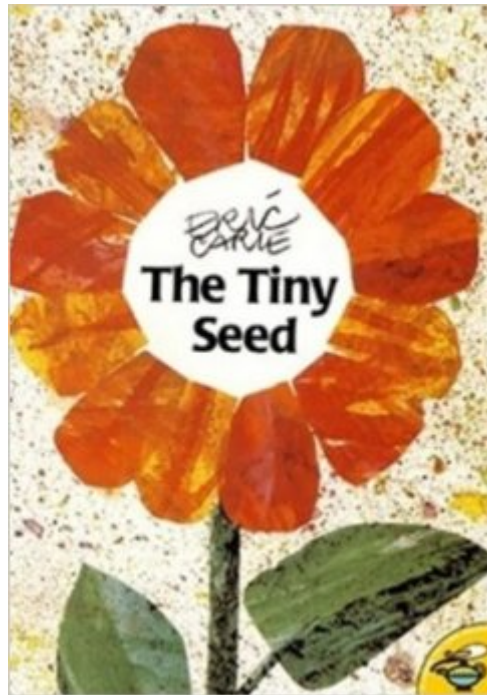


The book was found

# The Tiny Seed



## Synopsis

In autumn, a strong wind blows flower seeds high in the air and carries them far across the land. One by one, many of the seeds are lost -- burned by the sun, fallen into the ocean, eaten by a bird. But some survive the long winter and, come spring, sprout into plants, facing new dangers -- trampled by playing children, picked as a gift for a friend. Soon only the tiniest seed remains, growing into a giant flower and, when autumn returns, sending its own seeds into the wind to start the process over again. Eric Carle's eloquent text and brilliant collages turn the simple life cycle of a plant into an exciting story, a nature lesson, and an inspiring message of the importance of perseverance.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 400 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Aladdin; Reprint edition (April 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689842449

ISBN-13: 978-0689842443

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.3 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (120 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #194,502 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Botany](#) #86 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Flowers & Plants](#) #2973 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This book is a wonderful story about the life cycle of a seed. I used this book in my unit on plants for my 2nd grade class. It is a wonderful tool for a lesson on the beginning of a plant's life. Your students will love looking at the wonderful illustrations that reinforce the story. I highly recommend this piece of quality literature and all of Eric Carle's books for your child or classroom.

I think this book is fine, but not for the preschool crowd. I would use it with older children --

elementary age -- to discuss the life cycle of an annual, the role of the seasons, and the challenges of reproduction which must be overcome by all plants. The Tiny Seed introduces us to many of the hazards faced by seeds and seedlings as they attempt to grow (from falling in water and drowning, being eaten by birds or mice, being overshadowed by large weeds, being stepped on by children, and more) and shows how the ideal environment is a necessity. It covers the role of sunshine and rain, how the seed swells and bursts open, how the plant develops as it grows, and how it produces and disperses its seeds to carry on the next generation. It's not a book for small children, though, since its mostly non-fiction tone is dry, the phrases are stilted, and it doesn't read aloud well. I find it difficult to "cheer on" the tiny seed; where others see him as a hero facing difficult odds, I think the book is too grimly determined to be educational and becomes boring for the youngest child. If you want a book to introduce a unit on seed dispersal, this is the one. If you want to talk with your three year old about the cycle of the seasons, you'd be better off with the Spring/Summer/Autumn/Winter collection by Gerda Muller.

My son has been fascinated with this book. He understands so much more than I gave him credit for. He's only 2.5 years old, but he's EXTREMELY verbal and very bright when it comes to books. However, I agree with the English teacher/mommy that it is NOT for the average toddler. I think a bright preschooler or for the child who is fascinated with plants and flowers, it is quite appropriate. I can see an OLDER child in first, second or third grade getting more out of it science wise, but that doesn't mean that a toddler can't enjoy it. I remember reading books and understanding more and more of the details as I got older, which made it a "new" book for me with each passing year, if that makes sense. I re-discovered the story or read it in a new way with more life experience with which to process it. So with that in mind, I think it's a terrific book overall. I do not find it at all disturbing that a seed should drown or burn up. It's a fact of life that seeds don't all survive. If you think of it in terms of humans, sure it's disturbing, but I think that's a parallel that cannot and will not be drawn by a toddler, preschooler or even a young elementary school child. In my view, the English teacher is reading too much into that and reading the book from the viewpoint of an adult with a whole lot more life experience. HOWEVER, I totally agree that the book ends abruptly, which is why I add my own ending when I read it to my child which goes something like this, "and off the seeds sail in the wind to hopefully become beautiful plants and flowers NEXT spring. The end." I'm kind of surprised nobody told Eric Carle or his publisher that the ending was too abrupt. But it's not a big deal. Eric Carle's biggest hits with my son have been "Head to Toe", "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," and "Brown Bear, Brown Bear," as well as this title. The rest have been a flop. Luckily we check them

out at the library and do a test run on them first. :)

This is a very good book. I think that this is a very inspiring story to people who might think they are too small and won't amount to anything. This is not true in this case, it just takes a little longer to develop. The others develop quickly, and they end up ending quickly to. When he keeps going on, and never really gives up. He sure thinks about giving up a lot but never really does. In the end it will work out better for the person who has to try hard to get through everything, something bad is bound to happen to you. When you try and never give up, you will succeed. You will become bigger and better than anyone who got an easy way through life. Because you had to go through so much on your journey, when everyone else had it easy, when they have to struggle to get through things, you will get to sit back and relax. And this story demonstrates that just because you are small you can't grow bigger or can't do things. ...

There were no seeds. The "detachable seed-embedded paper" was not in the book. Cute book but it loses its appeal when it does not have what I specifically wanted out of this purchase. It would have been a nice little project to go along with the story. Fail. Can I have a \$1.50 credit? Since I now need to go purchase some tiny seeds?

I am very disappointed in this product. The main attraction was the seed-embedded paper 'included' in the book.....the paper was NOT included. I ordered 2 books for my grandchildren's birthdays to go with gardening items. It was going to be lots of fun to plant the seeds and watch them grow. I guess I'll have to go purchase seeds separately even though inside the front cover and on the back of the book it mentions the 'detachable' seed paper. Grammie Mc

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