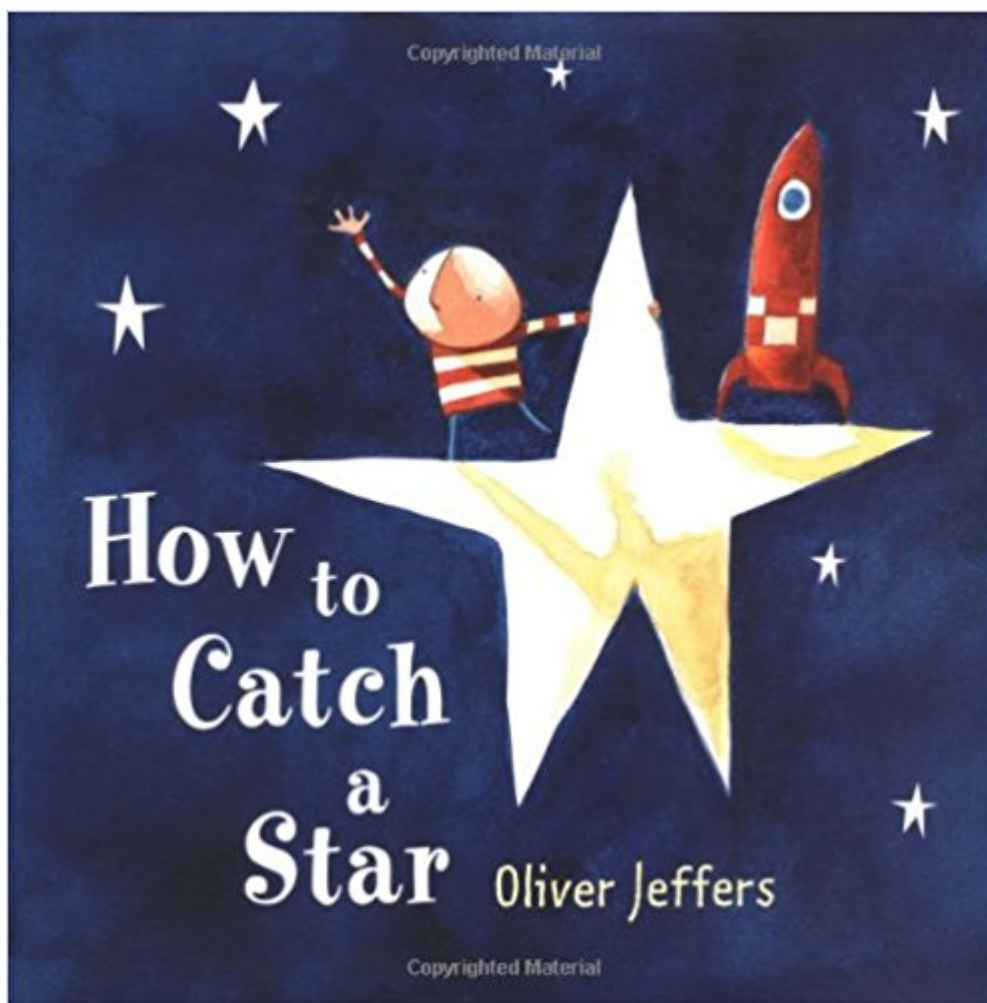


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# How To Catch A Star



## Synopsis

From the illustrator of the #1 smash hit *The Day the Crayons Quit* comes a story about wishing, persevering, and reaching for the stars. Once there was a boy, and that boy loved stars very much. So much so that he decided to catch one of his very own. But how? Waiting for them to grow tired from being up in the sky all night doesn't work. Climbing to the top of the tallest tree? No, not tall enough. The boy has a rocket ship . . . but it is made of paper and doesn't fly well at all. Finally, just when the boy is ready to give up, he learns that sometimes things aren't where, or what, we expect them to be. Oliver Jeffers offers a simple, childlike tale of reaching for the stars, and emerging with a friend.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD480L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Philomel Books (June 3, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399242864

ISBN-13: 978-0399242861

Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 0.4 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 196 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #9,143 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature](#) #137 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings](#) #165 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-K&A – In this whimsical picture book, a young stargazer decides he wants to catch a star. He ventures out at sunrise since he believes the stars will be "tired from being up in the sky all night." He waits all day, only to see one at sunset. The many schemes he concocts prove ineffective, and the sad child heads home along the beach. When he sees a sea star washed up on the sand, he is happy at last to have a star of his own. While the boy's original plan is counterintuitive, the rest of his schemes hold true for what a young child might dream up. The

stylized watercolor cartoons are droll and lighthearted, resonating well with the tone of the story. Pair this with Kevin Henkes's *Kitten's First Full Moon* (Greenwillow, 2004) to share some nighttime adventures at storytime. © Rachel G. Payne, Brooklyn Public Library, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PreS-Gr. 2. Oliver is a young boy who loves stars and wants one for himself. But no matter how high he reaches, the stars he chooses are out of reach. The seagull can't help him; perhaps a rocket ship might. Even when it appears that a star has fallen into the water, Oliver finds he's only grasping at a reflection. Jeffers uses a panoply of geometric figures (Oliver's head is ball, trees are lines topped with circles and decorated with squares) colored in jewel tones to tell the story. Although the pictures are spare, they have a haunting quality and much child appeal. Kids will like the end of the story, as well: Oliver finds a starfish on the beach that satisfies his longing. Ilene Cooper © American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Read it again." That is what my two year old says every time we read this book. This beautifully illustrated book tells a story of a boy and an unlikely friend. I've enjoyed noticing new characteristics and details in the illustrations each time I read it. My son points out new things as well. Entertaining for young and old. Highly recommend you add it to your collection.

If you haven't read Oliver Jeffers-you need to. I have a 2.5 year old and we just found his works and are thrilled with them. Great for adults and for children alike. This book centers on a young boy that find a lost penguin and befriends him but thinks he needs to go home to the South Pole. They make the long trek and clearly both are sad upon departing. The boy returns and there is a great picture of an emotional hug and they reunite. It's got a great visual of what it means to be friends and the allegory would be that your friend can be of any race, religion or species if you care for each other. The sequel *Up and Down* is a must have companion piece to this with the same two characters. HIGHLY recommended for your young child that is the avid story listener.

As an elementary school counselor, I use this book to teach K-2nd about persistence, planning and goals. The boy wants to catch a star and makes multiple plans and attempts to do so. The pictures are lovely and the story plays out at a pace that invites conversation. The Oliver Jeffers' site has activities to compliment some of his books.

The book is great, but the kindle version is all wrong: all the art is cut out, all pages are framed wrong. Terrible electronic version. A waste o money. The story and the art are beautiful, I know it because I got the printed version for my kids. But this kindle version is really bad.

I bought this for a 3 year old boy and he absolutely loves it. Oliver Jeffers books are so great and will be purchasing more in the future. I paired this with some glow in the dark stars for a gift and it was a big hit!

I could read the whole thing, and this made me feel like a very smart adult.

My 3 year old son absolutely loves this book. He relates so much to what the boy goes through. Having a rocketship that doesn't work too well. Trying to find a seagull that will help fly him up. Finding a tall tree to climb up. He has the entire story memorized and when we read it, we really do read it together. The illustrations are very well done. The shadows move under the trees as the time changes from dawn to morning to lunch to afternoon to evening. The story is simple, but you can talk to your child about what they would do the same or differently on each page in trying to catch a star. Each page can be viewed from an adult perspective or a child's perspective. Does the boy just find a starfish? Or did the boy find the shooting star from three pages back?

I bought this for my son after someone gave him "This Moose Belongs to Me" by the same author. It's not as dryly hilarious as the moose book, but the illustrations are so sweet and adorable and my 23 month old loves it. It's a simple tale about a little penguin who ends up on a boy's door step, and the boy tries to help the supposedly lost penguin find his way home. When he finally takes him back to the South Pole, he realizes that the penguin in fact only wanted a friend. We love the pictures and the story.

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