



2019

The Stone Bird

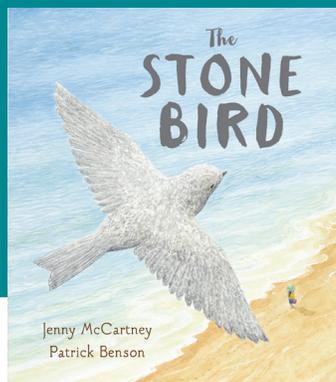
Ariel Woodbury

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Book Review

The Stone Bird

Author

Jenny McCartney

Illustrator

Patrick Benson

Reviewer

Ariel Woodbury

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Primary

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Pages

30

Year

2018

ISBN

9781541514553

Publisher

Andersen Press USA

Eliza finds a small round stone that looks just like an egg. She takes it home and enjoys the cool smooth stone against her face and the weight of it in her palm. One day, the egg feels warm, and that night she hears cracking noises. The next morning there is a beautiful stone bird where her egg had been. As time goes on, her bird lays its own egg. After it hatches, the two stone birds fly away through her open window, but they return on her birthday to leave her a single grey feather.

The Stone Bird has the feel of a classic fable, possibly because its content is similar to The Mud Pony. In fact, this book is so similar to The Mud Pony you definitely do not need both in your collection. The story and style of the book is whimsical, but it lacks the meat of a true fable. There does not appear to be any kind of message or lesson in the story. That being said, however, it is still a sweet story about this girl's attachment to her stone creatures and is a good read. The illustrations are also well done, offering unique perspectives and have a particularly beautiful texture for the stone birds that distinguishes them from the rest of the images.