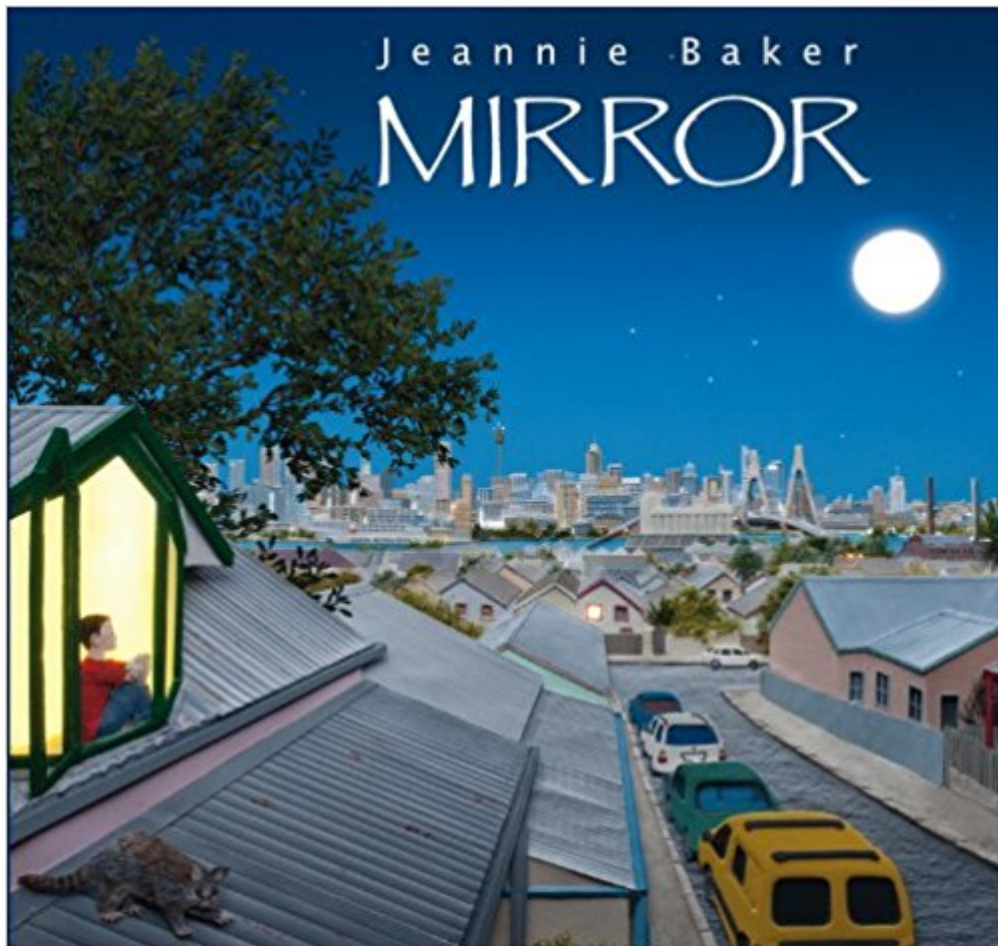




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Mirror



Synopsis

An innovative, two-in-one picture book follows a parallel day in the life of two families: one in a Western city and one in a North African village. Somewhere in Sydney, Australia, a boy and his family wake up, eat breakfast, and head out for a busy day of shopping. Meanwhile, in a small village in Morocco, a boy and his family go through their own morning routines and set out to a bustling market. In this ingenious, wordless picture book, readers are invited to compare, page by page, the activities and surroundings of children in two different cultures. Their lives may at first seem quite unlike, but a closer look reveals that there are many things, some unexpected, that connect them as well. Designed to be read side by side – one from the left and the other from the right – these intriguing stories are told entirely through richly detailed collage illustrations.

Book Information

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Bilingual edition (November 9, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763648485

ISBN-13: 978-0763648480

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 0.5 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #91,920 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania](#) #55 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa](#) #108 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life](#)

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. PreSchool-Grade 4 – In *Window* (1991) and *Home* (2004, both Greenwillow), Baker combined a concept, her signature collages, and a wordless format to underscore environmental issues. *Mirror* illuminates the common humanity beneath the surface of cultural differences. In a clever design, two sets of bound signatures face one another, the gatherings reversed from their normal location inside the spine; readers manipulate the two openings

simultaneously. In parallel narratives, two boys awaken in the moonlight, accompany their fathers on an errand, and return home. In the story on the left, the destination is a hardware emporium in Sydney, Australia. Materials for an indoor fireplace are purchased and put in a van. The right side occurs in Morocco. Father and son mount a donkey and travel a long distance to sell a hand-woven rug and buy a computer at the market. After a family dinner, they turn it on and the Australians settle onto a fireside carpet matching the one in the other story. The size, shape, and number of the panels in one story are reflected in the other, a choice that assists with comparison. English and Arabic paragraphs introduce the visual narratives. A diagram indicates the right-to-left orientation of the Moroccan story. Baker's skill in orchestrating fabric, vegetation, clay, and other materials into scenes with the proper scale and convincing depth is a wonder to behold. The author's notes hint at her purpose and process. A fresh take on a timely and timeless message. —Wendy Lukehart, Washington DC Public Library (c) Copyright 2011. — Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

This quiet, inventive, mostly wordless picture book follows two boys on opposite sides of the world through a single day, highlighting the differences and universalities in their lives. Meant to be read simultaneously, the stories appear side by side as separate mini-books bound within the same covers, while brief, introductory lines of text in English and Arabic introduce the boys, one in urban Australia and one in rural Morocco. The wordless accounts begin in strict parallel, with pages subdivided into symmetrical scenes of each boy's family life, from breakfast to daytime excursions and finally to supper. Baker allows her stories to unfold naturally, and the cultural connections never feel forced; the boys investigate a curiosity at the market or remember a younger sibling, each in his own way. That sense of verisimilitude gives a depth to the simple, common experiences, which resonate across pages and cultures. In disparate, detailed landscapes rendered in her trademark style of three-dimensional, mixed-media collage, Baker creates a moving reminder of what we all share. Preschool-Grade 3. --Thom Barthelmess

Beautiful book: artwork is excellent This book uses pictures not words, to help children understand other cultures, and how we all really the same. I had this shipped to Morocco, where I teach. I would recommend this book for any school library. A good base for many classroom activities and discussions.

One of my favorite children's books ever. Talk about timely. For several years I read this to school

children to encourage awareness of the "bigger picture" and to inspire empathy. The art is VERY beautiful.

Aside from a very sweet story about families, this is a wonderful trade book to introduce the functions of mirrors. Use with little ones and then let them play with mirrors.

Beautiful children's story book, really engages children, suitable for 4 - 8 year olds.

book came on time and I loved it thank you

very interesting, two stories in one - similar but very different.

It took a little time to get into the swing of turning the pages together. It is a lovely way of exposing the similarities between cultures making their differences less "scary".

This book is so beautiful! I am an adult but I bought it for myself. It gives me so much joy to look into it!

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