Seashells By The Seashore
Synopsis
Both classroom teachers and vacationing parents will find this little book to be a charmer. Counting from one to twelve, Sue picks up shells--periwinkle, kittens paw, scallop--and carefully adds them to her bucket as a gift for Grandma. She and her friend identify the shells, and when they discover one that still has the mollusk living inside they put it back in the water--learning that shells are actually the (usually) abandoned homes of sea animals. The paperback edition contains a tear-out shell identification card to enhance the hands-on lesson in simple wonders from nature.

Book Information
Paperback: 32 pages
Publisher: Dawn Pubns; 1 edition (March 1, 2002)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1584690348
Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 0.2 x 8.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â· See all reviews Â· (39 customer reviews)
Age Range: 5 - 8 years
Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews
Berkes’s has done it again and this time the subject of her book is one of my favorite nature items! A truly informative book; I can finally name all the sea shells I have thanks to the descriptions within the story and glossary at the end. The unique set up of this book identifies each shell as the main character finds them which can be used to promote counting in young children, and memory/matching games for older children. Berkes also includes questions at the end to foster further investigation in the reader. The pull-out, waterproof shell identification chart merits a field trip to the beach. Noreika’s breath taking watercolor illustrations illuminate the shoreline from morning to dusk. The book’s poignant ending instills the value that a gift from the heart is better than a monetary one.
Seashells by the Seashore had my five and seven year olds running to find shells they had already collected to discover their names. To their delight, the shells they had were featured in the book.

What I particularly like about the book is its interactive nature, encouraging children to go beyond the pages and explore the seashore searching for the shells they had read and learned about. My children are planning to bring the book on an upcoming beach vacation, and the pull-out shell reference card, an added bonus.

"Sue walks along the seashore/warmed by the sun./Picking up seashells one by one..." Author, Marianne Berkes, takes readers on a wondrous seaside adventure in her third picture book, Seashells By The Seashore. Come count the beautiful shells, learn their names, and watch your collection grow on the lefthand border of each two page spread as you walk along the beach..... Ms Berkes lilting, rhyming text is engaging and complemented by Robert Noreika’s captivating watercolor illustrations. Together, word and art send you to the beach on a hot summer day, and you’ll almost be able to feel the sand between your toes, hear the crash of the waves, and smell the salty sea air. Additional information about each shell and the mollusks that live inside can be found at the end of the book, and young nature detectives, ages 4-8, will revel in this joyous, fun-filled hike along the shore.

I’ve been searching for this book for years in every seashore community I’ve been in. This book is just perfect for kids from 2 all the way to adulthood. We adults love to look for shells and identify them too. I bought several books to distribute on our annual get together at the beach. The illustrations are wonderful and actually go with the text. I like the counting and addition of one new shell each page. Great book for anyone who loves the seashore and the search for seashells. That’s all of us, right?

Two months ago, I took my four-year-old son to the beach. He collected shells. A lot of shells. Some of the less disgusting ones made it home. For two months, I dried them out in the garage. And then, a few days ago, my son and I made a beach collage. That collage recalled this book. I first encountered Seashells by the Seashore about seven years ago. I was working as an assistant children’s librarian at the time. In Florida. Marianne Berkes was the guest for a special summer program. Long tables had been set up along one side of the room. When Marianne arrived, the tables were covered with all different types of shells. This was the first book she presented that day.
I also think it was the first book she wrote. As she read the book, she held up the corresponding shells. The children (all 100 or so of them) were entranced. This was in Florida. These kids had grown up with seashells, seen them all their young lives, and yet after Seashells by the Seashore, the kids were looking at shells in a new light. Good books can do that. The illustrations for this book were rendered in watercolor, so that have an open, loose, "beachy" feel. The seashells, however, are more detailed and therefore more easily recognizable.

I live in South Carolina now. About an hour from the ocean, so we don't go to the beach very often. My son can recognize his shells in this book. Good illustrations can do that.

My 4 yr. old granddaughter loves to listen to me read this book, and she looks through all my shells to find the one that is featured on each page. There's a sidebar where the new shell is added with each turn of the page, and there's a picture of each shell. She takes delight in memorizing the names and pictures--kitten shell, olive shell, pin shell, etc.

I bought this book for my son as a gift. We were planning a Florida beach vacation and I wanted to find a book that would get him excited. This is a great book and the illustrations make you want to be on the beach. We ended up finding many seashells on our trip and he was so excited because we had read this book prior.

I started collecting shells with my grand son when he was 3 years old. I didn't realize that he would become fascinated with them and want to learn about the different kinds of shells. He now has a collection that includes shells (and stones) from Florida, Hawaii, Mexico, Malaysia and Michigan. He compares his shells to the ones pictured in the book and we learn about them together. Great beginner and intermediate book. I learned a few things about shells that I didn't know!

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