



Arthur's TV Trouble (Arthur Adventure Series)

Marc Brown

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When Arthur sees the advertisement for the amazing doggy Treat Timer, he knows it's the perfect gift for Pal. He sets out to earn the money to buy it, daydreaming of riches and of Pal's reaction when he sees the Treat Timer for the first time. Everything seems to be working out, too -- until a big gust of wind nearly blows Arthur's dreams of luxury away!

Arthur's TV Trouble (Arthur Adventure Series) Details

Date : Published March 5th 2009 by Little, Brown Children (first published 1995)

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Author : Marc Brown

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From Reader Review Arthur's TV Trouble (Arthur Adventure Series) for online ebook

Allison says

This book is about Arthur and the commercial he saw on TV for a dog treat timer that he was convinced his dog Pal, would love. Since he didn't have enough money yet, he had to find ways to get the money. First he collected change on his way home from school and then his neighbor asked him to clean the newspaper out of his garage. He is offered a quarter for every cluster which he calculates is enough to get the timer. When he finally can buy it he is upset that it ends up not working. This book is a childrens picture book, fiction. Appropriate for ages 4-8.

This one wasn't my favorite of all of his books but I have always been drawn to it for its illustrations and colors. The cover is very bold and bright but the pages inside have a lot of yellows and greens. It tells a sweet little story that any child can learn from or relate to.

Brooklyn Schamens says

I used to watch Arthur all of the time as a kid. This book was about how Arthur saw an ad on T.V about a Treat Timer for a dog. Arthur thought it would be perfect for his dog, but the only problem was that he did not have enough money. Arthur's sister, mother, and father couldn't help him buy it, so he had to go around town looking for a job. His neighbor offered Arthur twelve dollars to help carry newspapers out of his garage. Arthur then had enough money to buy the Treat Timer, but it ended up breaking and treats flew out everywhere which scared his dog.

Emily Scanlon says

Book Level: 2.6

Summary: Arthur sees an amazing product on TV, the Treat Timer! Arthur is working hard to earn money so he can purchase his very own Treat Timer. Is the product as good as it appears on television?

Writing Trait: Organization – “Arthur’s TV Trouble” demonstrates how writing a story in chronological order facilitates engagement. Students can use this mentor text to help them brainstorm situations they experienced that they personally learned from. Teachers could also encourage students to reference this mentor text if they are having a difficult time composing a conclusion for the story they are writing.

Reading Component: Comprehension – This story can be the focus of a lesson on media literacy. As a result, students will interact with the text as the teacher poses these questions: Where were ads for the Treat Timer? Where have you heard, or seen ads? Have you ever been disappointed by something you really wanted? Students can further demonstrate their understanding of media by giving three different examples of media that were present in the story.

Rachel Otting says

Arthur sees an ad on television for a machine that dispenses dog treats but he doesn't have enough money for it. He gets a job cleaning out Mr. Sipple's garage and earns enough money. The machine goes haywire but all sales are final. Arthur sees another ad for a disappearing magic box and visions D.W. in it.

Rosa Cline says

In this story Arthur learns the lesson of not everything you see on tv is what it appears to be. He sees a dog treat machine that he feels that he 'has' to have. So he works and saves his money for it and finally gets it but it's not what the commercial says. Helps teach children that commercials aren't always good things.

Heather says

This is my favorite book from the Arthur series. Arthur sees a commercial for a product called a Treat Timer, and decides that he must have it for his dog, Pal. After working very hard to earn the money, Arthur finds out that the Treat Timer--and commercials--are not all that they are cracked up to be.

Kids (and adults!) love Arthur because he is just a normal kid with common problems. Children can identify with Arthur, and love to read his adventures. Brown is so skilled at crafting plots that children will enjoy, and he handles both fun and tough topics in a genuine manner that resonate with kids. Additionally, the illustrations are bright, detailed, and always accompany the text perfectly. Any Arthur book will be one that children will enjoy!

Kristen Lindsay says

Integrates literacy and mathematics by including the concept of money and trading/buying and selling in this book inspired by a popular television series via PBS Kids; a great reading center/class library book for young students; have students read this story in a reading center as a group and create and write about an item/invention that they would like to sell.

Brianna says

Grade Levels: 1-3

* Integrates literacy and mathematics by including the concept of money and trading/buying and selling in this book inspired by a popular television series via PBS Kids; a great reading center/class library book for young students; have students read this story in a reading center as a group and create and write about an item/invention that they would like to sell.

Janina says

This book is so fun to read. I love the pictures and the use of water color. It's funny and a good read. It's just cute story about Arthur who one night while watching t.v sees an ad for a dog treat dispenser. He just has to get it for his dog Pal. So he scrounges up all his money, but just doesn't have enough. He tries everything to make money. He finally gets a job and when he finally does have enough in the end and buys the dispenser, it doesn't quite turn out the way he thought. It's a great book for young readers.

Lauren says

I used to really like this series as a kid, but this was not one of the better installments, at least in my opinion. My biggest gripe is that the title is misleading, actually. The main conflict in the book actually involves TV only tangentially, and I get the feeling the title was picked more for its alliterative value than for its value as a description of the plot. Normally, I don't gripe about titles too much, as different people have different styles for picking them, but I know Brown's style, and he generally does pick accurate ones. For whatever reason, though, he chose not to in this case.

Julia Jaształ says

Mommy's review from 9/12/11 -

A really clear message is sent with this story and it's definitely one that kids need to learn sooner rather than later. It's really simple really, Arthur sees a commercial while watching cartoons and realizes that his pet needs this product. He asks his parents for the money and when they say no he starts trying other things. He looks for money wherever he can and finds a job for a neighbor. The job he does turns out to be a lot harder than he thought but in the end he had his money and he bought the product he wanted.

What happens after this is something that most of us have gone through. Arthur gets his product home (some type of timed treat release thingy) and when he turns it on it goes berserk and doesn't work the way it should have. Arthur is reminded by his younger sister that "all sales are final" and then he retires to his room to be alone.

The ending is worth a chuckle or two because Arthur finally comes down, feeling a little better, to watch t.v. when he sees a new commercial. But the thing that this commercial is selling is something that would help Arthur handle his sometimes-annoying sister.

It's a good story and like I said above already, one that kids definitely need to learn. Even if they won't learn it right away, at the very least this will put it in their minds to think about it all.

I'm not a huge fan of the characters myself but I did like this.

N says

Good story about not letting ads deceive you, but it's not terribly exciting and I probably won't remember it.

Courtney Evans says

Picture Book: I thought this was a funny book and it will teach kids not to always believe what they see on tv.

Madeline Voight says

This book does a great job at teaching the young readers about the value of a dollar. Arthur is convinced by an infomercial to buy a "Treat Timer" but does not have enough money. He counts all of his birthday, asks his parents for a loan and finally discovers an odd job in the neighborhood. This job proves to be much more difficult than he had originally planned. He finally earned enough money to purchase the "Treat Timer" only to find that it was much smaller than it was on the commercial and it did not work properly. At that moment he decided to be careful with his money. I think this teaches young readers to be aware of flawed advertising and how to manage their money.

Marissa Reyes says

The book Arthurs TV Trouble by Marc Brown was a well written text with child based illustrations. The fact the book is a play off of the children's television show, just in the form of the written word, makes it easier to have the children follow along since they already know what is going to happen next. So instead of watching the show they have the chance to visualize what is being said as they read it aloud. This text also has a great way of exemplifying how naïve children can be when dealing with money and advertisement. It shows children not to believe everything they see on television and in the stores and to save money for something useful. Reading this book brought me back to when I was a child and would watch this television show, which made me enjoy the book even more.
