



Danny Dunn on a Desert Island

Jay Williams , Raymond Abrashkin , Ezra Jack Keats (Illustrator)

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Danny and his friends, marooned on an island, discover they are not alone.

Danny Dunn on a Desert Island Details

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From Reader Review Danny Dunn on a Desert Island for online ebook

Mike says

Re-experiencing a small bit of my childhood; I discovered Danny Dunn when I was in 4th grade, new in town and recovering from my parent's separation. Re-reading from an adult perspective, I can see the elements that made me align with these stories.

It was years later that I had heard of inter-library loan, so I never got to finish this series. Some of the science and attitudes are getting dated, but still a fun little read and a nice bit of escapism while my life is again difficult.

Jessica Petree says

**This book is not the same edition that I read.

Shawn says

So, this is the second DANNY DUNN book in the series, which I just read for work. I never read this one as a kid because, let's be honest, a desert island? who cares, right? Surprisingly, this was actually very entertaining. Prof. Bullfinch and Dr. Grimes get into an argument about who is more practical and end up betting that one will be better at island survival camping than the other. Danny and Joe wangle their way into the bet and join the scientists when they fly to Peru put their bet into action... BUT... the plane goes down and so all of them are really marooned on an actual-factual desert island with only about half the supplies they'd brought for the contest. And, they're not alone...

It struck me with this book that the DANNY DUNN series has an outline in its mission to get children interested in science and that each book (maybe less so as the series goes on) is aimed at a particular branch of science. ANTI-GRAVITY PAINT gave us astronomy & astrophysics, HOMEWORK MACHINE was computers and here we get... Engineering, as the boys learn about building simple machines and tools. As usual, there are some nice grace notes (really, given the seriousness of their situation, Danny gets off a little easy for hiding the crank-handle to the emergency radio transmitter for a couple of days - but then this isn't DANNY DUNN, BLEACHED SKELETON ON A PERUVIAN ATOLL, is it?): The Professor again proves to be a voice of calm and reason, Grimes shows his heart under his sour exterior and the boys also learn a few things about approaching people and first impressions. Joe does end up in a big pot surrounded by natives, but it's not what you think. And a turtle gets eaten. Danny's mom, as usual, puts up with a hell of a lot!

Bill says

I finished re-reading this book in class for ten minutes each day. Good quick read, funny to see some of the old technology.

Ronald says

read in summer of 1966

Joan says

This one has Danny and friends, Joe, Prof, and Mr. Grimes, stranded on a desert island. While some science is involved in how they rigged things for living comfort, or comments made by the adults, this really cannot be called science fiction. The book verged perilously towards being non PC, but just missed it, going in the direction of the noble savage trope rather than pagan murderers trope. Remember these books are well over 50 years old and this one holds up pretty nicely. I did not enjoy this as much as the first in the series, and I noticed, like the first, the ending is rather rushed, but it was surprisingly good, considering how old the series is. I'll read the third one, then we will see if I continue the series. Note: I changed this to two stars for the lack of much science in a series meant to promote science.
