



Little Beaver and the Echo

Amy MacDonald , Sarah Fox-Davies (Illustrator)

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Little Beaver's search for a friend he thinks he hears across a pond is perfect for every child who's ever felt lonely."Children old enough to long for friends of their own will nestle right into this appealing story....Ideal for reading aloud at the beginning of the school year or during camp sessions, when there's a little bit of Little Beaver in every kid." -- *Booklist*"Perfect for little ones at quiet-time or bedtime." -- *Publishers Weekly*"Enchanting." -- *The New York Times Book Review*

Little Beaver and the Echo Details

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Author : Amy MacDonald , Sarah Fox-Davies (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Little Beaver and the Echo for online ebook

Sabrina Wannet says

Super leuk kinderboek om voor te lezen. Ik heb dit boek voorgelezen aan de kleuters op mijn stage

Zoe Wood says

A lovely story of friendship

?Anni? (Book Princess) says

This was my all time favourite book as a child. My mother had to read it to me several times a day, until I knew all the words by heart (and she did, too). Even today I sometimes pick the book up again and enjoy the cute illustrations and story, which is super relatable to everyone who's ever felt lonely. As a kid, I was especially fascinated by the echo, as I had no idea what it was ;) I adore this book and the memories it gives me!

Ariana says

This is a very gentle friendship story. Beaver was so very lonely that one day he started crying until he could hear someone else crying across the pond. Beaver decides to search for the one that was crying to be his friend. On the way he makes new friends and later finds out that who was crying at the beginning was his echo and to make him happy all he had to do is be happy himself. The illustrations are made in soft watercolours. Little to no lines or edges are used throughout the images which allows for a more softer feel to the images and story. The detailed backgrounds of the forest and pond delicately disappear around the edges of the left side of the spreads where the text is. The drawings and depictions of the animals are very realistic and very detailed, but they still show sufficient facial expression and body language to be relatable and be able to discern different personalities. This book could be used to discuss isolation and loneliness in particular in situations where children are new to a place and still do not anyone in the new place.

Abigail Niemiec says

Genre: Fiction

Grade: PreK-3

A cute read with lots of character's, therefore making an exciting and engaging read aloud text.

Lauren Piechota says

So cute!

Francesca says

I've had this book since I was a child, I believe my Mum bought it before my older sisters were born and we've had the same copy of the book ever since. It's a beautiful story about loneliness and friendship. I don't usually write reviews that are just an outline of the story but in this case I feel like the story just speaks for itself.

It's the story of Little Beaver, who lives all alone by the edge of a pond. He doesn't have any friends and is incredibly lonely. One day, when he starts to cry, he hears someone else crying too. So Little Beaver sets off to find this kindred spirit. Along the way, he's joined by a duck, an otter and a turtle, who each claim, "I do need a friend, but it wasn't me who was crying." Once he reaches the other side, he discovers that there was no one else crying. It was his own echo. However, on his journey to find the echo he did in fact make friends.

Laurel says

One of the most beautiful little stories with superb artwork.

Thomas James says

I really like Little Beaver and The Echo, it has such and simple message that can convey so many feelings that many in the class both teacher and pupils will have experienced more than once in their life. It is simply written and accompanied by stunning illustrations. It is a sad starter but ends happily. Definitely one of my favourites.

The book is about Little Beaver, at the beginning he has no friends and is stuck on a side of a very big lake. He finds himself alone and upset with no friends and begins to shout, each time he shouts he gets a reply, but copying exactly what he has said, so he sets off in his boat to find this person/animal. On his adventure he finds a duck, an otter and a tortoise, they weren't the ones crying back to Little Beaver but they needed friends so they accompany Little beaver on his quest to find this person; until they fine Wise Beaver. Wise Beaver explains to Little Beaver that Echo will never be found but he is happy when you are and sad when you are etc. During this time Little Beaver realises that all the animals he meets on his trip are his friends and the Echo is happy for all of them.

This book is told in the third person, with a great mixture of narrative writing and speech. To help children understand the book a previous experience of feeling of lonely and 'friendless' would really enhance the meaning of the book, but also understanding happy and sad emotions. The most complex idea in the book is the concept of an echo, this may be hard to understand if one hasn't been experienced before so having experienced an echo would help.

The illustrations add more detail and understanding to the text. The first pages of the book, Little Beaver is sad and alone on the side of the pond; the illustration shows how small Little Beaver is and how big the pond is, it also looks as if beaver is hanging his head as if one would when they are sad. The pictures giving a simple and expressive image to support the text, they are also easily understandable for any age. Simple aspects like facial expressions and body postures are included. Even small details such as characters holding hands and being close to each other show friendship and Little Beaver leaning forward and scrunching his hands when shouting.

I feel that this book would be best read aloud; allowing the children to listen and study the images without having to focus on anything else. With a strong main message around the book (there are always people to be friends with you don't have to be lonely) it could be used cross-curricular with English and certainly PSHE. It would be a good book for the beginning of Christmas term, especially with KS1, the book being an explanation to the children that everyone will have friends and we should all be friends and that everybody is there for each other. This would not be a book that I would use for shared reading. With older age groups this could be used for guided reading, getting the students to look closely at the text and the images and how they work with each other and how the small details make such an impact (such as facial expressions).

In terms of a writing model, this book shows that stories don't have to be "she went and did this" or "he went and did that". They can be told from the mouth of the story teller, but still using speech and varying punctuation; but also keeping a story that flows, having a mixture of speech and narrative.

Logan says

3 stars

The book itself was super cute, and I guess the message was alright, if not cliché (*it's not the goal that matters, it's the friends you make along the way*), but I guess I was looking for something a little more substantive or more surreal. A lot of the best children's books take some theme and really go for it, but this one didn't really do that.

Tris Kate says

Sweet little book about friendship with beautiful illustrations.

Nuala Hadley says

Read this with my little boy and we both loved it.

Angie says

Little Beaver is lonely and looking for friends. When he yells across the lake he hears a reply that also wants

to find friends. Little Beaver paddles around the lake, meeting different animals along the way, and eventually an older beaver that explains a little about the Echo on the other side of the lake.

A super cute picture book, with BEAUTIFUL illustrations. Be sure to pay attention to these, the drawings do a great job of showing each animal's personality.

Cathy says

Little Beaver is all alone. He has no friends, no family, and he feels so lonely that he begins to cry. Then, from across the pond, he can hear some body else crying too. Little Beaver feels a little less lonely now, and sets off in his boat to befriend the lonely individual across the pond. Along the way he meets and befriends a duck, an otter and a turtle. They are lonely too. It's only when Little Beaver turns to a wise old beaver for advice, that he learns that he will never find The Echo that was crying at the other side of the pond, but that in his quest to find The Echo, he did indeed find friendship.

This is an absolutely lovely book about loneliness and the human need for friendship, and is a reminder to all of us that we all need companionship. Children in early years foundation stage would enjoy looking at the beautiful water colour illustrations and could relate to the story as it is read to them, and confident readers in upper key stage one could enjoy this independantly.

Isobel Smith says

This story was told as narrative based on a tale of a beaver who was lonely and heard a voice across the water. He wanted to meet the person and he found friends on the way, but when he got to the other end of the pond he spoke to a wise beaver and realised that the person across the pond was his voice echoing.

The Illustrations are beautiful with fine brush strokes. The illustrated has carefully thought about details; shadowing on the pond, the colours on the mountains and different shades for the grass and trees.

The text is good for introducing children to spoken language, it helps the children to understand how to communicate with people using friendly language.
