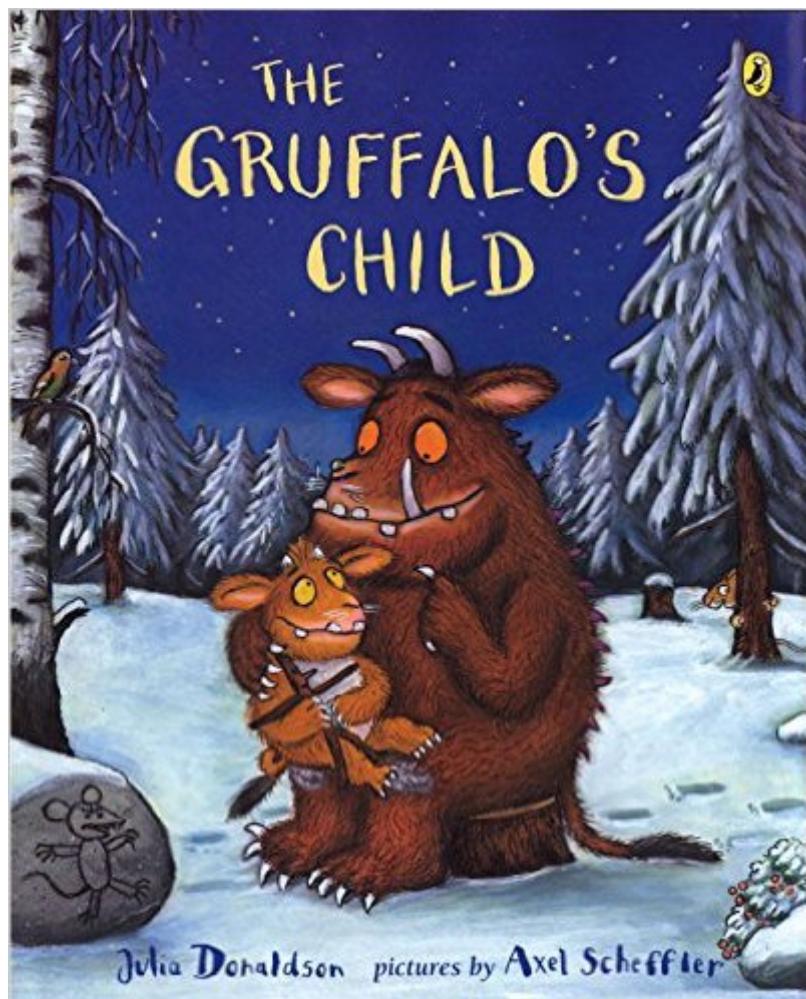


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# The Gruffalo's Child



## Synopsis

Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler team up again to create this funny and adorable sequel to The Gruffalo. One night, the Gruffalo's child wanders into the woods to search for the Big Bad Mouse. But instead, she comes upon a small mouse in the woods . . . and decides to eat him! But wait, what is that? A shadow of a very large, scary creature falls on the ground. Could it be the Big Bad Mouse after all?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD440L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (March 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142407542

ISBN-13: 978-0142407547

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 10.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (1,151 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,004 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels #28 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature #55 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

A review of the hardcover edition applies to the softcover as well: The Gruffalo is a delightfully irreverent story about a mouse and an imaginary monster, sure to please grown-ups as well as children. This is a case where you CAN judge the book by its humorous cover, and you won't be disappointed. Axel Scheffler's brightly colored and too-silly-to-be-really-scary illustrations set the tone for this light-hearted romp through multiple layers of comic irony; and Julia Donaldson's marvelous doggerel perfectly realizes the mouse's sprightly character. It's much more than great fun, though. The Gruffalo also has tremendous resonance with familiar elements of Western culture. This is a story that Carl Jung, Mircea Eliade, and Joseph Campbell all could love. It's a perfect little Hero's Journey: it's got "the deep dark wood," a confrontation with the Monster Within, and a

victorious return to the ordinary world where a nut is good. Had this been a fable of Aesop, we could expect our hero to be eaten right in the middle, and we would be left with some such lesson as "Don't be too clever for your own good." Instead, our mythical mouse makes his Eternal Return bearing a subtle wisdom that echoes the teachings of the world's greatest mystics. The very structure of the story is classic, reminiscent of the great repetitive folk tales, such as "The Three Billy Goats Gruff," "The Three Little Pigs," or "The Little Red Hen." The mouse's encounter with a dangerous predator is repeated with slight variation in the wording three times (yes, three times, as in three crows of a cock, three days in the belly of the fish, three temptations under a bo tree...).

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