



The Giraffe Who Was Afraid of Heights

By David A. Ufer

Illustrated by Kirsten Carlson

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For Children Ages 4 to 8, Lexile: 740

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Book Sense Autumn 2006 Children's Picks List
2007 SIBA Book Award finalist

"I give this book a high five all the way around – a unique, fun, extremely well-written storyline with a neat message that held my interest to the very end; fantastic, endearing illustrations by Kirsten Carlson; and the great learning experiences at the end of this book and also online thanks to the superior quality of Sylvan Dell Publishing. This is a must read for the little ones!" – *Stories for Children Magazine*

"Readers will be able to relate to the cast of characters, and will be able to see that even in the most dire of cases a little courage can go a long way because it's always hidden away inside us."- *Ready Set Read Reviews*

"With soft illustrations and muted colors, this excellent picture books tells the story of animals that are afraid of

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is the enchanting story of three friends, each challenged by their fears. A young giraffe suffers from a fear of heights and won't raise his head high enough to see the dangers lurking across the savannah. His parents worry about his safety and send him to the village doctor for treatment. Along the way, he befriends a monkey who is afraid of climbing trees and a hippo who is afraid of water. What happens to cause each of them to overcome their fears? Don't miss the exciting ending!



Children, parents, and teachers will love the "For Creative Minds" educational section, which was vetted for scientific accuracy by educators at the Houston Zoo. The section includes:

- A "Match the Feet" Craft
- A "Mix-and-Match" Activity
- Adaptation Information

About the Author and Illustrator



David A. Ufer says that this story has been floating around in his head for a long time. David struggles with a fear heights, so the story has a personal tie that he wanted to share.

The story is wonderfully entertaining, but is also an effort to help children overcome their own fears. In preparation for writing, David has enjoyed long hours of animal observation at the local zoos and a study of their respective behaviors in the wild. David lives on the west coast of Florida.

Kirsten Carlson has always been fascinated by animals and nature. Her passion for understanding the natural world has made her into both biologist and scientific illustrator. She believes children's books are a wonderful way to share stories that put one in touch with nature.

Kirsten's illustrations have appeared in scientific papers, educational posters, magazines and aquarium exhibits. While she has designed two children's books, this is her first published children's book as an illustrator. Her second, *Ocean Seasons*, was released in February 2007. Kirsten lives in Gig Harbor, Washington with her husband, Dave and her four-footed friends: Tawny, DJ, Pogo, Eggnog and Hazel, her jeep.



Contact Information

For additional information on *The Giraffe Who Was Afraid of Heights* and other Sylvan Dell books, please contact our sales team at 877-958-2600 or Sales@SylvanDellPublishing.com.

For media inquiries or to schedule an event for your store, please contact Ashlee Rowe by calling 877-958-2600 or e-mailing ashleerowe@SylvanDellPublishing.com.



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