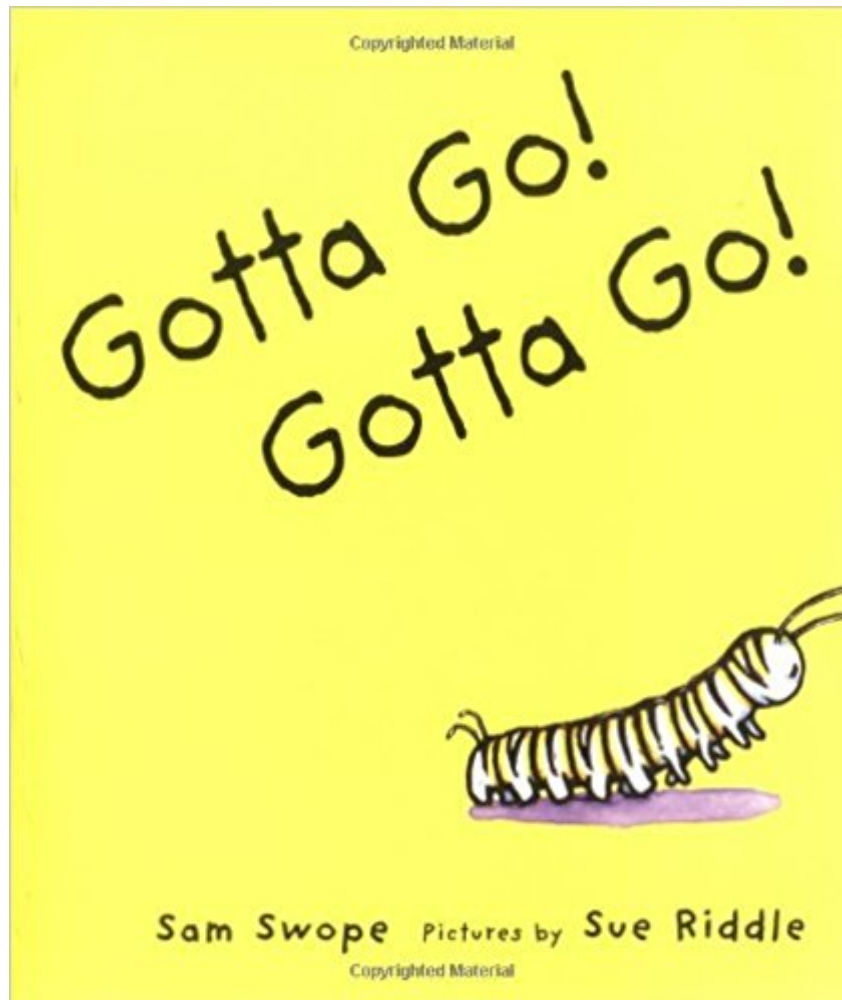




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Gotta Go! Gotta Go!: A Picture Book (Sunburst Book)



Synopsis

An incredible journey "I don't know much, but I know what I know. I gotta go! I gotta go! I gotta go to Mexico!" The creepy-crawly bug doesn't know why she does what she does. She only knows she has to do it. But making the journey seems impossible for the slow-moving critter, who has no idea what or where Mexico is. Then an everyday miracle occurs, bringing a transformation that will help her fulfill her destiny. Each autumn, millions of Monarch butterflies migrate from the central and eastern United States and Canada to colonies in the mountains of Mexico, where they mate before flying north in the spring to lay their eggs. In simple, jaunty text and pictures, Sam Swope and Sue Riddle celebrate the amazing story of one of these intrepid bugs.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD390L (What's this?)

Series: Sunburst Book

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 50 customer reviews

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Age Range: 3 - 6 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

Customer Reviews

"I don't know much, but I know what I know. I gotta go! I gotta go! I gotta go to Mexico!" chants a black-and-yellow-striped "creepy-crawly bug" as she proceeds slowly across a meadow. When an ant or grasshopper asks her destination, she restates the imperative and "creepy-crawl[s] away just as fast as she [can] go." All this hurrying wearies her, and after a "long and hard and very strange" nap in a cocoon, she awakens to discover orange-and-black wings on her back. Refreshed, she takes flight and reaches Mexico, where she meets other migrating Monarch butterflies. Swope (The

Krazees) suggests the urgency of the caterpillar's mission by treating it as a kind of hard-wired biological destiny; repeated key phrases and the butterfly's simplified life cycle underscore its sense of a natural fate. At the conclusion, the tale comes full circle with the hatching of another creepy-crawly bug. Debut children's book artist Riddle complements the lucid narration with charming ink-and-watercolor miniatures. Her closeups of the metamorphosing heroine give way to aerial views of farm and canyon as the Monarch flies southward; a deft use of white space creates a sense of loneliness for the solo bug, culminating in a graceful dance of butterfly couples in a penultimate spread. The clarity of the storytelling and artwork match the heroine's determination. Ages 3-7. (Mar.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

PreSchool-Grade 1-This is the tale of a "creepy-crawly bug" (Monarch caterpillar), who says "I don't know much, but I know what I know. I gotta go! I gotta go! I gotta go to Mexico!" On her long trek, she meets a grasshopper and an ant, takes a "nice long rest" (metamorphosis), and finally reaches the hibernation grove in Mexico. She awakens in spring to "dance" with another creepy-crawly bug before heading north again to lay her eggs-"the reason for everything." An author's note and the jacket blurb provide some factual fodder for parents and teachers. Small, full-color illustrations accompany the text. They are attractive, but unremarkable. For a supremely better introduction to the miraculous world of butterfly metamorphosis, try Deborah Heiligman's *From Caterpillar to Butterfly* (HarperCollins, 1996) or Mary Ling's *Butterfly* (DK, 1992); for Monarchs in particular use Gail Gibbons's *Monarch Butterfly* (Holiday, 1989); and for the mysteries of migration, April Pulley Sayre's poetic *Home at Last: A Song of Migration* (Holt, 1998) is a gem. Patricia Manning, formerly at Eastchester Public Library, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great book! Read it to my granddaughters 1st and 2nd grade classes during a "Save our Monarchs" presentation. They were mesmerized and listened quietly during the entire story. Very catchy wording and adorable illustrations, they fell in love with the cute main character and were singing Mexico! Mexico! Gotta go to Mexico! All day. "The reason for everything" got me a little teary. My granddaughter told me the class thought I was awesome! And want me to come back again. Will be loved by all ages.

I purchased this book as one of many about monarch caterpillars and butterflies to use with my first

grade class. What is different about this one is the memorable "I gotta go, I gotta go, I gotta go to Mexico", a refrain repeated throughout the book, and the elusion to the innate instincts of the butterfly to go to a place he's never heard of. I love the "dance" of the butterflies, before they head north to lay eggs, the author is telling just enough, without being misleading, making it entirely suitable for my classroom. My students went home quoting bits from this story- after just one reading. I'll be reading this one again and again!

My daughter loves this book! I also love the repetition and facts. When I introduced the book to my preschool class they also fell in love with it. I recommend it for any child who is interested in butterflies.

I read this book as the introduction to lifecycle lessons in elementary schools, the kids love this book! Fun, educational, easy to follow along and get involved. An easy read and quick intro to build on for any youngster with Monarchs in the mind.

This book is a great way to introduce children to the mysterious ways of nature. The "Gotta Go" refrain has become a part of our familial lexicon...it's useful in so many situations...

Very cute story about a monarch caterpillar and her journey to Mexico. My five year old really likes it. I even brought it to his story-time when I was the guest reader for his class. The kids seemed to enjoy it.

Perfect to add to life cycle curriculum. Leaves room to talk about specifics. Cute and accurate illustrations. Students loved it!

This book goes perfectly with the monarch's life cycle lesson I taught to the preschool children in my classroom. Great book!

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