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Dem Bones
Synopsis
Sing along with a colorful skeleton band in this exuberant rendition of a traditional most-loved African-American spiritual, passed down by word of mouth for generations. Today, it’s usually sung by children as a way to learn anatomy, rhyme, and language. With its vibrant paper collage illustrations and rollicking read-aloud verse, this perfect introduction to the human body makes a wonderful addition to both home and classroom libraries, and is a fun treat for Halloween!

Book Information
Paperback: 32 pages
Publisher: Chronicle Books; Reprint edition (August 2, 2016)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1452156476
Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.2 x 10 inches
Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (27 customer reviews)
Age Range: 5 - 8 years
Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews
I picked up this book for almost three year old daughter because we loved Bob Barner's Fish Wish. My daughter learned so much about the ocean from that book and I thought Dem Bones would give her an introduction to the body. The book follows an old African folk song called Dem Bones. "The ankle bone is connected to the foot bone, the foot bone is connected to the leg bone" and so on. Since my daughter is so young I just sing the song to her and point out the bones on her body as we see the corresponding ones on the skeletons in the book. If you have an older child there is much more in depth information about the bones provided on each page. That is why I love Bob Barner's books so much. My daughter can follow along the simple to read stories now and when she gets older I can go over the more informative parts with her later. She has already learned a great deal from this book and she really loves it. Bob Barner really makes learning fun.
I homeschool my elementary age children and we used this book when studying our body. It is a fun book to read and the information provided about each of the bones is suitable for elementary age level.

This book offers a wonderful introduction to the bone structure of the human body, even for very young children (my 3 year old daughter and niece just love this book). The use of fun, bright skeletons appeals to the reader and balances the use of scientific language in the text. Even mom and dad will learn a thing or two while reading it! You'll have your kids singing Dem Bones (the foot bone connected to the ankle bone, etc.) before you know it.

As an elementary school librarian, I used this book with my classes. We sang the song as we turned the pages. Then, at the end we laughed about the names of the bones and practiced ways of using the "real" names. 1) Go to the nurse after you skinned your knee on the playground and ask for a bandaid to put on your patella; 2) You stub your toe and grab it and moan, "Oh, I stubbed my phlanges", etc.Kids from K through 5th grade enjoyed this! Lots of fun.

We bought this book because my boys thought it would be "Scary". They were delighted to find out it was about the bones of the human body. My kindergartener can’t wait to share it with his teacher! The text has to be simplified at times for younger children, but the scientific names are a GREAT learning experience (even for older children). Look closely-you’ll see more in the illustrations each time you look at the book.

What a fun book! My 5 year old son loves this. I buy him a new book relating to a holiday every year for each holiday- this was his Halloween book this year. It is great quality and fun to read. My dad, his grandpa, does the best job reading it- it is so fun to use different voices for it. We also have the Scholastic dvd to go along with it, which is great and really complimentary- it gives it a New Orleans’ bluesy feel. The book also teaches parts of the skeleton and functions well! It is a great book, and I highly recommend this!

Dem Bones by Bob Barner is a terrific book that weaves the song Dem Bones along with information on the bones in the body. My students adore this book. While it doesn't read aloud very well (too much information on each page) they still think it’s fantastic and want to hear it. It’s a
perfect addition to any home or classroom library. I recommend this book for kids 4-8.

We got this book from the library & read it over & over!! They loved the song and the skeleton pictures! I loved that it included the real names of bones in the back which my kids were actually excited about too! Since my kids loved it, I used it in some classes that I teach with skeleton bone clackers.....it was a HIT there too! I heard some parents bought it as well. Skeletons were not scary, but part of our bodies. (a student had a broken arm and we tied that into conversation too!)

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