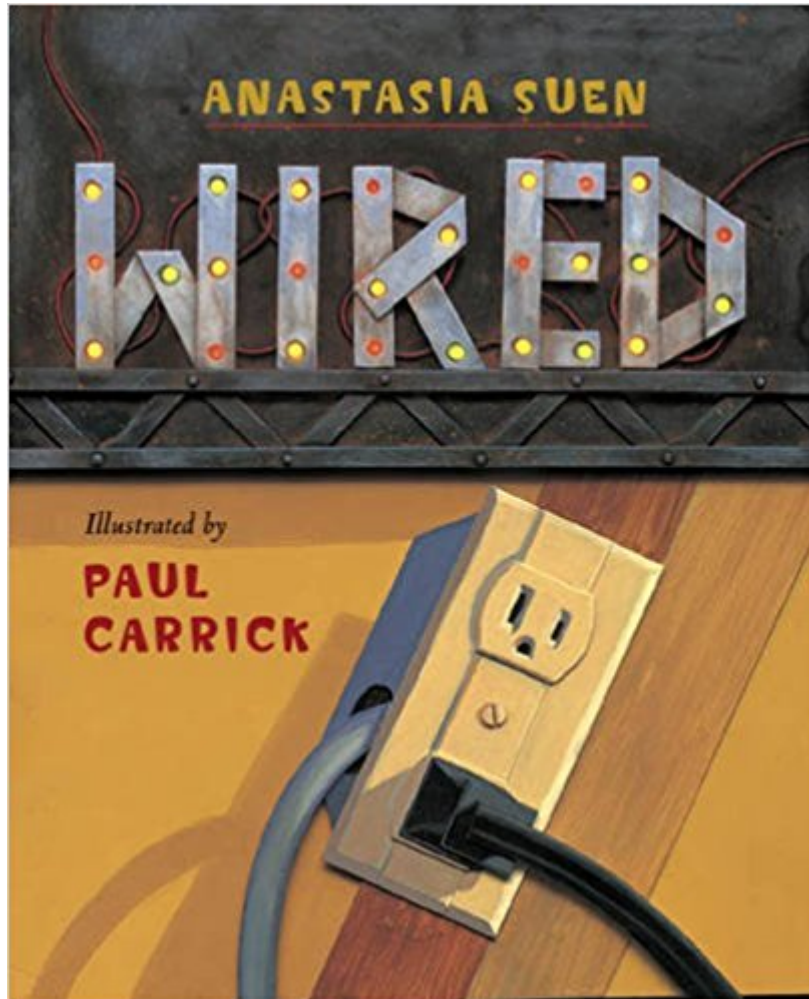




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Wired



Synopsis

Humming, thrumming, power's coming. From the power plant to your house, electricity is on the move. In rhythmic text, Anastasia Suen breaks down the complex subject of electricity to its essential parts. Paul Carrick's three-dimensional illustrations help shed light on the subject.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (July 1, 2007)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 10 inches

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #541,648 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Electricity & Electronics](#) #235 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics](#) #261 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > How Things Work](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 3 - 4

Customer Reviews

In this picture book for elementary students, Suen covers the basics of how electricity moves from power plant to cozy, lamp-lit home. The text works on two levels. Each spread features short paragraphs that present definitions in clear language: Electricity is electrons on the move. A few words, in larger print, appear on each page, and when read aloud create a bouncing rhyme that seems aimed at children younger than the audience for the science and the pictures. The mixed-media art illustrates the concepts with mixed success. Some spreads, such as one explaining how power is stepped down at a transformer, need more detail to help kids fully envision what the words describe. Most successful are the scenes of long lines reaching across landscapes, demonstrating that power is generated far away and travels great distances before it is used. There aren't many titles that explain electricity for this age group; recommend this one with some of the other books in the appended reading list. A glossary and power safety tips conclude. Engberg,

Gillian --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Detailed yet accessible text begins with "electrons on the move" and explains how electricity is generated at a power plant and travels across wires to brightly lit homes. Suen also covers how interior wiring, breakers, switches, and outlets work. Illustrated with multimedia artwork with a 3-D effect, the book concludes with electricity safety tips.-Book Links November 1, 2014 Raising the awareness of any reader who's ever switched on a light or wondered what those wires above the street are, Suen traces the long "dance" of electrons from a (water-driven) generator to a home's plugs, lamps and computer screens. Linked by lines of poem -- "Humming, thrumming, / power's coming / in the wires / from big to small / to power it all" -- her commentary offers simple but specific descriptions of how, for instance, step-up and step-down transformers work, what ground wires and circuit breakers do and even what's behind those ubiquitous switch plates. With help from occasional discreet labels, Carrick's realistic, low-relief collages follow wires over transmission towers and wooden poles, down through electric meters and cutaway walls. Suen closes with a list of safety tips and, for children curious about topics she doesn't cover, such as difference between volts and amps, or AC and DC, a handful of print and online resources. Audiences who find Joanna Cole's *Magic School Bus and the Electric Field Trip*, illus by Bruce Degen (1997), too busy to absorb may come away from this more linear approach with a clearer idea of what powers their everyday infrastructure.-Kirkus Reviews - June 15, 2007 This introduction to electricity traces the path of electrons from the power station to electronic devices used in the home. A series of spreads with a few paragraphs of text describes each stage along the way. This progression works well, covering the physical implements and machines as well as general scientific concepts. The important role of transformers, for example, emerges in a logical way, reinforcing the key concept that electricity is an energy that can be controlled and guided. Acrylic mixed-media illustrations are informative, with clear labels to identify specific components. The uncrowded layout and three-dimensional look are especially effective. Each spread leads neatly into the next one, so the visual flow is uninterrupted. Readers see wires reaching the electric meter, then a page turn shows that meter close up, while the subsequent spread reveals the inside wires moving out from the meter. A few descriptions are oversimplified, but a glossary fills in needed details. Joanna Cole's *The Magic School Bus and the Electric Field Trip* (Scholastic, 1997) and Barbara Seuling's *Flick a Switch* (Holiday House, 2003) cover more ground, and Molly Bang's *My Light* (Scholastic, 2004) is more visually dazzling, but this title succeeds with its carefully focused approach. By sticking consistently to the topic of how electricity reaches the home without trying to cover history, trivia, or

more complex science, the fundamental information comes through in an appealing way that kids can fully understand.-School Library Journal - July 1, 2007 In this picture book for elementary students, Suen covers the basics of how electricity moves from power plant to cozy, lamp-lit home. The text works on two levels. Each spread features short paragraphs that present definitions in clear language: "Electricity is electrons on the move." A few words, in larger print, appear on each page, and when read aloud create a bouncing rhyme that seems aimed at children younger than the audience for the science and the pictures. The mixed-media art illustrates the concepts with mixed success. Some spreads, such as one explaining how power is "stepped down" at a transformer, need more detail to help kids full envision what the words describe. Most successful are the scenes of long lines reaching across landscapes, demonstrating that power is generated far away and travels great distances before it is used. There aren't many titles that explain electricity for this age group; recommend this one with some of the other books in the appended reading list. A glossary and power safety tips conclude.Booklist - August 1, 2007

My son is obsessed with electricity and kept asking where it comes from. My basic explanation of "the power plant" wasn't good enough. This book describes how electricity is created (from water, not coal) and follows it from the power plant all the way to the appliances in one's house. My son was just now talking about the "wire nuts" he's using to "keep the wires touching." Okay, he's not really using wire nuts, but I think it's neat how these phrases have made their way into his daily existence (turbines, transformers, service heads, etc.). If you have a child interested in electricity, this is the book to get! If I were to make an improvement, it would be to talk about conservation of electricity, but we'll attack that as he gets older. My next adventure is to find as good of a book about water treatment facilities and what happens in the sewers.

This is a great book! My 2 (almost 3) year old son has always been so curious about electricity and how things work. I've tried explaining the best I can but this book definitely helps him understand exactly how it all works. He is a little young to understand everything but he does understand most of it. This book is very well written and has nice illustrations. My son loves this book and it's one of the few books he wants me to read over and over.

This book is an excellent way to familiarize your children with electricity. After we read this book together we visited a power plant. The kids were able to make connections between the book and what we were seeing on our tour.

My son loves this book who's 4.5 year old preschooler. He's quite interested in the mechanics of things and he often points out the transformers on the poles when he sees. This book brought the concept of electricity in a child's ability of understanding. As parents, we are from engineer/science/design/art background, so we would appreciate the value of this book. Without much of exaggerated event or story, this is a nice change of phase when we read a book or two every night before the bedtime. Nice illustration too.

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