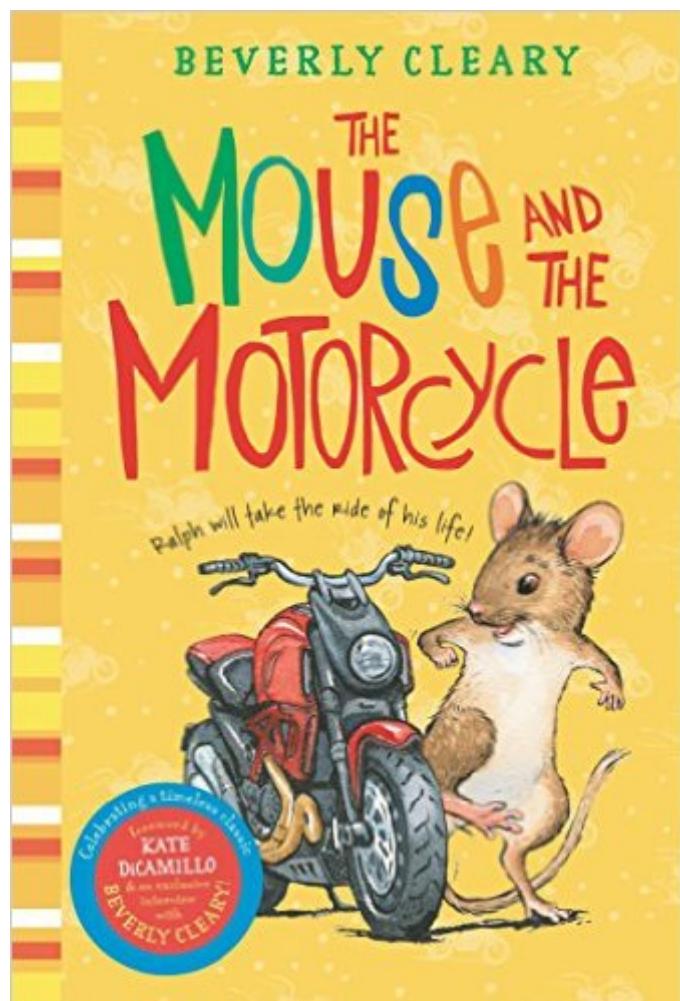


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# The Mouse And The Motorcycle



## Synopsis

In this imaginative adventure from Newbery Medalâ “winning author Beverly Cleary, a young mouse named Ralph is thrown into a world of excitement when a boy and his shiny toy motorcycle check in to the Mountain View Inn. This timeless classic now features a foreword written by New York Times bestselling author Kate DiCamillo, as well as an exclusive interview with Beverly Cleary herself. When the ever-curious Ralph spots Keith&#39;s red toy motorcycle, he vows to ride it. So when Keith leaves the bike unattended in his room one day, Ralph makes his move. But with all this freedom (and speed!) come a lot of obstacles. Whether dodging a rowdy terrier or keeping his nosy cousins away from his new wheels, Ralph has a lot going on! And with a pal like Keith always looking out for him, there&#39;s nothing this little mouse can&#39;t handle. Correlates to the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Series: Ralph Mouse (Book 1)

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reissue edition (January 26, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0380709244

ISBN-13: 978-0380709243

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (365 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,489 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels #78 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Classics #196 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

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On a recent 24 hour road trip to Florida, my five year old son (and the two adults in the car!) became captivated by a very small mouse named Ralph. He sat spellbound in his booster seat from the

moment the CD began and didn't utter a sound (except for a giggle every time he heard the P-b-b-b-b-b-b of the motorcycle) until the story came to an end. The Mouse and the Motorcycle is a story about the friendship between a boy and a mouse... and the shiny red toy motorcycle that they share. Major themes include friendship, sharing, loyalty, selflessness, keeping your word, and following your dreams even if they are unconventional or unpopular. It is a wonderful story; imaginative, funny, full of adventure, and it is cleverly written. It is a perfect car companion for young and old and I would recommend it highly.

The Mouse and the Motorcycle, by Beverly Cleary, is the hilarious story of a mouse, a boy, and a toy motorcycle. This is the most comical, action-packed story I have ever read. I think that Keith is a young, generous boy who gives Ralph his two most prized possessions, a toy motorcycle and a crash helmet. I love the way Mrs. Cleary portrays Ralph as a medium-sized mouse who is bold, funny, and adventurous. I love how Mrs. Cleary writes her books; when I read them, it seems as though they come alive! Her language is sparkling and well written. This book makes me want to read all of Beverly Cleary's books!

Story overview:-----One day, in an old fashioned and unfrequented hotel, a family shows up. The mother is not the most thrilled about the idea of staying at this place, and keeps on insisting that there are probably mice living there, but there were no other options (they had driven for many hours and everything else was full). Her and her husband stay in room 216, but their son, Keith, is allowed to have his own room next door in #215. The boy pokes his finger in a hole only to find, to his disappointment, that there's nothing in there. Little did he know that it was the entrance to the home of Ralph, a young and mischievous mouse who is always giving his mother reasons to worry; particularly on this day when he climbs up a phone cord to look for leftover crumbs. Unfortunately for Ralph, the boy's mother is overly clean and there were no leftovers, however what he saw was something he desired even more than food: a motorcycle. Ralph sits on the motorcycle and accidentally rolls off the table, falling into a waste basket, where he is discovered by the boy, Keith, and they become good friends. The two have a lot of fun together until one day-due to Ralph's carelessness-the hotel finds evidence of mice and so Ralph and his family take refuge. Thankfully for the mice, Keith brings them enough food to eat, but one day the boy becomes ill and Ralph finds himself on a mission to help find him some medicine. My thoughts:-----Extremely charming, this book had me turning the pages. The fonts are big (at least in my edition), so it's easier for children to read, and the illustrations (though sometimes not quite accurate) do a good job of

painting a visual picture to the words. As an adult, I still really enjoyed reading this again, and will probably go back and read a few more "Ralph S. Mouse" books before too long. Things to consider:-----Keep in mind that this book was written in 1965, and there are some really dated expressions and items, but being from the 60s, and for children, I think it safe to say that this can be read to just about any age. It seems to be targeted more towards boys at around five years old, but I can see girls easily enjoying it too. No cursing, no violence, no sexual situations. Just nice, clean and entertaining reading.James D. MaxonAuthor of Traphis: A Wizard's Tale

Both of my children adored this book and IÃ¢â€žâ¢m kind of fond of it myself. ItÃ¢â€žâ¢s just a cute little story about a friendship between a mouse who lives in an old, run-down hotel and a boy who stays at the hotel over a long weekend. The mouse learns to ride the boyÃ¢â€žâ¢s toy motorcycle, which thrills them both (and also thrilled my kids), but gets the mouse into a number of scrapes, including losing the motorcycle. Eventually the mouse learns to be more responsible and to care more about others, and earns back his precious motorcycle. I like the bookÃ¢â€žâ¢s message Ã¢â€žâ¢ that the more responsible you are, the more privileges you get. ThatÃ¢â€žâ¢s something IÃ¢â€žâ¢m always trying to teach my kids, and I appreciate the help this book offers in getting the message across. But even more, I love Beverly ClearyÃ¢â€žâ¢s light touch, her sense of humor, and her obvious respect for children. She teaches important lessons in a nice way. ItÃ¢â€žâ¢s no surprise that she one of most childrenÃ¢â€žâ¢s favorite writers.

After listening to the first 6 books of our favorite, Hank the Cowdog, I decided to expand my 5 yo grandson's horizons with another of our family favorites. I have read all of them to my older children but this is the first we've listened to on cd. It is great. It captivated his interest from the start. I do have one minor negative to mention...the voice for Ralph's (the mouse) mother is very annoying to me. It sounds like a stereotypical Jewish or Bronx mother...but Ralph is from California. Regardless, it doesn't bother my grandson and that's what counts. I was surprised that Ralph speaks a little meanly to his little cousins and siblings (not remembering that from the books) but I make little comments to my grandson about it as it happens. We listened to Runaway Ralph right after this one. The next one is not available on cd that I could find, but I will be reading that one to my grandson. He can do the sound effects as I read.

I loved it as a child. I must have read it a hundred times - translated into my native language. Then I lost it. The book in my native country had until then long gone out of print. But I never forgot that

little mouse (though unfortunately the author's name). From time to time he kept showing up with his shining red motorcycle. Yesterday I happened upon the title in a New Yorker article and learned that I share my passion with a nine year old boy, Dernard, living at the Shrimp Boat. One chance in a million. Tonight, thanks to him, I will order it. I am happy.

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