

## My review of the new *Hickory Dickory Dock*

by

David Broughton

Title: Hickory Dickory Dock  
Author: Dr. Mike Lockett  
Illustrator: Lulu Yang  
ISBN: 978-986-6483-42-4  
Retail \$19.95  
Publisher B I G \ Heritage Schoolhouse



At first blush, the idea of a rewrite of the old Mother Goose rhyme didn't sit well with me. Why mess with a classic? However, when I received the book written by Dr. Mike Lockett, it was better than I thought possible. The rhyme is good, the story is told from a different point of view reasonably well. It's not the best I've seen, but it's certainly not the worst, not by a long shot. Acceptable and adequate were first to mind for the poem. Having to base the work on the Mother Goose rhyme, without doing the original an injustice must have been extremely difficult to do. The new Hickory Dickory Dock pays respect to the original acceptably well, and will introduce a the new generation to the world of Mother Goose rhymes.

The artwork by Lulu Yang is quite interesting, real materials were scanned and used make mosaic-like pictures. If that were the end of it, I would rate this book about three and a half stars, it's well made, as well written as possible, and the artwork is fresh and different. There are a couple of extra things that push this particular book to the five star level. It's also written in Chinese, by turning the book over and upside down, it becomes a Chinese language book. Okay, if you don't happen to read Chinese, that's not a big deal, but I did find it interesting. The topper, as far as I'm concerned, is the CD that comes with the book. The author tells the story in a most unique and interesting way. His vocal telling of the story makes it easy for children to learn to read the words on the page. A second CD was provided by the author that demonstrated a unique talent for emulating accents, voices, dialects and other attributes of speakers from all parts of the world. Truth be told, Dr. Lockett is a storyteller of the best sort. That's mainly what he does these days, he visits schools, fairs, expos and the like to tell his various stories with the various voices he can do. A professional educator for many years, Dr. Lockett demonstrates a unique ability to relate to children.

Available from Amazon, or order direct from [www.mikelockett.com](http://www.mikelockett.com) or [www.bigs.com.tw](http://www.bigs.com.tw)