



Curious George Flies a Kite

Margret Rey , H.A. Rey (Illustrator)

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George's adventures with bunnies, fishing poles, and a powerful kite are told in a simplified text suitable for first-graders to read themselves.

Curious George Flies a Kite Details

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From Reader Review Curious George Flies a Kite for online ebook

sj says

My middle son is currently seven and he struggles with reading. He's great at math and science, he remembers things that blow my mind and he's got this amazing hand/eye coordination that causes me much envy...he's just not the best reader.

We've been playing a lot of phonics games lately, trying to build his confidence and get him more comfortable with reading instead of feeling frustrated because it's not clicking and yesterday he asked me if we could get some books *just for him* from the library. This is the first time he's asked me for that, so I got a little weepy.

Today we sat down with this on the couch together and he read me the entire thing. *Curious George Flies a Kite* is really three stories in one, and is a lot longer than most of the beginning reader Curious George books. Eighty pages! He read me 80 pages at once and barely stumbled!

When he finished, he hugged me and said "I'm catching up now, mommy!" in the most excited voice. I cried a little, and hugged him tight.

He *wants* to read now, which isn't even something I could have said a few weeks ago. FINALLY! YAY!

Spencer Orey says

Some dated language (George really beats himself up at one point for being a bad monkey. Don't let them get to you like that, George!), but mostly this is an innocuously sweet if slightly longwinded story. It's nice to be able to read stories like that.

Angie says

This is a story in four parts: playing ball, playing with bunnies, going fishing, and flying a kite. They are all tenuously related but almost like four separate stories. I liked that George was more curious than naughty in this one. I find those types of scrapes more palatable than the naughty monkey stories that my kiddos could manage to imitate.

Derek says

After his adventure in space, George gets a more low-key affair in *Curious George Flies a Kite*, the fifth installment in the story of George's life. In this book, Margaret Rey has taken over writing duties, while husband and previous author H.A. provides illustrations only.

This books really contains three separate mini-adventures, but each of which is more or less satisfactorily

concluded, which is a welcome improvement after the rambling, unfocused mess that was *Curious George Gets a Medal*. On the whole, they are much more in keeping with the more down-to-earth mischief of George's pre-*Medal* shenanigans, as well. Oh, and as far as I can tell, the common theme to these adventures is "Behold, the power of string!"

The book begins with George in his house, playing with a new ball. This is George and the poacher's third house in as many books. I understand that they are now rather wealthy, what with George's starring in a hit movie and being the subject of at least one book, but the frequency with which they move strikes me as excessive.

Also, we are told that George's name is actually "Curious George," and that he is the most curious of all monkeys. This is all news to us readers. Previously, he was simply "George," and the "Curious" bit was just a descriptor. Not sure when the name change took place. Also, that latter bit is completely unverifiable. I doubt Rey has done an exhaustive study of the curiosity levels of all monkeys everywhere. In a nice call-back to *Curious George Rides a Bike*, George's bugle is visible in the background of his bedroom.

So once again, the story begins with the poacher leaving George unsupervised for the day, but giving him a stern warning to behave. George begins by--sorry, I have stop here. Can we please talk about the poacher's behavior for a minute? Leaving a wild animal unattended at any point is tremendously negligent. It was negligent in *Curious George* when he let the monkey run amok on the ship. It was negligent in *Curious George Rides a Bike*, when he let the monkey play outside without supervision. And so on and so on. And you know what? Every single time, George got into trouble. What the (view spoiler) is wrong with this guy? He has no excuse. The monkey has proven time and again that it will get into trouble if not being watched.

Sure, things may have wrapped up quite nicely each time the monkey gets loose so far, but we won't always be so lucky. Someone is going to call animal control at some point and what do you think they'll do when they come across a wild animal harassing children? They won't give him an opportunity to clean the kitchen and consider everything square, that's for damn sure. He'll probably get taken into custody and there's a realistic chance he'll be put down. What then, man with yellow hat? Not that he cares, I expect. He'll just go capture another wild animal and put it to work and earn enough money to buy another helicopter.

But now we're getting ahead of ourselves...

Anyway, George plays in the house for a while until he looks out the window, gets curious about his new neighbors, and goes exploring. Because the poacher left window open. Great parenting, (view spoiler).

George climbs into the walled garden across the street, where he finds a small house full of baby bunnies and a mother bunny. George takes a bunny out, promptly loses it, but then uses the mother bunny (whom George keeps track of by making an impromptu leash out of some string he found in a toolshed) to track it down and safely return it to its home. Hurray.

As George is leaving the garden, he sees a man carrying a fishing pole, and his next adventure immediately begins. George follows the man to the lake and watches him fish for a while. Hilarity ensues when George then decides he would like to fish, as well. This part was entertaining and ends in humiliation for George. I especially like that George used cake as bait, but when he couldn't catch any fish, decided that he'd just eat the cake himself. Good stuff. George also used string as part of his cobbled-together fishing pole.

George's third and final adventure--the one referenced in the book's title--begins after his disastrous attempt to catch some fish. Climbing out of the lake, he encounters Bill, a neighborhood lad flying a kite. Perhaps following the poor example set by the poacher, Bill leaves George unsupervised with the kite. The wind sweeps George and the kite up into the air, and George is suddenly in trouble! Bill rushes to the tell the poacher what's going on; the poacher drives off immediately. We see him again shortly, as he rescues

George and the kite(using string! Hurray for string!) in a helicopter.

How did the poacher get access to a helicopter that quickly? The only explanation I can think of is that he not only owns it, but keeps it nearby. Which strikes me as weird. And lavish. Huh. Didn't see that coming, I guess.

Bill and the poacher are glad George is safe, and for some reason, Bill concludes that George's irresponsible warrants giving George one of the bunnies. Apparently, the garden was Bill's. It's not clear whether or not this is the bunny George almost lost earlier in the story.

So, yeah...a lot going on with this one. It's certainly better structured and more coherent than the previous, but the shockingly irresponsible behavior of the human characters is troubling. No one seems to give a (view spoiler) what sort of discord George causes. They don't even take reasonable measures to keep him out of trouble.

A solid book overall, I guess. Not great, but better than others in the series.

Devera Chandler says

Take out the description of a "Fat Man" and this book is pretty great.

Shawn Fairweather says

My son from birth has always been surrounded with Curious George. Today at the ripe old age of 3 he travels everywhere with his stuffed George doll, and morning cuddle time he is a mainstay. He loves the cartoons on PBS as well. For me, I remember as a kid going to my ped. for Dr. appts, always looking for a certain George book, (George Goes to the Hospital) for the waiting room. Luckily it was always available in the waiting room. A couple years ago I found a beautiful hardcover boxset at B&N that I thought would make a great Xmas gift for my son, and it included the Hospital book along with this one. The gift was a smash hit. The stories tend to be a bit on the long side by todays standards, but they are highly enjoyable to read for bedtime story telling.

Beautiful artwork, well written stories in a classic sense. Wording that always follows the pictures as well as now my son can relay the stories to me by both memory and picture guidance. You can't go wrong here. The simplicity and innocense of the time period when written is highly apparent which for me I want for my son. Life lessons will come, but right now I want him to enjoy his time of playfulness and George helps him do so.

Madison says

AHH, what a great read for students who love monkeys, and curious george. I picked this book because I know that I enjoyed these books as a kid, and so did all my sibilings. I love how this book is able to make kids laugh, and draw them in. I will for sure use this in a classroom to teach students about kites, and how to fly a kite.

Suhad Albaat says

I love all of the Curious George books. He has always been one of my favorites, especially because I love monkeys. George is a a curious monkey and he is very adventorous, hence all of the titles of all of the books.

Dianna says

My three-year-old son was able to sit through all 80 pages of this in one go. That's the magic of Curious George.

Darinda says

Curious George is curious about something that is outside, so he wanders from his home to look around. While out, he runs into Bill, and they fly a kite. George goes on a bigger adventure than he had planned. Silly and cute.

Chad Olson says

George, abandoned again until the neighbor boy sends him airborne

Slow Man says

This sweet little story deserves a four star. Curious George checked out the bunnies, went fishing with his creative fishing tools, flied a kite and went up with it until The man with the yellow hat saved him from the helicopter. He was rewarded a baby bunny when he saved Bill's kite. Sweet.

Rachel Mrazik says

The book was a little longer, but George shows how curious he is in this book. He wanders around and explores his surroundings.

Sarah says

Flying a kite is no picnic! The church I attended held an annual Kite Day, which, invariably was the least windy day of the year. Never could seem to get the kite off the ground for long. George tackles this problem in this addition to H.A. Rey's series.

Matt says

In one of his longer stories, George shows just how curious he can be. A little monkey can only take so much time alone, so when George discovers a large window in his house, the things he can see makes it all but impossible to stay still. H ventures down to check out all the world has to offer, from a garden to a little bunny house and even a few people who love to spend their lazy day by the water. As George learns the art of fishing, he discovers that it is not as easy as it seems. While fishing may be an art, George soon comes to understand that it does not hold a candle to flying a kite. George loves watching it, but when a gust of wind pushes him up into the sky, holding the kite, it is scarier than he could have imagined. How will he get down?! Neo and I loved this story, as it showcases all the trouble that George can find in a single afternoon. A lovely story that we both will surely enjoy for years to come, even as Neo introduces it to the next generation... someday!
