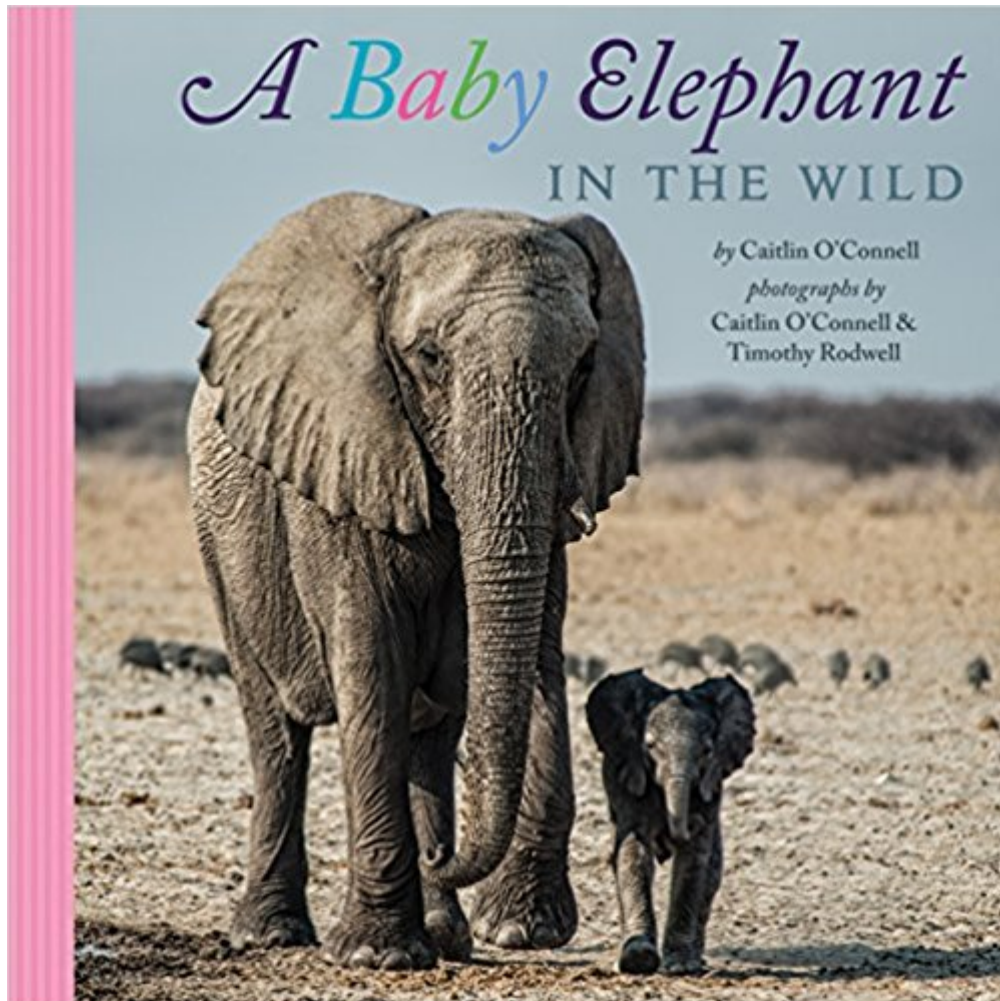




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A Baby Elephant In The Wild



Synopsis

Last summer, the Sibert Honorâ “winning duo Caitlin O’Connell and Timothy Rodwell witnessed the birthâ ”and growthâ ”of a baby elephant. In this intimate account for preschool through elementary readers, find answers to questions such as: What doÂ newborn elephants look like? How big are they? What threatens them in the wild? Do they bully each other? Are they stalked by lions? What happens if they don’t get enough food or water? Are they at risk of extinction? With irresistible photographs and a text that places the reader in the wonder of the savannah, this is a book to treasure for all animal lovers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: NC1050L (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (March 18, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544149440

ISBN-13: 978-0544149441

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 12 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #283,223 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #135 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #152 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Animals > Baby Animals #154 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Animals > Elephants

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

So well written. Buy as a gift for a primary grade child or to use in the k-2 classroom. The author’s language is concise and clear--making it easy to read aloud to preK-1st grade students or to recommend to a savvy primary grade reader. The author opens a window for the reader onto the life of a young elephant, Liza. Not just your everyday facts either. The baby elephant has to practice getting water from her trunk to her mouth as she "learns to control 40,000 muscles in her extended nose"!The text becomes a little more complicated towards the end - briefly addressing issues like poachers and reduction in habitats, but I still wouldn’t shy away from reading this to young kids. They will grasp some of the content and there’s lots of room for conversation around explaining and

examining these issues. I was first introduced to the fascinating work of Caitlin O'Connell, the author, when I read her title for older students, *The Elephant Scientist* (O'Connell & Jackson, 2011). She's done some amazing research in the field and her writing reflects the wisdom she's gained from so much time with these wonderful creatures. Both books are worthy of reading.

Caitlin O'Connell and her husband Timothy Rodwell are researchers who've spent something like 20 years studying elephant behavior at Etosha National Park in Namibia. They've written a number of excellent popular books about their adventures studying elephants, but this book is something different. This is a children's book, focused on a newborn elephant named Liza. I think this book works on a couple of levels. First, there just isn't much in the world that's cuter or more adorable than a baby elephant. Truly. But it is also a way of introducing young children to an appreciation and love of the natural world. By creating a personality and by talking about the challenges and struggles and the love and connection that is elephant society in a way that a young reader can relate to, this book creates to a sense of connection and empathy for our fellow creatures. If it's important to you for your young reader to develop that connection to animals and to nature, this book provides will help. The book is beautifully illustrated - both O'Connell and Rodwell are able to use their very close access to elephant society to produce outstanding photographs that will help to hook that young reader. All in all, highly recommended.

My daycare kiddos ranging from 18 months to 4 years all enjoy this book. From the pictures to the information on elephants, there is something that draws each age. I have found interesting information, even at my age.

Very cute book for kids

Though I don't have any young children I was given this book as a gift due to my love of all things elephant and my proximity to many children. I have had the joy of sharing it with the children and, like me, they really loved the spectacular photos of this baby elephant, Liza, and her family. The pictures perfectly capture that baby-style exuberance for life. Baby Liza dances across the pages - and these are in-the-wild photos, not from zoos or drawings of dancing elephants. I swear the pictures are so sweet and endearing that it is easy for anyone to find themselves making those little "awwwww" sounds. My baby friend and I talked about all the things we have in common with the baby elephant - taking a bath, practicing how to say hello, mommies protecting their babies. There

was also stuff for the older sibling- who was half listening in to our story time - pictures of the bottom of elephant feet (which look a lot like mine in the summer) and a map of Africa showing where elephants live. The youthful exuberance caught in the pictures of baby Liza - this elephant nearly dances off the page. In these times when elephants are so endangered, sharing with the next generation all of the simple joys of elephant life is so important, and this book is a stunning example of how best to share nature with children. But don't wait til you have kids around - this book is so beautiful anyone could have it for these beautiful photos.

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