a hard journey traveling through the forest and meeting up with all the other creatures who bully them. It took them five days, traveling a mile a day. This is where they all have to trust Nimpentoad and work together through the unexpected problems that come up.

I recommend Nimpentoad for ages five and up. Even adults will appreciate the humor.

It was written by Henry Herz and his two sons, Josh and Harrison, who are in elementary school. I think this is worthy of sharing with the children who read Nimpentoad.

Grampy says

“Nimpentoad” is a cooperative effort by Henry, Joshua, and Harrison Herz. It is a somewhat interactive storybook for children, set in an alternate world. The main character is Nimpentoad, who happens to be a Nibling, but not just an ordinary Nibling. Nimpentoad is smarter than the average Nibling, and uses his greater intelligence to protect the entire Nibling population from a variety of dangers, leading them to an ultimate state of permanent safety. With Forest Goblins, Neebels, Forest Orcs, Giant Scorpions, Rhinotaurs, Giant Wolves, and Forest Trolls standing between them and safety, how did Nimpentoad manage to save his people? Nimpentoad thought Goofus the Giant would help protect them, but he was putting all his faith in an untested guess. What if he was wrong, and Goofus decided to eat the Niblings, instead of helping them? Even before they got to Goofus, how did Nimpentoad intend to get the Niblings safely past all the other creatures who would love nothing better than a good Nibling sandwich?

This was a cute story. It is interactive, insofar as there are a number of places where the adult reader can pause to involve the child in an “oh no, what will they do now?” manner. Nimpentoad comes up with some clever ways to trick each gang of creatures who present a challenge to their safety at the moment. At these times, the adult reader could ask the child, “how do you think they will get past the (xyz’s) without being eaten?”, thus stimulating the child to think about possible solutions. I recommend this book to anyone – parent, grand-parent, baby-sitter, or God-parent – who might be in a position to read a story to younger children. “Nimpentoad” is pretty ideal for that purpose, and helps the child learn to think about actions and consequences.

Brian Wilkerson says

There are so many things I like about this story. There's the storytelling atmosphere, the child-like yet intelligent prose, the pictures that bring the story to life, the well-built setting, and Nimpentoad himself.

The story is written as though someone was telling the story to someone else. This adds character and warmth to the writing that makes the story feel 'fuller'. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the Narrator is as much a character as anyone else. Now that I've finished the story and thought about it the story itself could be a nipling scholar telling some far off future generation about why they live in a castle with a giant.

The wording and sentence structure are simple but filled with knowledge and detail. Going off the above paragraph, its like the scholar is doing this deliberately for his much younger audience. There are sound effects in parenthesis that make me smile with their cute/cheesiness. Some phrases are also repeated with each segment, which gives the story a kind of poetic epic structure; again like a national 'origin story' for the nipling.

The pictures are gorgeous, well, as gorgeous as giant scorpions and forest orcs can be anyway. Each picture shows off the various races inhabiting the forest but not the actions they take. Its imagination fonder for the reader. They get to paint the actions themselves.

The setting is surprisingly well built for such a short children's story. The forest is continually developed by the plants that grow inside it (Niplings are very good cooks) and the breakdown of the society is quickly set up and developed further as the Niplings travel. Its perfect for the background of the story, and even better, an older reader can appreciate nuances that younger ones might not get and debate them on websites like TVTropes.

And, finally, Nimpentoad himself. The story says earlier on that he's the smartest of the Niplings and he demonstrates this every day on their journey. His craftiness saves them time and again. Its like he's their Trickster Figure; creating new ideas, changing their way of life, surviving on his wits instead of brawn.

Bottom Line: If I were five years old again, I'd want my mom and dad to read this to me and they would enjoy it as much as I would.

This review can also be found at <http://trickstereric.blogspot.com>

Sadie Forsythe says

I would give this 4.5 if I could. A strong 5 for the artwork and a 4 for the story. Nimpentoad has many strengths, not least of which is the beautiful artwork (if you can call pictures of goblins, orcs, and trolls beautiful). Eddingfield and Maus really out did themselves. The story itself is interesting and engaging, with a conversational tone. As we follow the adventure of the Nibblings through Grunwald Forest small lessons are slipped in. Children learn the danger of not following directions and the rudeness of eating with their mouth open, numbers and colors are introduced, and the fun of eating vegetables declared. It does feel a little rushed, as Nimpentoad outsmarts one forest species after another in quick succession with very little in between, but I doubt a child would notice. All-in-all a beautifully drawn and fun story for children.

Masquerade Crew says

SHARON'S REVIEW

Nimpentoad is a children's picture book in a fairytale type format, which is geared to being read out loud to young children. The story follows a group of creatures called Nibblings. They are the smallest creatures in the forest, so they get picked on, and sometimes even eaten by bigger creatures. Nimpentoad is a Nibbling that comes up with a plan to find a safer home for the group. This plan involves finding a giant on the other side of the forest. There are many obstacles and dangers on this journey, but Nimpentoad is up to the challenge, and leads them through.

The graphics of this story are amazing. The bigger creatures are a little bit scary for very young children, but probably not scary enough to produce nightmares. I particularly like the description of Nibblings as being

waist high to adult humans. That would be approximately the size of the average five year old, which would be one of the target ages for this story. Children can relate to the trials of the small Nibblings, because they are small themselves. There's quite a bit of simple humour which will appeal to kids. There's also a part about mushrooms where the story asks the reader directly if they like mushrooms. That makes the reader (or young listener) a part of the story. I like the way the the authors get children involved.

Nimpentoad is not just an entertaining story, it's a teaching vehicle that introduces the moral values of courage, leadership, teamwork, friendship and trust. It also suggests family type caring relationships, even when the participants aren't related. At one point the Nibblings build a vehicle that works by pedal power. Children from toddlerhood upwards would be familiar with pedal toys to get around. That is one more way that this wonderful tale relates to kids. The giant in this story represents a protective adult. The Nibblings will help him do things he cannot. This gives the idea of cooperation towards a common goal. I really like that.

This charming and endearing tale is rather unique in that it was partially written by children, for children. Henry Herz and his two young sons Josh and Harrison, wrote this lovely fantasy story together. It's a picture book with amazing images that will settle in the minds of children forever. Young children equate stories with the pictures that go with them. Humpty Dumpty and various other images from Mother Goose have stayed with me since I was a toddler, and I am now a senior citizen. I believe that the story and the pictures of Nimpentoad have the same lasting power and universal appeal of established nursery rhymes and fairytales. I absolutely recommend it for four to seven year olds.

Sarah Coburn says

What a delight to read a piece of children's literature! At university I studied a module titled 'Children's Literature' and it was very insightful to learn about the techniques and subtle morals planted within children's stories and so it is great to revisit this type of book. As a child I loved to read stories about adventures, escaping the wrath of monsters with your friends and eventually beating the badies! Nimpentoad makes no exception when it comes to an action-packed tale that is suited for children. Its interesting and colourful graphics make the book visually exciting for kids and the story is easy to follow and is understandable. The story is fun and yet creates just the right amount of suspense for a children's story. It is based in Grunwald Forest and follows the adventures of some Nibblings – 'the smallest creatures in Grunwald Forest'. Unfortunately because the Nibblings are the smallest creatures in Grunwald Forest, they often become victims to the bullying ways of the larger creatures – who have been known to eat Nibblings!! Nimpentoad who is the bravest Nibbling forms a cunning plan that entails them all venturing over to visit Goofus the grumpy Giant and in exchange for their protection – because the Nibblings are so small and vulnerable - the Nibblings will help out with all of Goofus' chores that he cannot cater to because he is so big; for example, turning the pages of his books! The adventure that the Nibblings face whilst trekking to Goofus' castle is a tough one, they face ambushes and the trials and tribulations of the mean forest dwellers such as forest Goblins, Orcs, Neebels and many many more.

This is a wonderful book and I think that it is great for children; it is exciting, fun and portrays courage, teamwork and good winning over bad! A must-read, even if you are not a kid!

Anita W says

Nimpentoad written by Henry L. Herz and his Sons – Josh and Harrison Herz, with art work by Sean Eddingfield and Bill Maus

Amazon rates this book with “5 stars.” It is a wonderful, sci-fi fantasy; early chapter book, and I believe that elementary age children, five through ten years old, will absolutely love it.

The story and the art work are creative and rich. Nimpentoad will capture the attention of young readers and hold it, and they will be left wishing for more. Perhaps there’ll be a sequel? Many children and parents will be hoping that the answer is “yes!”

The authors and I agree that Nimpentoad promotes creativity, perseverance, teamwork and leadership. As a past teacher, I especially love the parent list of suggestions about how to best utilize the different parts of the book so that it can be as beneficial as possible to each child. For instance, under “manners,” Dimbal, who is a Nibling (the book’s main creatures) and Nimpentoad’s friend, chews with his mouth open. You have the opportunity to talk with your child about etiquette when they are eating and the importance of keeping their mouth closed. This book truly goes to great lengths to make its story work at every level.

The art work is exquisite. You can see an example of the art work and read more about the author and his work at www.nimpentoad.com.

Nimpentoad helps the Nibblings as they travel a long distance through the Grunwald Forest to reach the giant who lives in his humongous castle at the forest’s other side. The giant is very large (hence the term “giant”!), and the Nibblings are very small. The giant has a problem that Nimpentoad, the leader of the Nibblings, has realized that his peers can help the giant solve. But good deeds come with rewards, and you will have to read the book to find how the Nibblings and the giant end up.

As you might easily imagine, being a Nibling, one of the smallest creatures in the forest, has its drawbacks. Just a walk through the forest can turn into quite an adventure. According to the story, Nibblings are skinny and short and just about knee-high to an adult human. This leaves them vulnerable to the bigger and more vicious predators lurking about.

The Nibblings have to deal with all sorts of creatures, such as “the Forest Goblins,” “the Neebels,” “the Forest Orcs,” and, last but certainly not least, “the Giant Scorpions.” The children will love reading about how and if the Nibblings escape, and all that they have to deal with in this venture.

But there are also advantages to being small, as Nibblings are close to the ground and can find things that have been dropped, or “tasty mushrooms that grow among the fallen leaves of the forest floor.” You will also learn that the Nibblings love to cook. In fact, your child may find a recipe for “poached termite eggs” just waiting for them. Oh so YUMMY, right?

I believe that both our authors and artists have done an amazing job of describing the creatures in this book. The art work is so inspiring that your child will be asking for a sketch book and colored pencils to illustrate their own visualizations of these creatures, or ones that they come up with themselves. So they will not only spend hours reading and re-reading Nimpentoad; if so inclined they will indulge in making their own drawings and adventure with “Nimpentoad” and the rest of the Nibblings.

You can buy his book at Amazon for \$10.50 in paperback or on Kindle (which I read, and it is beautifully done) for \$2.99. I must admit to my traditional nature of wanting to have an actual book in my hands, but I’m slowly switching over to e-books for the convenience of enlarging the font and storing the multitude of books that I read. And of course this technology lets you order and receive it from the comfort of your bedroom, while in your pjs. At least when it comes to books and convenience, “these” truly are the “good old days.”

If you enjoyed J.K. Tolkien’s “The Hobbit,” this book would give your younger child the same type of experience at their level. It is a spectacular story with enriching illustrations in which you get to see the artists’ rendition of Nimpentoad and many of the creatures that the Nibblings encounter. These include “the Giant Scorpions” that seethe evil and danger through my Ipad’s screen.

This book would save you on a rainy Saturday and give your child hours of sensational fun and enjoyment. And if you are looking for some basket stuffers as Easter is coming up soon, I would request that the Bunny

Rabbit put Nimbentoad in your child's basket.

Our authors Henry Herz and his sons Josh and Harrison are rising stars. There is no doubt that we will read much more about them in the future. With utmost certainty, I agree with Amazon and award this book "5 out of 5 tiaras." It not only creates a wonderful reading opportunity for your child, but it gives them detailed and enticing art work in which to delve. They will learn new words, and you will have the chance to be involved with your child's learning valuable concepts that can make a positive difference over their entire lives.

Needless to say, I am most impressed. I wish the authors and the artists good luck in their future work, and I wish you and your child endless hours of learning!

Blessings! anita of anitabook.com.

Melanie Adkins says

Grunwald Forest is full of creatures. Many aren't very nice. They like to bully and be mean to the other creatures. Nibblings are the smallest and the Giant is the biggest. The Nibblings had to hide often because so many wanted to eat them. Nimpentoad was the smartest and bravest Nibbling. He knew if they could get the Giant to agree to join forces with them, they would be safe. The Nibblings could do the things a clumsy Giant couldn't and the Giant could protect the Nibblings from all other creatures. The Nibblings decide to make the long journey to the castle to talk to Goofus the Giant. Along the journey they run into many creatures who could harm them, but Nimpentoad usually had an idea of how to stop them. Did they make it to the castle and what did Goofus say to their plan?

This is one of those books your children will read again and again. The delightful characters and lesson teaching story are wonderful. You won't find creepy, scary creatures in this book, just ones your children can relate to easily. My daughter thought this book was really good and said she would definitely share it with the school librarian and teachers. You'll want to get this one for your children. Geared to kids 6-9 it's actually a wonderful read for any age.

I gave this one 5 out of 5 books because it is definitely the next kids bestseller.

Jessica says

Nimpentoad (Henry, Josh & Harrison Herz, 2011; available on Amazon) is a lovely, illustrated tale about dear Nimpentoad's adventure to lead his fellow Nibblings through the oft dangerous Grunwald Forest in a journey for their survival. Throughout the journey, Nimpentoad and his friends encounter various creatures that have both strengths and weaknesses that Nimpentoad must use to keep his friend safe.

This book does what many children's books try, and sometimes fail, to do: teaches life lessons about teamwork, problem solving, and critical thinking, without any of these features of the story overtaking the story arc. This story is about Nimpentoad and the trust that he gains from the Nibblings through good decision-making and smart leadership. It is the story of making a plan, encountering challenges, and being both brave and flexible in difficult and sometimes scary circumstances. The characters are not infallible – both the "good guys" and the "bad guys" are presented with strengths and weaknesses that they use to their advantage in Grunwald Forest. The balanced presentation of diverse characters is rather a good lesson for children, and parents will find this story a joy to share. Illustrations in this book are colorful and vivid, capturing the spirit of the journey that the Nibblings take through the forest.

Overall, a delightful book to see, read, and experience, with developmentally appropriate themes and an exciting story.

K.M. says

Of all the creatures in the Grunwald Forest, Niblings are the smallest and weakest physically. Tired of getting bullied, or worse, eaten by an Orc for dinner, they embark on a journey to make a deal with a giant. They are led by one brave and resourceful Nibling named Nimpentoad, who repeatedly saves his fellow Niblings from all manner of creatures, including wolves and goblins, with his quick thinking.

Targeted at children ages 5-10, Nimpentoad was written by Henry Herz and his two sons. This creative little story sends the message that bullying is not nice, which is poignant during a time where bullying issues are very much at the forefront of our culture. It also conveys the benefits of perseverance, resourcefulness and playing to the strengths given to you.

As a fantasy-fiction fanatic, I found this tale charming and am looking forward to sharing this story with my own son. I also loved the artwork and actually wished there had been more pictures, as it was fantastically detailed and worthy of the creatures being depicted.

Despite the many fearsome situations the brave little Niblings find themselves in, they complete their quest and find their friendly giant in the end. I think most children would delight in this imaginative story and its wholesome life messages. This is just me, but for kids I recommend going with the print edition.
