



Apple Pie ABC

Alison Murray

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When an apple pie arrives piping hot on the kitchen table, a little pup does everything from A to Z to get his paws on it. He Ogles it. He Pines for it. But will his ABC antics land him a slice?

APPLE PIE ABC is a delicious twist on traditional verse brought to life by Alison Murray's simple words and whimsical illustrations. Sure to delight readers of all ages, it's a book to savor again and again.

Apple Pie ABC Details

Date : Published May 31st 2011 by Disney-Hyperion (first published May 6th 2010)

ISBN : 9781423136941

Author : Alison Murray

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Dogs, Storytime

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From Reader Review Apple Pie ABC for online ebook

Tasha says

A small black-and-white dog desperately wants a piece of apple pie in this alphabetical story. It all starts with a girl making A for apple pie and a happily sleeping dog. But as soon as the pie is in the oven with B for bake it, the dog is very interested in the pie. Then the pie must C for cool it and D for dish it out. Though the girl gets to eat some pie, the dog must make due with just a crumb. But after that one delicious crumb, he just can't stop thinking about eating pie! This cheery picture book mixes the alphabet with an alphabetical storyline more robust than in other books that try this technique. Readers will love the many ways the dog tries to get pie and then the very satisfying and delicious conclusion.

Murray has created a book that really works the alphabet into the story. Even without the alphabet as part of the book, this story and the writing would stand on its own. That's something that can rarely be said about an alphabet picture book. The writing is kept very simple and solid.

Murray's illustrations are a treat in this book. They have a natural, old-fashioned quality to them that makes the book warm and inviting. Add the apple pie element, and you have a book that feels like a classic picture book yet still has a modern perspective too.

A delight of a picture book that will satisfy yet leave young readers eager for seconds. Appropriate for ages 2-4.

Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

Fun twist on apple pies and ABC's

Jean says

Just when I was thinking, "who really needs another alphabet book?" ...I picked up this delightful read! A stalwart review of the letters of the alphabet accentuates a gleeful plot line--with both simple text and illustration each adding to the fun--about one character's dogged determination to get some apple pie! An impressive picture book and quite a lot of fun.

Jane G Meyer says

I absoluteley loved, adored, rooted this book on until I turned to the very last page. Ugh... Really, the illustrations are amazing, the text is fun, the choice of words, awesome... Even the feel of the paper and the choice of colors is just what I would have wished for on a book about apple pies and little girls and puppies...

Chalk this one up to another case of really bad manners. Here's the thing. There's this little dog who wants some of his (cute little girl) owner's apple pie. She eats her piece early on, and then he schemes and begs and does everything he can think of to get a piece, too. Wouldn't you? Just imagine the aroma filling that kitchen.

Well, finally he pulls the pie from the table, onto the floor, and gobbles it up. The last page is the little girl, smiling at the satisfied dog.

Two things. The dog was naughty and wasn't even given a talking to. And the little girl didn't share. In this book we're subtly teaching our kids to fend only for themselves and to reward doing something they were told not to.

It would have been so easy for the girl to give the dog some pie on the sly at the end. She could have set a fun little treasure hunt for him to find a bowl of the pie secretly... Or... who knows, there could have been a thousand other ways to turn the story.

My two cents in four short paragraphs...

Kathryn says

What a fun, inventive addition to ABC books. I love how each letter helped tell the story of the little dog's attempts to eat an apple pie. Nice change of pace from each letter simply describing an object, for example. The illustrations are cute as can be!

Melissa says

I grew up with the Kate Greenaway book so I was predisposed to like this one too! The illustrations are charming, the block-print feel of the pictures gives this version its own old-fashioned flavor. Lots of great details, like the dog's tail twirling in a circle of anticipation before he makes a break for the pie.

Paul Hankins says

Thank you, Professor Nana, for recommending this ABC book. The illustrations have a classic feel and draw upon the pacing of the alphabet to tell the story of a dog who tries to be good. But who can be good when their is hot-baked apple pie so near and so accessible.

Hoover Public Library Kids and Teens says

So simple yet so wonderful! Perfectly captures a dog's point of view.

Danette says

7/5/18 Read with Naomi & Julia.

paula says

The beagle's name, I find out from the book's website, is Georgie. And the little girl in the blue jumper is Grace. A is for apple pie, and B C and D are the verbs Grace uses to bake it, cool it, and dish it out. After that, it's all Georgie, finding a crumb on the floor and then obsessing over that fat pie, plotting and pining in a realistically single-minded puppy way. Alison Murray's text is cool and simple and perky, getting around the tricky letters so smartly that I had to go back and look - what did she do about X?

Full review on Pink Me: <http://pinkme.typepad.com/pink-me/201...>

Ashton Miller says

Title: Apple Pie ABC

Author: Alison Murray

Illustrator: Alison Murray

Genre: Concept Book, Alphabet Book

Theme: Alphabet, determination

Opening Line/Sentence: A-Apple Pie.

Brief Book Summary: The book goes through the alphabet while telling a story of a dog wanting to eat the apple pie that he sees. In the end, the dog ends up getting the pie and is satisfied.

Professional Recommendation/Review #1:

<http://www.clcd.com.ezaccess.librarie...>

Publishers Weekly (Publishers Weekly)

A long-eared dog with a passing resemblance to early versions of Snoopy longs for his young owner's irresistible apple pie in this ABC book. Red and white letters, reminiscent of toy wood blocks, appear on each page, as the girl happily "bake it," then "dish it out." The expressive hound goes from being "eager for it," to "have to get a lick of it," which results in a gentle scolding before the "quietly determined" puppy devises a scheme for getting his pie. The grainy, retro-style artwork gives the book a deliciously vintage feel, and readers will be glad that perseverance (and pie!) win out over manners.

Professional Recommendation/Review #2:

<http://www.clcd.com.ezaccess.librarie...>

CCBC (Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices, 2012)

It's unusual to find an alphabet book that tells a good story, but together the narrative and artful illustrations in Alison Murray's picture book do just that. Murray's stylized prints, in a subdued but striking palette of red, orange, and blue with splashes of yellow, black, and white on cream, show a small girl making an apple pie, and her small black-and-white dog, who longs for a bit, a bite, or every last crumb. Each alphabet letter is presented like a quilt block on a page in which the narrative details the dog's continuing quest for the coveted pie with a significant word or phrase that starts with the letter featured. When the pie is done, the

dog must [L] leave without it but later is [Q] quietly determined to return. [Y] yum yum ... [Z] zzzzzzzzz ... go to sleep and dream of it. Terrific word choice in the brief text, and delightful images of the dog in action and his interactions with the often admonishing girl, add to the fun of this handsomely designed, appealing volume.

Response to Two Professional Reviews: I agree with both of these reviews because the book is creative, yet teaches the concept of the ABC's. The colors and letters really stand out on the pages, which caught my attention immediately. It's an amusing story and it's very relatable, especially for children.

Evaluation of Literary Elements: The table that holds the apple pie is on vertical legs, which implies excitement when the dog tries to get the pie. The dog is on the ground and he feels sad because what he wants is high up, which is the pie. At the end, when the apple pie is falling off the table, it is falling diagonally, indicating motion. The background is light, which allows the letters in the alphabet to pop out at the reader and it makes for a safer feel.

Consideration of Instructional Application: In my classroom, a mini lesson could be having my students place magnetic letters in order on the whiteboard to familiarize themselves with the alphabet. After the read aloud, I would have them come up with words that start with each letter of the alphabet, just like the story did. I could also connect my lesson to math and have my students count how many letters are in the alphabet.

Alissa Parker says

Title: *Apple Pie ABC*

Author: Alison Murray

Genre: Alphabet (ABC) Book

Theme(s): Alphabet, Dog

Opening line/sentence: (A apple pie)

Brief Book Summary: (Apple Pie ABC is an alphabet book about a little black and white dog begging for a piece of freshly baked apple pie. Once the dog has a crumb of the pie, he cannot stop thinking about it! Eventually he succeeds in getting the pie and he eats so much that it puts him to sleep.)

Professional Recommendation/Review #1: (CCBC (Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices, 2012) It s unusual to find an alphabet book that tells a good story, but together the narrative and artful illustrations in Alison Murray s picture book do just that. Murray s stylized prints, in a subdued but striking palette of red, orange, and blue with splashes of yellow, black, and white on cream, show a small girl making an apple pie, and her small black-and-white dog, who longs for a bit, a bite, or every last crumb. Each alphabet letter is presented like a quilt block on a page in which the narrative details the dog s continuing quest for the coveted pie with a significant word or phrase that starts with the letter featured. When the pie is done, the dog must [L] leave without it but later is [Q] quietly determined to return. [Y] yum yum ... [Z] zzzzzzzzz ... go to sleep and dream of it. Terrific word choice in the brief text, and delightful images of the dog in action and his interactions with the often admonishing girl, add to the fun of this handsomely designed, appealing volume. Honor Book, 2012 Charlotte Zolotow Award CCBC Category: Concept Books. 2011, Disney / Hyperion, 24 pages, \$16.99. Ages 2-5.

(PUBLISHER: Disney-Hyperion Books (New York:), PUBLISHED: 2011.)

Professional Recommendation/Review #2: (Janice DeLong (Children's Literature)

With letters large enough to be seen by a group and white space aplenty to encourage focus, Murray presents her story through letters and simple phrases following the chronological order of the alphabet. A smiling young lady and her mischievous dog are introduced on the first page as the child is shaking delectable cinnamon on the about-to-be-baked crust of an inviting apple pie. As the letters progress through B, C and D, child and pet watch the baking dessert with anticipation. However, our little cook has a different idea about

the end result than her pet does! Leaving the aromatic dish to cool proves to be the undoing of both dog and pie--almost. Just in time, the child returns and prevents a catastrophe at the paws of her four-legged friend. At this point in the story, a teacher, parent, or librarian might introduce foreshadowing and prediction by having the young audience guess whether or not the dog will get a piece of pie. Although there are some words such as miserable, ogle, determined, and underneath that will be beyond the reading level of beginners, the context and vivid illustrations provide ample opportunity for well-informed guessing. In this reviewer's experience, the ending is a bit unrealistic, but it does provide fertile ground for discussion. Of course, this title begs for a treat of apple pie to be baked as a delicious culminating activity to the shared read. 2011 (orig. 2010), Disney Hyperion/Disney Book Group, \$16.99. Ages 2 to 6.

(PUBLISHER: Disney/Hyperion Books (New York:), PUBLISHED: 2011 c2010.)

Response to Two Professional Reviews: (Both reviews discuss the illustrations and how they are simple enough to keep children interested. They also discuss how the mischievous little dog brings humor to the story. Overall, I agree with each of the reviewers. I feel that they did an accurate job describing how the text flows yet at times can be a little above the age level for potential readers.)

Evaluation of Literary Elements: (The simplicity of this book makes it very reader friendly for children of all ages. It uses each letter of the alphabet to describe the feelings of the dog toward the apple pie. While some of the words will be above the age level of the readers, it will expand their vocabulary. Those who have dogs will be able to relate to the mischief that the dog goes through for the pie.)

Consideration of Instructional Application: (This book would be ideal for preschool or kindergarten classroom. Students could practice prediction as they read through the story thinking about what the dog is going to do next. Once they read the story, the class could recreate the book by writing the letters and drawing pictures to describe the letter.)

Edward Sullivan says

Y is for YUMMY!

Paige Patterson says

Title: Apple Pie ABC

Author: Alison Murray

Illustrator: N/A

Genre: Alphabet (ABC) Book, Concept Book,

Theme(s): Alphabet, Food – Pies/Apples, Dogs, Baking,

Opening line/sentence: A apple pie.

Brief Book Summary: Apple pie ABC follows a dog as he watches his owner bake an apple pie. As the story progresses, the dog finds a crumb and begins attempts at getting to the pie. Despite his owner's attempts to keep him away, the dog ultimately eats the pie and goes to sleep.

Professional Recommendation/Review #1: Reviewer name N/A, Horn Book Guide: (2) PS A freshly baked

apple pie sets off a series of alphabetical responses. Murray incorporates unexpected action words and an original underlying story of a sprightly black-and-white dog driven to bad behavior by a strong pastry craving. Printed on thick cream-colored paper with a limited palette of blues, reds, and yellows, the monochromatic illustrations resemble linocut prints. Bold uppercase alphabet letters anchor each page. <http://www.hornbookguide.com.ezaccess...>

Professional Recommendation/Review #2: Janice DeLong, Children's Literature, CLCD: With letters large enough to be seen by a group and white space aplenty to encourage focus, Murray presents her story through letters and simple phrases following the chronological order of the alphabet. A smiling young lady and her mischievous dog are introduced on the first page as the child is shaking delectable cinnamon on the about-to-be-baked crust of an inviting apple pie. As the letters progress through B, C and D, child and pet watch the baking dessert with anticipation. However, our little cook has a different idea about the end result than her pet does! Leaving the aromatic dish to cool proves to be the undoing of both dog and pie--almost. Just in time, the child returns and prevents a catastrophe at the paws of her four-legged friend. At this point in the story, a teacher, parent, or librarian might introduce foreshadowing and prediction by having the young audience guess whether or not the dog will get a piece of pie. Although there are some words such as miserable, ogle, determined, and underneath that will be beyond the reading level of beginners, the context and vivid illustrations provide ample opportunity for well-informed guessing. In this reviewer's experience, the ending is a bit unrealistic, but it does provide fertile ground for discussion. Of course, this title begs for a treat of apple pie to be baked as a delicious culminating activity to the shared read. <http://www.clcd.com.ezaccess.librarie...>

Response to Two Professional Reviews: I agree with both reviews that the book has a very good storyline. Especially considering many alphabet books give words in a way that does not tell a story as this one does. Both reviews seem to like the illustrations as well, which are very bright and inviting.

Evaluation of Literary Elements: The silly, but realistic dog in this book gives the book a humorous tone. I especially like the style and language of this book, using action verbs throughout and as Janice DeLong's review states, uses words (such as ogle) that will expand the child's vocabulary. The dog's conflict is clear early on and leads to a satisfying conclusion, especially since his owner doesn't seem to mind him eating her pie.

Consideration of Instructional Application: One way this book could be used in the classroom to teach students to begin making predictions, as the dog's actions are relatively easy for young students to infer. Asking Kindergarteners what they think may happen next as the owner bakes the pie, or when the dog nears the table prior to pulling at the tablecloth would likely lead students to guess what happens next. As this is an alphabet book, it could also be expanded upon with further work on letters.

Alyssa Clark says

1. Apple Pie ABC by Alison Murray has not won any awards.
2. I think this book is appropriate for preschool and kindergarten.
3. In this book, a dog is very eager to get a taste of his owner's freshly baked apple pie. The alphabet takes the reader on a journey of this dog's desire for the apple pie. After the pie is baked and cooling, the dog tries to have a taste, but is kicked out; however, he never gives up.
4. I think this book is really cute. Even though there aren't a lot of words, the vocabulary is rich and there is an exciting story line. I think kids will really like it and will root for the dog to get a bite of that apple pie.
5. Once again, I could use this book to teach the alphabet, but I think there is more to it. I could use this book

to talk about sequencing of events. I would tell the kids first the girl baked the pie. Then, she let it cool. After, she dished it out. I would write down first, second, and third with the corresponding words. I would then have students try their own examples and have them share. One example might be, first I woke up, second I brushed my teeth, third I got dressed. Another way I could use this book is to write a recipe using the sequencing of events I just taught them. I would tell them that recipes need to be completed in steps. Then I would write out the steps for them. The following day, we would bake our own pies following the steps we wrote in class.
