



A Hat for Minerva Louise

Janet Morgan Stoeke

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The other chickens hate snowy mornings. But not Minerva Louise! To her a snowy day -- like everything else -- is an adventure. But this chilly, chipper hen needs something to keep her warm. What she finds -- and how she finds it -- will keep young readers cackling.

A Hat for Minerva Louise Details

Date : Published January 1st 1997 by Puffin Books (first published September 1st 1994)

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Author : Janet Morgan Stoeke

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From Reader Review A Hat for Minerva Louise for online ebook

Catherine says

A cute winter story in the series starring Minerva Louise. A wonderful series for very young children, with simple language, simple but lovely illustrations and childlike humor. This should be hit with the pre-readers.

Luisa Knight says

Aww ... this will put a smile on your face and let out a giggle or two from your kids! Minerva Louise just doesn't quite get that it's not a "hat" she found and put on her head. *wink

Now I want to read the other stories with this cute little hen!

Ages 3+

Cathie (ClassyLibrarian) says

Classic Minerva Louise, a staple in my storytime rotation!

Beverly says

I just love clueless Minerva.

Miss Pippi the Librarian says

A chicken, Minerva Louise, can't wait to explore outdoors. But it is cold and she needs a hat. She searches high and low for a warm hat to wear. Minvera Louise is a great story that has the right amount of silly for young listeners and readers.

2018 storytime theme: mittens

Reviewed from a library copy.

Christina/ The Blog for Teachers, Readers, & Life! says

A Hat for Minerva Louise (ages 3-6) by Janet Morgan Stoeke is the delightful story about a curious little white hen who looks for a warm hat on a snowy day. Join Minerva on her entertaining quest through the barn

and snow. The simple large text, along with expressive illustrations, makes this a great winter read for young children

Library Lady Terri says

Simple story that would be good for a snow story time with toddlers and/or preschoolers.
Very nicely laid out.

Mama Bibliosoph says

Minerva Louise is a spunky chicken who wants to play outside in the snow, but it's too cold, so she sets off in search of winter clothes. She finds a garden hose ("A scarf might help. But not this one. It's way too big."), a pair of gardening gloves ("And these boots are too big, too."), before deciding that what she really needs is a hat.

Minerva Louise's silly quest is sure to get a lot of laughs as she continues to mistake objects on the farm for things they are not. In the end, our plucky chicken heroine finds a pair of mittens and uses one of them as a hat—and the other one as a "hat" for her tail feathers! My son Harry loves that Minerva Louise "is pretending the mitten is a hat for her bum."

Simply told with clear, crisp illustrations, A Hat for Minerva Louise is tons of fun, and a perfect introduction to the popular Minerva Louise book collection.

I review books for children from the perspective of a parent of kids with autism. The review above is part of a longer post on books about clothing and dressing: <https://www.lineupthebooks.com/dressing/>

Becky says

First sentence: Minerva Louise loved snowy mornings. Her friends didn't like them one bit. They stayed inside all day with their heads tucked under their wings.

Premise/plot: Minerva Louise is back in her second adventure, I believe, and in this adventure she goes and plays in the snow. Part of this snowy-day adventure includes searching for WARM THINGS to put on which would enable her to stay out and play longer. She tries many things on before finding a "hat" to wear.

My thoughts: This one was silly. Minerva Louise is quite mistaken about a lot of things. For example, a water hose is not a scarf, and gardening gloves are not shoes. I like the silliness of it. The story overall was very enjoyable.

Text: 4 out of 5

Illustrations: 4 out of 5

Total: 8 out of 10

Melissa says

I'm glad I grabbed the whole handful of Minerva Louise books off the library shelf last go around, she's a curious hen trying to make sense of her world and not quite being smart enough to pull it off, and so she makes the kids giggle every book. The kids are excited when they find another Minerva Louise book in the stack, definitely look her up your next library go around and take all her funny tales home for bedtime story time, should be a hit with your kiddos.

Casandria says

Minerva Louise looks for a hat in the snow.
Snow
Winter

Tredyffrin Township Libraries says

A Hat for Minerva Louise By Janet Morgan Stoeke

Dutton Children's Books, 1994.

Plucky chicken, Minerva Louise, loves a snowy day but brrrrr she could use something warm to put on. Minerva is hilarious as she tries on, among other things, a garden hose for a scarf and a planter for a hat. Lucky for her she finds the perfect "hat" and struts through the henhouse in style. This story will delight preschoolers with its cheerfully curved chicken and her barnyard friends. The illustrations are rendered in story board form with the kind of clear pictures that are perfect for holding up to show to a group.

Vivian says

Before performing this book at a library pre-school story time gasp and ask the children what the white stuff pictured on the cover is. "SNOW!" they'll say. This provides an opportunity for a MUSIC WIGGLE BREAK. Sing "Snow is Falling All Around" (here is the tune: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63XaC...>)

Snow is falling all around (wiggle fingers raised high to low to imitate falling snow)
On the housetops (make a peaked roof with arms meeting over head)
On the ground (point to floor with both hands)
Snow is falling on my nose (touch nose)
On my head and hands and toes (touch head, show hands, point to toes)

Then point to the snowman pictured on the cover and ask "What's this?"
"A snowman!" the children answer. Now sing and act with them the song "Once There was a Snowman" (here is the tune: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwhSD...>)

Once there was a snowman, snowman, snowman (roll arms and then place imaginary snowman pieces)
Once there was a snowman tall, tall, tall (stand on tiptoes with arms stretched high)
In the sun he melted, melted, melted (shape arms overhead to indicate bright sunshine)
In the sun he melted small, small, small (gradually bend knees as if shrinking)

Okay, NOW open the book. If there are two performers and each have a copy of the book (which helps more children see the pictures longer) they can switch off reading every other page (which keeps the narration energized).

Olivia Slykhuis says

Oh Minerva Louise! I just love her. She's so cute and funny. Minerva Louise spends the day looking for a hat to keep her warm in the winter weather. She is ultimately successful (kind of). Would work for a winter storytime. Kids would need to be 3+ to understand the joke I think, despite the small amount of text.

Eva Kelly says

OK, so Minerva is a silly chicken who I THOUGHT might be a little dumb, because she thinks a vase is a hat and a hose is a scarf. But she's smart too, because she DOES want to go outside but she knows that she needs to keep warm. And even though she thinks her mittens are a hat and a butt warmer, it all works out because she's warm and she gets to go out and play in the snow. So think about THAT before you go call her dumb or silly!
