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The Potty Book: For Boys

Alyssa Satin Capucilli • Illustrations by Dorothy Stott
Every little boy's graduation from diapers to the potty is always a very important moment--and one to make both parents and toddlers proud! In The Potty Book, Henry needs to have his diapers changed so he can go out and play. Then mom and dad bring home a big box, and Henry is anxious to open it up and see what's inside. Is it a rocking chair? A bed for Teddy? No, it's a potty--which means that it's time for Henry to graduate from his diapers. This gentle and humorous little story is charmingly illustrated and told in verse. Little boys will enjoy looking at the pictures and having the story read to them. Meanwhile, they'll start getting the idea that it's time for them to grow up, exactly like Henry. So that at last, they'll be able to say--"I'm off the potty!"

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages  
Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; English Language edition (May 1, 2000)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0764152327  
Product Dimensions:  6.5 x 0.4 x 6.4 inches  
Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars  
Best Sellers Rank: #2,420 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  
Age Range: 1 - 3 years  
Grade Level: Preschool and up

**Customer Reviews**

My kid likes this book a lot, and we also have the Potty Book for Girls. They are fun and popular. However my complaint is the grammar the books (and associated DVDs) use, including saying things like "Teddy and me go off to the potty..." I don't want my child learning to speak incorrectly -- why on earth should a kids' book or DVD use incorrect grammar?

My son loves this book, so I can't really give it a "bad" review. He loves the illustrations (especially the one where Henry has had an accident on the floor). But I wish that it was a little more 'instructional' for him. The book never discusses some really important elements of potty training,
like wiping afterwards or washing hands. The cover of the book shows Henry playing with the toilet paper roll, but never shows toilet paper inside the book and never once mentions what toilet paper is actually for. I guess this is a good book for very beginning children who just need to be introduced to the very basic elements of just sitting on the potty.

Our son just turned 2 but has been showing signs of being ready to potty train for some time. We haven't pushed it at all, but after ordering this book for him, he's decided to start using his potty. At first he'd only sit on it with the lid down and his clothes on. Then with the potty lid up, and last night, he actually used his potty! While reading the book: We have developed a little game of looking for Henry's (the character in the book) diaper on each page of the book, which he really enjoys. We also laugh and clap for Henry when Henry uses his potty. This books is very cute, and the rhyming text grasped our sons attention from the very beginning. Beware though, if you get to read it as often as we do... you may find yourself repeating it throughout the day! Considering my sons complete defiance against the potty before we got this book and a potty seat for him (we originally had bought a toddler size toilet seat which he hated), and his total acceptance and excitement about using the potty now, I would be inclined to say that this book will help nearly ANY little boy with potty training!

This is a cheery poem about a boy named Henry who is learning to use the toilet. He uses a separate potty seat rather than a toilet insert, and the book uses the terms pee and poop. There were a couple of things I didn't like about the book -- in one picture Henry is brushing his teeth and has toothpaste squirted all over and a bowl of oatmeal on his head! This is distracting. In another picture urine is in a big puddle on the floor when Henry's had an accident. In yet another, Henry's pants are wet after he had another accident. I guess I feel I can reassure our toddler if there are accidents; I'd like the book to stay on message and show a positive and successful experience. Also, as in most other books of this genre, there is little show-or-tell about the actual anatomy or mechanics. This book isn't terrible and our son likes it, I just don't think it has helped much.

Was so surprised and pleased at the cute pictures in this book and the diversity it covers compared to other potty books. Very pleased with the heavy weight pages, close to board book durability. It does not heavily focus on boys except you follow a boy throughout... there are no standing pictures if that is what you are looking for. Still it held my son's attention and made him laugh. Great size to hold on a potty too! Highly recommend!
I must have bought no fewer than a half dozen toilet training books and videos, but this one hands down made the biggest impression. Once my son was ready to train, he constantly compared his success to that of the book’s hero, Henry, and we when too had success, you can bet we went out and bought that very special first pair of underwear, just like You Know Who. Even now, 6 mos. after successful completion of training, I still get requests for Henry. For technique, I recommend Dr John Rosemond; for mentoring, Henry.

I gave this book three stars because it does develop in the child an "if at first you don't succeed, try try again" attitude, and the text is written as a cute poem, which is more that can be said about most potty training books. However, the weakness of this book to me is that it presents in it’s story line every parent’s fantasy about what potty training is and not the reality. In this book, the littly boy’s parents buy him a child potty, and then the child teaches himself to use it through trial-and-error, and when the child gets it right he announced to his parents, who apparently have been reading the paper all this time, that he has succeeded in mastering the potty. A cute story, but not reality. Also, like most potty books, the book doesn’t get into the essential mechanics of managing bodily functions. You still have to train the child in those things yourself. Don’t wait for you child to figure everything out and then announce to you that they’ve done it.

We got this book for my son, who is starting to potty train. He is 2-1/2. He enjoys the story, talks about the little boy, Henry, and likes comparing his potty to the Henry’s. He still doesn’t want 'big boy underpants', but he thinks that it is cute that Henry has them now. They don’t name body parts, which is fine because some books make up silly names instead. The book refers to ‘pee and poop’ which is also fine, because we do too. The book is a great quality, and durable. The pictures are cute and fun without too much going on in them. My son loves for us to read it to him!

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