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Winter weather is keeping children from visiting the zoo. So the animals are out of sorts—listless, grumpy, and no longer fun. All except two little friends, a very small hippo and a baby kangaroo. Their hip-hopping, toe-tapping, and rap-rocking soon has the other animals joining in the hip-aroo beat. "Racoons danced in pairs, baboons danced in troops, and snakes joined the dancers as live hula-hoops." Children's favorite songs get a funny new spin—seals bark out "The seals on the bus go round and round"—as the animals create their very own musical.

Young readers and listeners will be amazed and delighted at how the animals chase the winter doldrums by getting along as friends, pooling their talents, and pushing themselves to new heights. After all, these are the same clever animals who learned to read in Judy Sierra's and Marc Brown's *Wild About Books*, an award-winning *New York Times* #1 bestselling picture book. *ZooZical* is sure to inspire some "can do" fun in kindergarten and primary grades.

From the Hardcover edition.

ZooZical Details

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Download and Read Free Online ZooZical Judy Sierra , Marc Brown (Illustrator)

From Reader Review ZooZical for online ebook

NebraskaIcebergs says

Have you ever wondered what happens at the zoo when “frosty winds blow, when families stay at home, and when field trips are few”? In Zoozical by Judy Sierra, the answer is: midwinter doldrums!

To be more specific:

Little lemurs stopped leaping
Their yowling was keeping
The wombats awake
Then the snakes (by mistake)
Tied themselves up in knots
Ocelots lost their spots.

How does one get rid of the midwinter doldrums? For the animals at the zoo, all looked lost until a large hippo collapsed, a small hippo hopped out of the way, and a young kangaroo shouted, “Look! Me hop, too!” This one act led to the animals all gathering together to put on a play full of songs and dances. Because of the rhymes, along with the bright and bold illustrations, I suspect young readers will eat this book up. I can even see myself having a riot reading this to an audience of primary students. However, I’m on the hunt for picture books that will be cherished by future generations the way Dr. Seuss’ books are cherished now and from this viewpoint the book irritates me. The rhymes seemed forced. As for the mad-paced stage acts, they remind me children’s parties at the height of chaos. But it’s at that moment of course that the adults are reaching for the headache pills. Zoozical is fun to the point of nausea.

Rachel Crowe says

This book was so cute. There was a lot of colorful things and all of the animals were happy and excited. The book has all of these characters singing and they look like they are having a lot of fun. This books would definitely come out in my classroom.

Anne says

Like the fun pictures and story line. Fun for kids

Amy Forrester says

It’s a wintery day at the zoo and all the animals are bored. What to do? Put on a show! A ZooZical! They practice their songs, dances, and acrobatics. They paint scenery and sew costumes. That night for the performance, despite the snow, crowds of people arrive at the zoo. The performance is a show-stopping success, the perfect ending to a snowy day.

Sierra's rhyming text is full of whimsical wordplay and the illustrations are jam-packed with a cast of colorful characters. I especially love that ocelots and lemurs are included in the text and illustrations. Although the story lacks a major conflict, just a small hippo with stage fright, this book is a rollicking read.

There's something exhilarating about rehearsing and performing a show and this book deftly captures that spirit. This would be a great gift for a child who is making their debut onstage, be it at school, at camp, or with a community theatre.

Full Review at Picture-Book-a-Day: <http://picturebookaday.blogspot.com/2...>

Diane says

My kindergartners love this one

Tasha says

This sequel to *Wild About Books* continues with the same vivacious spirit of the first. It is winter and the visitors to the zoo start to stay home. All of the animals had the winter blues too. But just when the blues seemed to be inescapable, a very small hippo and young kangaroo started to hop. Soon everyone was dancing along with them and then everyone started to sing. The dancing and singing turned into their own stage show complete with sets and costumes. Once again, the zoo was the place to be despite the snowy weather.

Told in rhyming verse, there is a bubbly, bouncing feel to the book. The verse also reads aloud tremendously well thanks to the rhymes and the natural rhythm that Sierra has created in each line. The thrill and creativity of the theatre are captured in the jaunty text as is the slow, winter dullness.

Brown's art is boisterous, big and bright. The colors change from the blues and grays of winter into an almost tropical feel when the animals are feeling themselves again. Greens, oranges, yellows and reds pop and glow on the page. There is always plenty to keep your eye on in the illustrations as well, giving children a reason to read this one again and again.

A standing ovation to Sierra and Brown for this bright, bubbly, boisterous book. Appropriate for ages 4-6.

Karen Gedeon says

ZooZical by Judy Sierra and pictures by Marc Brown continues the zoo theme started in *Wild About Books* where animals read and enjoy literary based skills, but once again the rhymes seem forced. The idea is wonderful: zoo attendance is down thanks to bad weather and the animals are sad so they decide to fix the problem by putting on a show. Calling it *ZooZical*, all the regulars come out and perform everything from snake hula hoops to crocodiles singing the Alphabet song. Readers will never look at *Wheels on the Bus* or the *Hokey Pokey* the same way again. Brown's trademark stiff characters liven up the place in full blown out color as they dance, sing and high wire around each page. If the reader can get by the non rhythmical rhymes, this is a great book. *Zoozical* comes in at a 3.8 AR level but will appeal to a much lower reading

level. If you are a fan of Wild About Books, add this to your personal collection or classroom library. It is a must for any school library as well.

Teacher. says

Reviewed at my blog: [HERE](#) @ Teacher.Mother.Reader Book Blog

ZooZical is a new picture book written by Judy Sierra and illustrated by Marc Brown. This is the type of book that screams to be picked up and shared with children. Those of you who love Marc Brown will really enjoy the illustrations too. This hardcover is big and bright, so are the characters.

It all starts when the zoo animals get into a funk. They don't have any visitors and are in a bad mood. When one little hippo and one little roo start jumping around, the other animals catch the excitement. Soon there is singing, dancing, and a full-on musical. The visitors start showing up and before you know it the animal funk is gone! It's a great voyage to go on with this zoo full of animals. The music is adorable too. My favorites were: "Oh My Darling Porcupine", "For He's a Jolly Gorilla", and of course "The Seals on the Bus". I admit I laughed out loud as I read this to my Lil Guy and he enjoyed the book too. He was interested in the illustrations too.

This book is going to be an instant classic on my shelf. I enjoyed it for the first read and I know that I will enjoy reading it again and again. I think the book has wide appeal for all who love picture books. I love, love, love the illustrations and think others will like it too. I want a big groups of children sitting on a rug in front of me next time I read this one; it's that kind of book.

Sarah Landwehr says

"Zoozical" by Judy Sierra instantly became one of my new favorites after I read the fun story of the zoo animals who, in efforts to get people to come to the zoo during the cold winter, put on a musical, which they call a "zoozical." After practicing the songs with lyrics such as "if you're hoppy and you know it, clap your paws" and "for he's a jolly gorilla," the animals are ready to perform in front of an audience. However, hippo gets stage fright and the kangaroo falls asleep, and the fate of the "zoozical" is up in the air. Nevertheless, in predictable fashion, the audience enjoys the show in the same way that I loved the fun rhymes in the story. Young children might be slightly confused by the repeated mention of the "doldrum" winds, but this discrepancy can be easily explained. Marc Brown's colored pencil illustrations match the fun tale with vibrant colors that depict the vivacity of the animals in the zoo; they even include the lyrics to the songs that the animals sings. These illustrations are as enjoyable as the text and it's impossible not to smile after reading the story, which rhyming lines and songs beg to be read aloud. Perhaps, teachers in kindergarten through second grade classrooms could even use "Zoozical" as a bridge into a music unit or to teach rhyming in a poetry unit.

babyhippoface says

Pretty cute. I am prone to dislike rhyming books. They grate on me. But this one, I like. The rhyme rolls right off the tongue, doesn't feel forced, and is full of fun phrases, to boot.

It's winter and no one is coming to the zoo. Families are staying home where it's warm, schools aren't taking field trips to outdoor locations. The animals are bored, bored, bored, until one little hippo hops out of the way of a collapsing large hippo. A tiny kangaroo sees him and hops, too, and soon they're hopping all over the zoo, energizing all the other animals. Before long, they've all decided to use their dancing and musical talent to put on a show. Kids will recognize the songs the animals are singing ("The Seals on the Bus", "If You're Hoppy and You Know It, Clap Your Paws", "Oh My Darling Porcupine", "It's a Tall World After All" (giraffes, of course), "For He's a Jolly Gorilla", and more. They may also look at the gouache-on-wood illustrations and say, "Hey! These pictures look like Arthur!" And they'll be right, as the popular picture book and tv character's creator Marc Brown has shared his talents here. All in all, this is just more fun than...well, than a barrel of monkeys--and hippos, and zebras, and bears, and elephants, and....

John says

Hippopotamuses can't hop. Just that.

Angela says

When bad weather and the winter doldrums set in, the zoo animals band together to put on a blues stopping revue.

Peacegal says

Kids who loved the movie "Sing" will enjoy this one. A group of colorful animals put on a Vaudeville-style show to beat the winter blahs.

Although, I had to roll my eyes a bit at the idea of animals who are really bummed out because there are no kids at the zoo. In my experience, many kids behave pretty horribly at zoos and most animals are probably relieved to have a break from their screaming, running, and banging on glass.

Kristen McBee says

Another hit by Judy and Marc.

Matt Garcia says

Cute book with clever and catchy twists on songs. The illustrations were classic Marc Brown and the book reminded me a lot of the movie Sing!
