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# About Time: A First Look At Time And Clocks



## Synopsis

“[An] impressive history of timekeeping.” —Horn Book Bruce Koscielniak, in this Common Core text exemplar, tells the intriguing story of the many years spent tinkering and inventing to perfect the art of telling time. When time itself was undefined, no one knew the difference between a minute, an hour, and a day. Then people started creating tools to measure time. First they used the sun, the moon, and the water, but soon after people began using their knowledge about the natural world to build clocks and to create calendars made up of months and years. Centuries later, we have clocks and calendars all around us! This title has been selected as a Common Core Text Exemplar (Grades 4-5, Informational Texts)

## Book Information

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-5 —Describing the concept of time and how it has been measured, Koscielniak gives an instructive yet entertaining march through the ages. A two-page explanation of daytime versus nighttime, as well as the seasons, sets the stage for the beginning of timekeeping and the origins of the Gregorian calendar. The author provides just enough detail for readers to understand how sundials and water clocks work and to comprehend the problems with their accuracy. Attractive watercolor illustrations in green and tan tones enhance the text. Detailed diagrams further explain such concepts as Huygens's balance spring, which later developed into the portable watch.

Endpapers show various timepieces through the ages from an Egyptian shadow clock in 1500 B.C. to electric clocks in A.D. 2000. Children will be entertained as well as informed by this presentation. ã ¢ Blair Christolon, Prince William Public Library System, Manassas, VA  
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Gr. 2-5. The author-illustrator of *Johann Gutenberg and the Amazing Printing Press* (2003) now presents an introduction to time and the history of timekeeping. The discussion begins with the meanings of terms such as day, month, and year and the development of the calendar in Western civilization. After explaining the use of early devices for marking time, such as sundials, water clocks, and hourglasses, the book traces the advancing technology of mechanical clocks from the thirteenth century onward and briefly explains twentieth-century advances such as quartz and atomic clocks. The ending briefly acknowledges three theories of time, from the ancient Greeks to Einstein. Brightening every page is watercolor artwork: clear diagrams of astronomical relationships, stylized historical scenes, sketchy (occasionally awkward) portrayals of people, and excellent pictures of clock mechanisms, which, in conjunction with the text, enlighten readers as to how the "workings" actually work. Students beyond the "telling time" stage will find this an attractive introduction to the broader subject of time. Carolyn Phelan  
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My adult son is autistic and really plugged into time, clocks, weather, etc. I wanted to find something about time and clocks that was on his reading comprehension level -- yet not for "little kids." This was a hit when he opened it up Christmas morning. He picks it up all the time to read. The illustrations are great also.

Bought this for my grandson for a homework assignment. Nearly fell asleep trying to read it. Has all the info you could want, but not presented in a way that would make you want to read it

I had a project about time. I couldn't find in good books till I found this book. It explains all about clocks and time. I think the only con was how small the lettering was when I read it but still a awesome book!

unable to find selection of time/clock books locally at bookstores but turned to .com and this is one

of several i found. thank you. family loves it !!

My six year old grandson is fascinated by the book

Really nice, informational, interesting book! A good read for even adults!! Quite pleased with the book, plus service we received.

Daughter Read and loved it

Bought this for my young son (reading level age 8-10). Terrific illustrations and very educational.

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