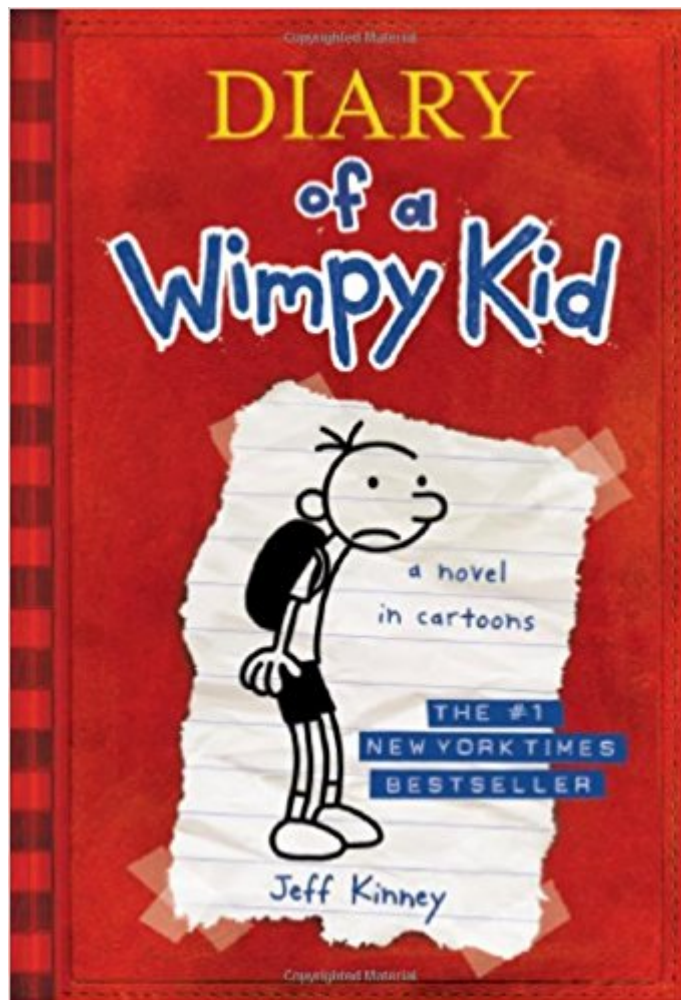


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# Diary Of A Wimpy Kid, Book 1



## Synopsis

Boys don't keep diaries; or do they? The launch of an exciting and innovatively illustrated new series narrated by an unforgettable kid every family can relate to is a new school year, and Greg Heffley finds himself thrust into middle school, where undersized weaklings share the hallways with kids who are taller, meaner, and already shaving. The hazards of growing up before you're ready are uniquely revealed through words and drawings as Greg records them in his diary. In book one of this debut series, Greg is happy to have Rowley, his sidekick, along for the ride. But when Rowley's star starts to rise, Greg tries to use his best friend's newfound popularity to his own advantage, kicking off a chain of events that will test their friendship in hilarious fashion. Author/illustrator Jeff Kinney recalls the growing pains of school life and introduces a new kind of hero who epitomizes the challenges of being a kid. As Greg says in his diary, "Just don't expect me to be all Dear Diary this and Dear Diary that." • Luckily for us, what Greg Heffley says he won't do and what he actually does are two very different things. Since its launch in May 2004 on Funbrain.com, the Web version of Diary of a Wimpy Kid has been viewed by 20 million unique online readers. This year, it is averaging 70,000 readers a day. F&P level: T

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 950L (What's this?)

Series: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (Book 1)

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Amulet Books; 1 edition (April 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810993139

ISBN-13: 978-0810993136

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (4,145 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #735 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels #40 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship #77 in Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 8

## Customer Reviews

As a (more mature) 13 year old, I thought this book was genuinely funny. However, unlike younger kids, I've already established what is right and wrong. Cheating, lying, manipulating, and acting dumb "just to get less work" is all in this book, and when my younger eight year old brother reads this, I get paranoid of what exactly he's picking up. He doesn't seem to want to go to a gifted program at school, thinks less of school, and I think it is because of this book! To older audiences, Greg is a very interesting character (which is the prevelant reason why the series is so popular) but he is one of the most irresponsible fictional characters I have come across in a long time. And since the story is told from HIS viewpoint, it even makes it worse! His mind thinks of the all the previously mentioned things to be perfectly fine. I would absolutely not recommend this book to...more vulnerble kids. On the plus side, the novel IS truely funny, with its charming digital drawings and witty main character- who keeps the story lively (ignoring his bad influence) throughout the entire book.

If there was an "IT" book of 2008 in the school where I teach 5th grade, forget about Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows; it had to be Jeff Kinney's Diary of a Wimpy Kid. Book orders could not send copies fast enough. Book stores could not restock their shelves quickly enough. Everywhere I turned I was met by a student with his or her nose buried in its pages. So naturally, I had to see what all the fuss was about. Greg Heffley is your everyday, run-of-the-mill, middle school "wimp". Sure, someday he's going to amount to something big, but for now, he's "stuck in middle school with a bunch of morons." Greg's journal, not "diary", but "journal", takes us through the hilarious events that make up Greg's days in his first year of middle school. Lucky for us, whether it's avoiding his older brother Rodrick, or abusing his best friend Rowley, Greg's days are never short on laughs. I can't remember the last time I laughed this hard when reading a book. There are laughs on every page, literally. Greg's mudslinging student council posters, Greg and Rowley's failed attempt at a haunted house, the students' wrestling unit in PE ("muscles are gross"), and Christmas time at the Heffley home. Situations like these that Greg finds himself in are comical enough, but it's his voice and commentary that sets this book apart. Jeff Kinney has cleverly captured the inner workings of a middle school student, and because of this book's popularity, it's obvious that students connect with Greg. However, that's also what scares me about this book. I'm afraid that Kinney is too smart for his own good and without realizing it, has created a lovable character that advocates laziness and using your best friend for his family's money and his video games. Beneath all the laughs, Greg is a deceitful, selfish, jerk of a boy and the fact that students relate to him so easily doesn't sit well with me. I admit, I laughed hysterically at Kinney's tongue-in-cheek irony, but I'm an adult. I can tell the

difference between Greg the character being serious and Jeff the author being sarcastic. I'm not so sure all the kids reading this will be able to. I'm torn though. This book is funny and relevant and I guess if children are excited about reading it, then who am I to complain. Any time children WANT to read, it's a good thing, and I commend Kinney for this. He's discovered a great medium to tell his stories. The pictures only add to the humor and the journal format makes for an easy read. I think most of my students would be able to distinguish between Greg's selfish behavior and acceptable, respectful behavior, and if they don't, eh . . . kids will be kids. Either way, I have a feeling that Kinney is going to be around for a while. I may be better off enjoying the laughs.

Our 8 year old daughter got one of the books earlier in the year and I noticed her interest in reading more. Once the box arrived she was very happy and couldn't wait to read them all. This may not be the most ideal literature - it is however in my opinion significantly better to see kids read than having them waste away in front of mindless TV.

My 8 year old son hated to read, no matter how much we worked with him he just wasn't interested. These Wimpy kid books has been the miracle we've been looking for. My son loves reading them and has such a strong interest. He reads so fast now so that he can get the next one of the series. He's on book #2 and almost finished and it's only been 3 weeks since I bought them. He'll have them all read before Christmas (which was suppose to be his Christmas presents, but we've had to give them to him early) and he loves reading at night in his room with his flash light. My son is very excited that #4 just came out that he rushed home to tell us. He doesn't know that we already have it waiting for him. I hope the author writes more of these fantastic books for children!

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series Warning! If you don't like hilarious books that make you laugh uncontrollably, this is not the book for you. Jeff Kinney's Diary of a Wimpy Kid series had made #1 New York Times Best Seller for almost all of the books. These books never get boring! I have read each book at least three times. Diary of a Wimpy Kid is about a boy named Greg Heffley as he goes through middle school, deals with annoying siblings, and everyday struggles. Jeff Kinney makes these things silly, down-to-earth and something you can relate to. I definitely recommend this book for anyone ages 8 and up. Even my brother likes these books and he hardly reads anything!

My review title says it all! And I'm glad I ordered it on , which cost less than ten dollars while the same movies in stores everywhere are running as high as \$20. Some critics here tend to think the

book is better than the movie, but until you've seen the poor kid running through an old folk's home in nothing but his UNDERWEAR and the hilarious pranks pulled against each other, y'all have no right to judge! I laughed like crazy from beginning to end. Some days, it feels so good to laugh and these movies will do it for you! Hope they make more of them. I enjoyed this movie a lot!

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