## **New Review: Monkey and Rabbit Together**

by kcteller on December 17, 2010

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When monkey and rabbit are together, what happens?

New Review: An unlikely combination, monkey and rabbit. Check out the resource to see how they play together! A delightful retelling for kids and adults.



Lockett, Michael, Monkey and Rabbit Together, illustrated by Ming-Jen Hsu : Brilliant International Group, 2010. ISBN 978-986-6483-63-9

## Reviewed by Dr. Kevin Cordi, Professor, Ohio State University

As a storyteller I enjoyed this retelling of an African tale. Dr. Lockett's voice is compelling, rich, and inviting. The simple tale of Monkey and Rabbit's bad habits are illuminated by his vibrant sound effects and ability to draw one into the story. Even if you have heard the story before, you want to hear it again. As the tale unfolds, you are there scratching with monkey and sniffling and wiggling with rabbit.

As a teacher, the story can be used to help students understand story structure. The book that accompanies the CD is equipped with large displays of monkey and rabbit with minimal text. The words are carefully chosen so that they paint the picture. Teachers can easily read this story to children and they will learn from each telling.

As a professor of reading and education methods, a bonus is that the tale is in two languages. Both on the CD and the book, a Chinese and English version is provided. It is an effective resource to use in bilingual classrooms. There is a pleasing sound that separates each page of texts. *As a storyteller*, I wonder if it is was necessary, but seeing this CD as a compliment to the book, I realize that this combination builds literacy skills. I realized the sound was to help ease the reader with the pages.

Whether you are listening to the tale or reading the book, Dr. Lockett's retelling is delightful. I recommend you take some time out to tickle and wiggle with Monkey and Rabbit Together.



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