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One Hen: How One Small Loan Made A Big Difference (CitizenKid)



Synopsis

Inspired by true events, *One Hen* tells the story of Kojo, a boy from Ghana who turns a small loan into a thriving farm and a livelihood for many. After his father died, Kojo had to quit school to help his mother collect firewood to sell at the market. When his mother receives a loan from some village families, she gives a little money to her son. With this tiny loan, Kojo buys a hen. A year later, Kojo has built up a flock of 25 hens. With his earnings Kojo is able to return to school. Soon Kojo's farm grows to become the largest in the region. Kojo's story is inspired by the life of Kwabena Darko, who as a boy started a tiny poultry farm just like Kojo's, which later grew to be the largest in Ghana, and one of the largest in west Africa. Kwabena also started a trust that gives out small loans to people who cannot get a loan from a bank. *One Hen* shows what happens when a little help makes a big difference. The final pages of *One Hen* explain the microloan system and include a list of relevant organizations for children to explore. *One Hen* is part of *CitizenKid*: A collection of books that inform children about the world and inspire them to be better global citizens.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810L (What's this?)

Series: *CitizenKid*

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Kids Can Press (February 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554530288

ISBN-13: 978-1554530281

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.2 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (48 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,765 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #25 in Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Money & Saving #26 in Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

This little children's book shows how big the world is. *One Hen* simplistically shares a personal story

of a little boy who buys a hen and how it impacted his life, family, entire village, and country. Beyond just micro-finance, One Hen communicates global poverty, community development, family values, charity and justice issues. helpful to begin educating American children in a "me, me" culture about not just giving to those who are poor and disenfranchised but how to give in such a way that has sustainable, holistic effects on an individual and community.

This book is a great way for families to teach their children about the value of giving and the effect a small kindness or gift may have on many lives. The illustrations are an added plus. It is a good and easy introduction into microfinance and how one person can help make the world a better place

This book is terrific. We can so easily fall into thinking that our world is limited to the things we see everyday, and the book is a great journey through what life is like in so many parts of the world today. I recommend reading this with your kids, your students (if you have any), and even just for your own personal enjoyment. Also, the book has sparked a great website as well, which helps to educate young and old on the merits of microloans -- [...]

One Hen is not only a picture book to be read to non readers in one sentence per page, but a beginning reader's book. It is also written on the right hand side at a grade six and up level. The challenge to become involved actively in microfinancing on the final pages, has adults setting up the website in schools, libraries and book stores, enabling all to become involved in the win-win world of microfinancing. No wonder it has won business awards as well as literature kudos.

Gosh, after the rave reviews here, I was so disappointed in this book. For 4 to 8 year olds? You've got to be kidding. This book was based on what should have been a delightful and inspiring story, but the author went on and on and on and on in the style of somebody writing a report for the IMF instead of a children's story. This author does not know how to tell a story, how to create images, how to carry on a plot. It became more boring with each page. And it is a real pity because what a beautiful idea. I wish the publisher had given this writer more help so that his story could have been told properly. The stars I gave are all for the artist, who did such a wonderful job with the paintings.

This book is terrific. It has an inspiring message that can be used to talk with kids, even young ones. The book is well-written and done with careful thought--pages can be skimmed with really young kids, while older kids can read the full text. The art is magical. I recommend this book highly.

What a great story and such beautiful and entertaining illustrations. My son read this at school and "demanded" I order a copy for him. He's 10, reading well above grade level, but read this to me last night. I was mesmerized and so was my 14 yr old son who wandered in mid story (although he mostly got a kick out of the illustrations). I would suggest this book for pretty much any age. A parent to read to a younger child or as in my case, the other way around. :)

Katie Smith Milway, *One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference* (Kids Can Press, 2008) Cute book about microlending, one of today's most exciting trends, geared toward the preschool set. Milway gets extra credit, though, for including a section geared towards slightly older readers (and adults) with a capsule biography of the chap upon whom she based the main character in *One Hen* that's just as interesting as the book itself. She also includes a quick nonfiction overview of microlending and a quick guide for further investigation, which is fantastic (and points out that this process also exists in America, which may surprise some readers, both children and adults). A must for conservative parents, but I do think it's got a universal appeal. ****

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