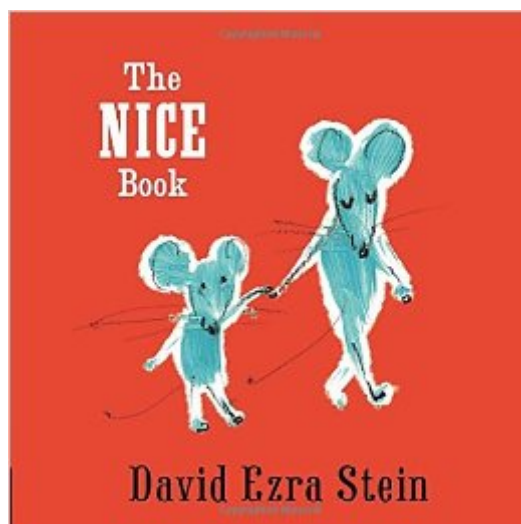


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# The Nice Book



## Synopsis

A perfect introduction to manners and playing nice, by David Ezra Stein—author of Caldecott Honor winner *Interrupting Chicken*, *Pouch!* (a Charlotte Zolotow Honor book) and *Leaves* (recipient of the Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Award). From cuddling koalas to friendly penguins, an array of animals illustrates fun, sweet, and silly examples of how to be nice—showing simple ways young children can show they care for those around them. The lyrical text, funny illustrations and upbeat friendship message make this a great gift and a wonderful introduction to manners.

## Book Information

Board book: 32 pages

Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books; Brdbk edition (December 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399165347

ISBN-13: 978-0399165344

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,607 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #31 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Manners #377 in Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 1 - 3 years

Grade Level: Preschool and up

## Customer Reviews

This sweet book will get the kids talking about what's nice...and what isn't. Case in point. Middle child was reading *THE NICE BOOK* and youngest reached over to grab it. Middle child whisked the book away and was ready to smack little one with it. Little one ran off, put her hands at her waist and said, "That's not nice!" Middle one hesitated. "I know." She looked at the book, looked at her sister and sat down on the rug. "Come sit here and I'll read the book to you." "If that's not nice, I don't know what is. Go get the book!"

If you can't be nice, don't say anything at all. Now unless you live on Mars, you've heard that many times. David Ezra Stein has learned that lesson well and is passing on a bit of love and "nice" in this

lovely, beautiful and compassionate book. Each page offers up a small, positive message to impart to the young child. Many are single words accompanied by bold watercolor critters, but the message is quite clear. For example, two raccoons are shown together and one is giving the other a gentle "PAT." On the following page there is a big, bold elephant getting ready to pat a racoon . . . "BUT DON'T STOMP FLAT!" Along a similar line a boar is going to have himself a nice ice cream sundae with three cherries on the top. "If you have more than you need, SHARE." And he does just that with a little mouse. Mmmmmm!! I loved this "nice" little book. It was simple, yet quite complicated at the same time. It's the just the type of book you need when your little one is feeling a bit out of sorts with the world and could use a little loving. The words on the page can be translated into action. "CUDDLE . . . Love was meant to be passed on." Now isn't that the truth?

I was looking at this from a teaching perspective, and it is more of a family-related book. There is too much talk of cuddling, nestling, and nuzzling in the beginning which isn't always nice! Sometimes other people don't want to be nestled or nuzzled, especially other children. I like the last few pages, but was hoping it was going to be much more like "Look, but don't stare" to show them the difference between nice and rude actions with examples. It is a sweet bedtime story for little kids though.

Eh, my kid just didn't love it and neither did I. It's OK. The drawings are cute, the sentiment inside is laudable, be nice. It just wasn't particularly engaging or catchy. My daughter looked at it twice and then put it away, without another glance.

Interrupting Chicken was my 3-year-old granddaughter's favorite book, so I figured she might also like this one by the same author. She does, but what was also a pleasant surprise was how much her parents like it. It's a much quicker read than Interrupting Chicken, so if it becomes a new favorite, the inevitable read-overs won't take so long, which could be another point in this book's favor. I give it only four instead of five stars, myself, though, because dramatic flair is lacking. I think this book is better for a younger child - which is good for our family since we have a younger one, too.

This book contains such great life lessons. Love it for my kids - one of them can recite it from memory now. Cute illustrations and easy for the little ones to understand. I like it so much I've bought it as a gift for others.

I love settling down with my 14 month old son on my lap and "acting out" this book while I read it aloud to him: "Cuddle, nestle, nuzzle, don't tickle...well, maybe a little." Each page contains a word or phrase about how to treat others, accompanied by delightful artwork. This book has a wonderful "look." The illustrations are bold and messy - almost in the style of children's finger painting - but the motion and emotion they portray are captivating. Bright colors and simple backgrounds make it easy for even young children to see. The look of the text is creative and artistic too: the size and font of the text change depending on what's being said. The best part of this book is that it's not condescending. So many books about how to treat others "talk down" to children and seem very demeaning. This book conveys its message in a sweet and positive way, and it's truly a delight to read: "When you get in a snit, don't hit - say how you feel. Take time, get away, hear what someone has to say."

I first saw this book while traveling in an airport window, and came home to track it down for my grandson. My 15 month old grandson surprisingly loves it! The simple, child-like drawings and paintings are charming, and Jack loves the language. His favorite line is "Pat! Don't stomp flat!" That page causes him to pause for a second and pat the top of his head, followed by stomping one foot. He asks for the book repeatedly. A great find.

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