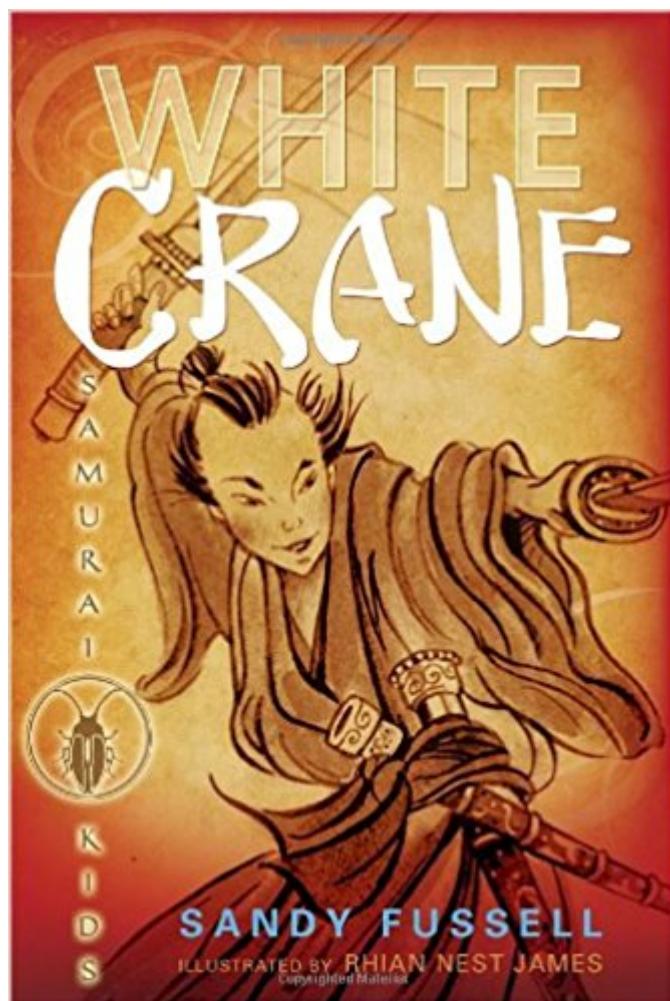


The book was found

Samurai Kids #1: White Crane



Synopsis

Can a one-legged boy become a great samurai warrior? Meet some unique aspiring champions in this kick-off to an exciting new martial arts series. Niya Moto is the only one-legged samurai kid in Japan, famous for falling flat on his face in the dirt. The one school that will accept him is the Cockroach Ryu, led by the legendary sensei Ki-Yaga. He may be an old man overly fond of naps, but Ki-Yaga is also known for taking in kids that the world has judged harshly: an albino girl with extra fingers and toes, a boy who is blind, a big kid whose past makes him loath to fight. A warrior in his time, Ki-Yaga demands excellence in everything from sword fighting to poetry. But can the ragtag Cockroaches make the treacherous journey to the Samurai Trainee Games, never mind take on the all-conquering Dragons? In a fast-moving, action-filled tale that draws on true details of feudal Japan, Niya finds there's no fear they can't face as long as they stick together • for their friendship is more powerful than a samurai sword.

Book Information

Series: Samurai Kids (Book 1)

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; 1 edition (August 10, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763645036

ISBN-13: 978-0763645038

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 1 x 7.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,272,196 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Martial Arts #124 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Asia #202 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Special Needs

Customer Reviews

Gr 5-7 Friendship triumphs in this Australian import set in feudal Japan. Niya Moto and his friends all struggle with a disadvantage in their samurai training: he is missing a leg, and his fellow students are missing an arm, are blind, have extra fingers and toes, or refuse to fight. But by putting faith in their friendship and following the quiet wisdom of their sensei, they discover they can triumph against the odds. Filled with Zen-sounding aphorisms, the book has moments of sheer cleverness, making the obvious themes easier to swallow. The style seems geared toward struggling readers,

and the setting is sure to appeal to samurai vs. ninja fans who aren't too concerned about historical accuracy. Some details, such as sword making and bushido philosophy, seem well grounded in the period, while major plot designs, such as training children with missing limbs to be samurai, come across as utterly inaccurate, and Niya sounds like a modern Western narrator. Still, the depiction of children overcoming the physical odds is positive. Black-and-white illustrations enhance the storytelling, and the little bit of Japanese sprinkled in is well explained. Alana Joli Abbott, James Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, CT © Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Four, later five teen samurai—most with physical differences—beat the odds at the annual Samurai Trainee Games in this opener to the Samurai Kids series. Once a mighty warrior but now an old man who seemingly prefers to doze in the shade, sensei Ki-Yaga has invited an unlikely crew to his Cockroach Ryu (school) for instruction in the arts and ethics of Bushido. As seen through the eyes of one-legged narrator Niya Moto, that instruction involves more horseplay than hard practice with pink-eyed Kyoko, who has extra digits on her hands and feet; one-armed Mikko; blind Taji; and other schoolmates—but the Cockroaches display sufficient spirit and teamwork to emerge triumphant in the games over the sneering Dragons. Though not exactly filled with wall-to-wall action like Jeff Stone's Five Ancestors series, the tale is lightened by pratfalls and wry bits of wisdom (He who remembers what Bushido teaches will never miss out on great desserts) and is threaded with information about traditional samurai values. James' Japanese-style spot art and tableaus at the plot's high points supply martial-arts atmosphere. Grades 5-8. --John Peters

I picked up this book by accident. A friend had recommended another samurai series, but I couldn't remember the name. It was not the intended book, but I found a treasure! I read it aloud to my 7 yo son, and we were both enthralled. As previous reviewers have said, there is plenty of humor, action, and adventure---just perfect for a young boy! What I've not read in previous reviews is just how beautifully written these books are! It's absolutely lovely, almost poetic. And the themes are marvelous: teamwork, overcoming adversity, integrity, honor, courage. I think my favorite line in this book is the one in which Niya questions why another child will be invited to be in the Cockroach school the next year when he is able-bodied. Sensei responded so wonderfully. Something to the effect of---Silly boy, I didn't choose you for what you were missing. I choose my students by what they have inside them---great stuff. And such a marvelous message for everyone. Needless to say,

we will read them all!

"There just aren't enough books about Samurai." This was the lament I heard from my son last month. I wasn't aware of this lack, but once I started looking I realized he was right, there aren't many Samurai/Ninja books for middle grade readers. I found this one just by combining samurai/children books, but was wary of buying it, my son is notoriously picky about books, so I made him read the excerpt. A few minutes later I heard him yell, I rushed back into the room and he said, "I must have this book, I have to find out what happens next!" Well, he really enjoyed the story, especially the ending. It also inspired him to look up things online; kitana, dojo, sensei and rice pudding (weird, but he really likes pudding). He said the competition reminded him a little of Toph's school of metalbending (from Avatar the Last Airbender). All in all a fun and fast book that I highly recommend for kids, I took a look at the book and think the reading level is for 10-12 year olds.

SAVING THIS FOR LATER. WISH IT HAD GIVEN A RECOMMENDED AGE. MY 6 YO GRANDSON LOVES TO BE READ TO AND HE'S EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN SAMURAI SO I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD CHOICE. WE READ BOOKS FOR 8-11 AGE GROUP. THIS IS ABOVE THAT.

Anybody who wants to be a samurai or is just looking for a nice, fun tale of wisdom and courage must read the this book. Full of action and adventure White Crane is a great book for young readers!

My 5th grade son, who I usually have a hard time finding books for, loved it!

Great series.

My 9 year old only read about half of the book. He said is was boring (now this is a kid who love to read and reread books) but my son likes books more like diary of a wimpy kid books.

I gave this to my almost 8-year old nephew for the holidays and he read it very quickly and reportedthoroughly enjoying it! I will find the next one in the series for his birthday.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Samurai Kids #1: White Crane White Crane: Samurai Kids #1 Books For Kids: Natalia and the Pink

Ballet Shoes (KIDS FANTASY BOOKS #3) (Kids Books, Children's Books, Kids Stories, Kids Fantasy Books, Kids Mystery ... Series Books For Kids Ages 4-6 6-8, 9-12) Gay Spirituality: The Role of Gay Identity in the Transformation of Human Consciousness (White Crane Spirituality Series) Samurai Sudoku Puzzle Book: 500 Hard Puzzles overlapping into 100 Samurai Style Samurai Awakening: (Samurai Awakening Book 1) Navajo Textiles: The Crane Collection at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Working in the Dark: Reflections of a Poet of the Barrio (Red Crane Literature Series) What Can a Crane Pick Up? The Crane Wife Crane's Wedding Blue Book: The Styles and Etiquette of Announcements, Invitations and Other Correspondences Filipino Cuisine: Recipes from the Islands (Red Crane Cookbook Series) Pagan Portals: The Crane Bag: A Druid's Guide to Ritual Tools and Practices Crane: Lost Valkyries MC Whooping Crane: Images from the Wild Books for Kids: Lily the Little Mermaid (Mermaid Books for Kids, Children's Books, Kids Books, Bedtime Stories For Kids) (The Mermaid Stories: Kids Fantasy Books Book 2) Childrens Book : Fun facts about Egypt: (Ancient Egypt for kids) (Ages 4 - 12) (egypt picture book, pyramids for kids, mummies for kids, hieroglyphs for ... books for kids, egypt history for kids) Books For Kids : Charlie The Smart Elephant (FREE BONUS) (Bedtime Stories for Kids Ages 2 - 10) (Books for kids, Children's Books, Kids Books, puppy story, ... Books for Kids age 2-10, Beginner Readers) Books For Kids : Mimi finds a new friend (FREE BONUS) (Bedtime Stories for Kids Ages 2 - 10) (Books for kids, Children's Books, Kids Books, cat story, ... Books for Kids age 2-10, Beginner Readers) White Mountain Guide: AMC's Comprehensive Guide To Hiking Trails In The White Mountain National Forest (Appalachian Mountain Club White Mountain Guide)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)