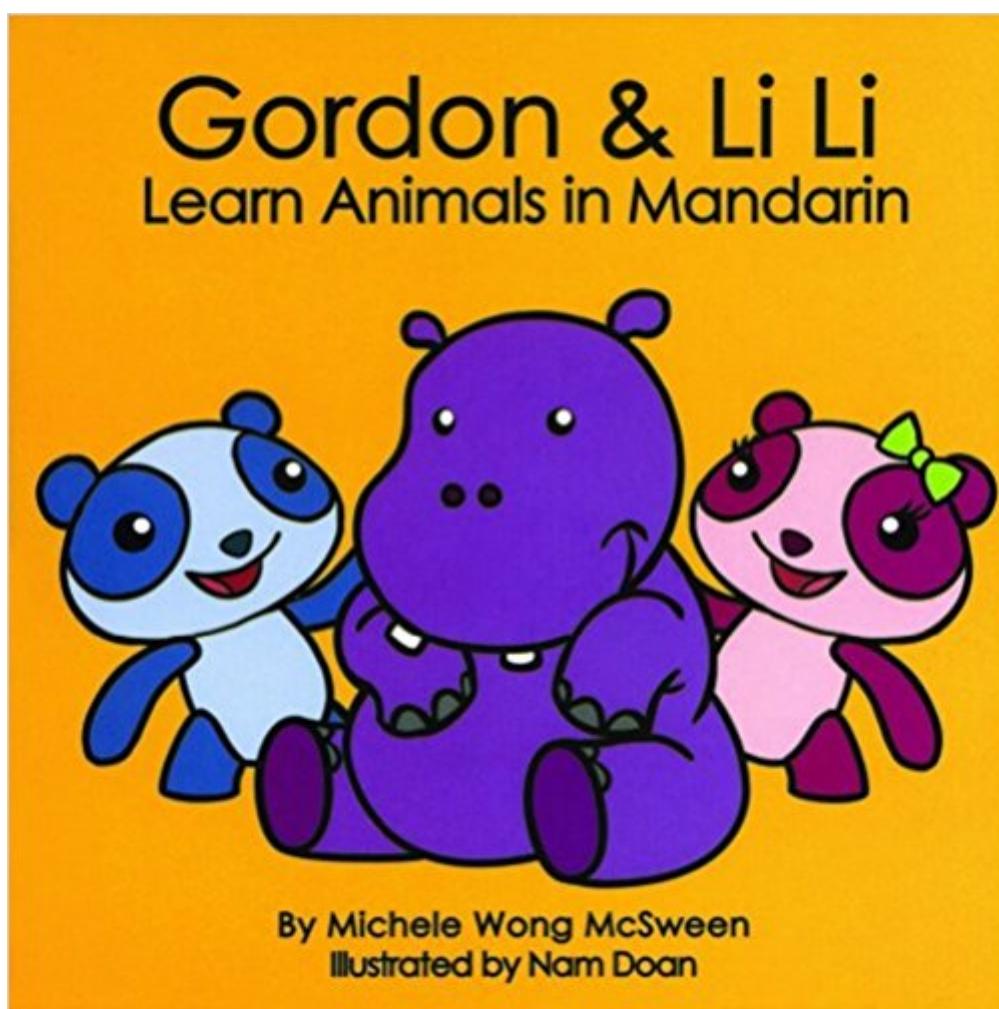


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Gordon & Li Li Learn Animals In Mandarin (Mandarin For Kids)



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Synopsis

The second board book in the Gordon & Li Li series features a zoo full of adorable animals! They teach each other the names of 28 different critters in English and Mandarin as young readers go along for the adventure and learn alongside the cousins. Each page spotlights a single animal with a bright, colorful and charming original illustration. Every animal's name is written in English and pinyin - along with the Chinese character and the phonetic pronunciation, which makes it easy for parents and children to read and recite.

Book Information

Series: Gordon & Li Li

Board book: 32 pages

Publisher: McWong Ink; Brdbk Blg edition (March 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0982088124

ISBN-13: 978-0982088128

Product Dimensions: 6 x 6 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #36,434 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #110 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning #2147 in Books > Children's Books > Animals

Age Range: 2 - 4 years

Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

Michele Wong McSween is a mom, fashion designer, author and a fourth generation Chinese American. She resides in Brooklyn, NY with her husband, three sons, and French Bulldog. McSween holds degrees from University of California at Berkeley and the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. Growing up in Sacramento, CA, she never learned Chinese and wanted to be sure her own boys were confident with Chinese language and culture. After enrolling them in early-learning Mandarin classes, McSween looked for appropriate Mandarin bedtime reading and found that little was available. She created Gordon & Li Li with an appealing, simple and modern design aesthetic that would engage kids and parents alike.

There are surprisingly few bilingual Chinese-English children's books for sale on , and even fewer that are appropriate for a family whose command of Chinese is, shall we say, uneven. The Gordon & Li Li series by Michele Wong McSween are among the very few that I would unreservedly recommend to parents who want to raise their children bilingual from the get-go. See my review of the first book in this series, Gordon & Li Li Words for Everyday (Mandarin for kids) for a general overview of why this series is great for babies and toddlers. All of the great things about the first book is true about this one, with some upgrades. In addition to having the words in English and pinyin, they're also provided on each page in simplified Chinese and in best-guess American phonetic spelling for those who need them. (I have to say, though, that the phonetic spelling is of limited value, as those who can't read pinyin, are unlikely to get the Chinese pronunciation right.) There's no overlap with Words for Everyday -- "dog" and "cat" are excluded (so be sure to get that first so you don't miss out on those all-important words!). My only criticism of this book is that some of the animals are just a tad too stylized - the alligator in sunglasses, for example, or Gordon and Li Li themselves (blue and pink pandas). On the other hand, the ducks, chicken, and frog all have a certain, endearingly Chinese-cartoon quality to them. Overall, this is a great book, and we need more like it!

Not bad. It's a cute book. It's just pictures and the associated word, and doesn't use a story or sentences. The pictures can be a bit confusing for a small baby since it shows the pandas holding a cup for the word cup, so you really have to point to the object specifically. The phonetic spelling isn't really helpful for a non-Chinese speaker. My husband tried to read her this book, but was mispronouncing all the words. I'm a native Chinese speaker, so I just say the word as I know it and don't really need the characters or pinyin. In fact, I think the words are based on vocabulary for mainland Chinese, even specifically Beijing. I learned some of the words a little differently, so just use the words I would say. I guess I could take any book in any language and just say the words in Chinese, which is what I do with First 100 Words.

These books are great for children learning Chinese. I only know basic Chinese and am able to read the pinyin. I can't read characters, but the pinyin helps a lot if you can read tones and pinyin. My kids, ages 2 and 4, loves this book. They are starting to pick up the words in these books and apply it to everyday life. This makes me really happy that they are able to learn some chinese.

I really love this book. I'm Chinese-American and don't speak Chinese fluently but wanted our son to be exposed to the language. The pictures are great, it has the animal names in English, Pin Yin, then Chinese characters (traditional), and then how to pronounce it if you don't know (or forgot) how to read Pin Yin. I plan to purchase more in the series!

My 2.5 year old son loves animals and he loves this book. He like to learn new words for the animals he loves so much and he looks at this book almost daily. It has a large picture drawing of the animal, the chinese character, the english name, pinyin and a "sounded out" of the pinyin.

A very sturdy board book, with great colors and illustrations. This book provides an opportunity for learning Mandarin animals, but also lots of new English vocabulary, too. Our two year old reaches for this book all the time now; she adores Gordon and LiLi. We bought all three books, thankfully. The book helps you with pronunciation of the Mandarin words; a must.

I bought this book for the 3 boys (3 y.o. and under) that I nanny for. It is a good book that teaches a variety of animals. I love that it has English, Chinese characters, pinyin, as well as a sort of simplified version of pinyin. This way even parents reading to their kids will be able to pronounce the words if they don't know the pronunciation system yet. I am enjoying it and so are the boys.

I love that this book has the English, Chinese Characters, Pinyin, and the Pinyin pronunciation for each of the animals. My oldest boy (3 yrs) loves this and the other two books with Gordon & LiLi. The brightly colored animals and large print make it easy for my son to memorize the Chinese words. Can't wait for other books to come out...

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