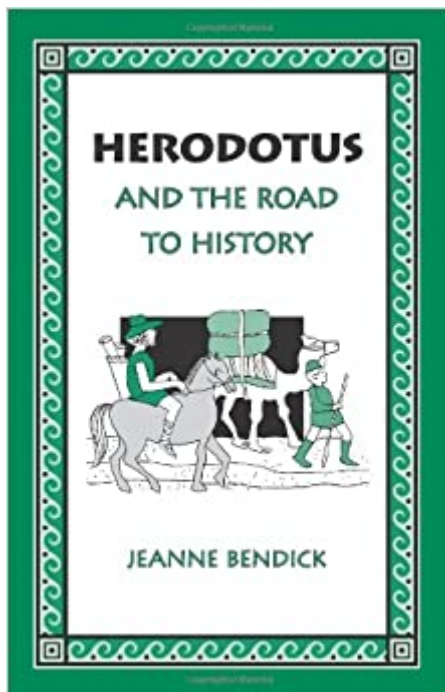


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Herodotus And The Road To History



Synopsis

Best-selling author Jeanne Bendick takes us for another informative and amusing journey into places and events of long ago. *Herodotus and the Road to History*, written in the first person, details the investigative journeys of Herodotus a contemporary of the Old Testament prophet Malachi as he takes ship from Greece and voyages to the limits of his own ancient world. His persistence, amidst disbelief and ridicule, in the self-appointed task of recording his discoveries as histories (the Greek word meaning inquiry), means that today we can still follow his expeditions into the wonder and mystery of Syria, Persia, Egypt and the barbaric north. Jeanne Bendick's lucid text, humorous illustrations and helpful maps entertain and instruct as they open the way for readers young and old to once again join Herodotus . . . on the road to history..

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Thanks.

Having read Jeanne Bendick's previous books, *Archimedes and the Door of Science* (Living History Library) and *Galen and the Gateway to Medicine* (Living History Library), I have been waiting for this one for a long time. Fortunately, Ms. Bendick does not disappoint. This snappy little overview of the eventful life of Herodotus is the perfect way to introduce your kids to the subject of history. It explains why Herodotus developed an interest in recording history and in doing so, shows why the subject is of such importance. This book is meant for children ages 9-11 and to that end, it is littered throughout with charming line-art illustrations. It is quite a short book and as a

result, it doesn't go into any great detail of the multitude of civilizations discussed in Herodotus's histories. A precocious reader could plow through it in a single day. But it should effectively stimulate an interest in knowing more about the ancient events and cultures mentioned. It certainly did for me, though admittedly, I live for this stuff already. Highly recommended. This is one that's definitely going on my kids' reading list. If your kids love books like this one which teach Greco-Roman history by telling a story, they will probably also like *The Ides of April*, *Beyond the Desert Gate*, *Belisarius: The First Shall Be Last*, and *Belisarius--Book II: Glory of the Romans*.

This is a brief, engaging and heavily illustrated biography of the world's first historian. Herodotus lived in the Greek city of Halicarnassus in the Persian empire during the 5th century BC. His situation and personality put him in an ideal place to tell the fascinating stories of the Persian Wars and to travel extensively and collect stories during his travels. This book is unique in that it shares the basic history of his own life, told in first person narrative. It gives a glimpse into the world he lived in as well as touching upon major events and characters that he wrote about. It's the perfect companion to a children's edition of the stories of Herodotus. Our family read it after finishing *Stories from Herodotus* by Glanville Downey (which is sadly out of print, but may be available used or from your local library), which made it even more relevant and interesting (lots of "aha" moments!). The story is suitable for independent reading ages 10 and up, or for a read aloud to younger children. It only took us about an hour to read it out loud and everyone enjoyed it!

My kids and I have read other books by Jeanne Bendick, but this is our least favorite. This would have been a good choice as an extended literature selection the first time my kids and I went through *Story of the World*, volume I, to introduce life in ancient Greece and Herodotus the Traveler. But if you are looking for Herodotus the Storyteller and his accounts of the Persian/Greek struggles, the Ionian revolt, etc., this book is not it. All in all, suitable as a read aloud for elementary kids, but kinda boring for older kids (6th-8th grade).

Wow! I love this author! I just found this book and enjoyed its simple presentation for kids. I wish I had read this to my kids at younger ages! Now they think the books look a little childish (they are 5th and 6th grade) even though the topic is incredibly relevant for them studying Ancient Greece. I just bought a few of her out-of-print books to enjoy as well.

I want to supplement my kids' learning modern Greek, and this series gives a nice way to connect

the language with culture and history studies. Mostly, I wanted them to have a sense of their own cultural history (my family is Greek). Easy to grasp and accessible to kids, especially those interested in geography.

I am a 7th grade boy. I like it, but it was boring at some times. I kind of didn't want it to end.

My 7th grader is reading ahead in this one and she reports happily that it is a "happy" book. History has become interesting to her!

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