



## The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country

*Lane Smith*

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## **The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country Lane Smith**

There is a new book about the Happy Hocky Family. They have moved. Now they live in the country in a nice old house. Now when it rains outside, it rains inside their house, too. No more alarm clocks! The neighbor's rooster goes "COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO" at 5:30. Look! Henry has made a bird feeder. The squirrels think it is a fine feeder. See Holly make a pretty bouquet of plants with three leaves. See Holly itch. Read the book! Have fun.

## **The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country Details**

Date : Published May 1st 2003 by Viking Juvenile

ISBN : 9780670035946

Author : Lane Smith

Format : Hardcover 61 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Humor, Family, Fiction



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## **From Reader Review The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country for online ebook**

### **Clairissa D says**

The book "The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country" is about a family that was living in the city but has decided to move to the country. The main characters consist of a mother, two children ( one of which is a toddler ) and a dog. I would consider this book to be realistic fiction. I would use this book in the classroom to show student how people living in the same city, state, or country few different aspects of life. For example; This book consist of multiple stories, in one of these stories the little boy talks about how he enjoyed going to the fair when he lived in the city and was comparing it to the fair that he went to in the country. The fair in the city had roller-coaster and rides and games where as the fair in his new town was about who could cook the best food and who had the better pig. This can show children although they live in the same area that lifestyles vary and to be open to the differences that they have and to also recognize that they are still similar in many ways as well. In relation to my topic this book can reveal to students different types of families and how their environment can affect their households and the different meanings and values of the objects and people surrounding them.

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### **Bookslut says**

Really clever, esp for the parents. I felt like this author really tapped directly into the spine of my feelings about living in the country. I read this out loud to Gillie's class, and I could tell they thought I was reading them a baby book. I had to explain the humor was subtle, and then they got on board, but I wouldn't recommend it for that kind of application. But for reading to the baby, it was great, like watching Shrek. Fun for them, funny for me.

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### **Anna says**

Really funny, for adults more so than kids as they will not get a lot of the irony and jokes. I want to find the first one to see if it has the same type of humor.

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### **Pamela Hatch says**

The Happy Hocking Family Moves to the Country! / written and illustrated by Lane Smith -- New York : Viking / Penguin Group, c2003. (62 pages) RANGE 10 -- CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR ADULTS

**SUMMARY:** When the Hocking family moves to a big old house in the country, it takes them some time to adjust to a new way of life.

**REVIEW:** I was very excited to find this title on the shelf at the local Library. I read it and reread it many years ago and remember it being extremely funny. It was still as funny today as it was back then. I marked this as one of the children's books that would appeal to adults because of the humor.

**FORMAT:** The pages are thick and look to be recycled paper almost like brown paper bags. The illustrations are advanced looking stick figures that add to the humor. The book is arranged in chapters of various sizes which you would think would make the book feel choppy- but it doesn't. All the themes of each chapter accumulate pieces of the story which come together after the family has been living in the country for a whole year.

**NOTE:** this is a sequel to a book that Lane Smith wrote ten years before in 1993.

**NOTE:** "What Mr. Smith has done here is quite deft and winning. He has used this earlier genre as a basis for an affectionate spoof, and he has also provides (in a beginner's book with lots of accessible words) a fresh and sympathetic way for children to deal with such subjects as disappointment, accidents, mistakes and deceptions-- and even happiness," -- New York Times (book jacket)

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### **Nicole says**

I thought the sarcasm in this book was a bit much for little kids, but my 4 year old was fascinated by the humor. I had to explain every page to her, and by the end of the explanation it wasn't really funny anymore, but she thought it was interesting that everything wasn't all happy like most children's books. I would recommend this book for people that love sarcasm and don't mind explaining everything to you kids... for the rest of us, there's funnier books out there, like Mo Willems' books (also has some sarcasm, but the kids get the humor).

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### **Laura says**

<http://owltellyouaboutit.com/2012/03/10/the-happy-hockey-family-moves-to-the-country/>

I was at a small disadvantage when I read this because I did not read the first one. I think it would have helped just a little bit. I got an okay grasp on what it's about though. It's a clever play on the Dick and Jane books that used to get published way back before I was even thought of. I didn't realize that until I was to the end of the book though, so I went back and read it over again with that in mind. It definitely made the book more amusing.

I think what I like about this book is that it has enough of the ridiculous to amuse a child and enough clever references to the Dick and Jane type of books to amuse an adult. The Hockey family is a little more quirky though. But that makes the book even better.

I think the only thing I didn't like about it was the way it portrays the country. I live in a really small town and it's nothing like that. Of course, it's not really a farm town. That could have something to do with it. I think the author's experience with small town living IS in a farm town. I'm saying "I think" for a reason.

If you want a book that is a quirky sort of funny, try this one. It should be enjoyable for both you and your kids. I need to go back and read the original one.

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## **Lori says**

Quirky, funny, and will amuse children and adults on different levels.

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## **Kareetchko says**

Although it's not as funny as the original Happy Hocky family book, I do love the art in here. In fact, when a local bookstore was going out of business, I bought a promotional poster of the book because I loved the art so much. (I'd wanted to buy it as soon as I saw it, but they said they couldn't sell it to me. Once they needed the cash, it was a different story.)

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## **Ryan says**

I kind of find this book insulting. The Hocky family moves to the county. We have our own language, our own games, our own cloths. While I think this book is meant to be tongue in cheek, to me, someone who lives in the county, its insulting. A game of find the driveway because of snow, or the need to rake leaves, or how often the cock calls. Yeah, this reads like it was written by a city person who cannot appreciate the country.

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## **Adrielle says**

This is a tongue-in-cheek spin on the old fashioned "Dick and Jane" primer stories. In this volume, the reader journeys through several mini-adventures during the Hocky family's first year living in the country. I found it to be completely relatable, deliciously honest, and unflinchingly hilarious. The Hocky family is an absolute delight.

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## **David says**

The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country (Happy Hocky Family) by Lane Smith follows the Hocky family from The Happy Hocky Family as they move to the country.

In the country the Hocky family lives in an old house where it rains inside the house when it rains outside. The crow of the neighbor's rooster wakes them at 5:30 AM every morning. "See Holly make a pretty bouquet of plants with three leaves. See Holly itch."

This sequel has the same sly, hilarious deadpan humor. It is a parody of beginning readers of the past. While not as funny as the original, it is still entertaining. The Hocky family reminds me a little of The Stupids.

The illustrations are quite funny. I felt the part about the County Fair was a bit of a put down on County Fair judging, but that's probably because I love County Fairs so much.

For ages 5 to 7, parody, family, animals, country life, and fans of Lane Smith.

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### **Carin Paige says**

The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country is a Prose and Free Verse book of children's poetry. The poems focus on the city-living Hocky family moving to the country. The cute, easy to read book is perfect for comparing and contrasting the different lifestyles of country and city living. The students will enjoy the silly anecdote like City Words and Country Words, describing how similar words mean different things in each location. Lane Smith's insight on both city and country life helped give the words an authentic homey feel.

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### **Peacegal says**

3.5 stars--Gentle, offbeat humor and simple illustrations hearken back to an earlier time. There are a lot of laughs to be had in this deceptively simple story of the misadventures of an especially goofy family. Adults and kids alike will get a kick out of the Happy Hocky family.

Vegan families note: The "city" and "country" definitions of various words are presented, with the word "milk" defined with an image of a cow. There is also a fishing scene.

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### **Janelle says**

Although not quite up to the level of the first Hocky family tome, this sequel is still full of wit and humor.

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### **Robin Rockman says**

ha ha ha ha ha!

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