



# It's My Birthday

*Helen Oxenbury*

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## **It's My Birthday** Helen Oxenbury

What could be better than sharing a birthday cake with the friends who helped to bake it? In this whimsical, cumulative birthday tale, a host of generous friends helps a small child assemble the ingredients for a delicious cake. Full of fun and good cheer, Helen Oxenbury's joyful picture book makes any day a celebration.

## **It's My Birthday Details**

Date : Published June 8th 2010 by Candlewick Press (first published May 19th 1994)

ISBN : 9780763649708

Author : Helen Oxenbury

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Food and Drink, Food



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# **From Reader Review It's My Birthday for online ebook**

## **Katherine says**

Esha (2 years old) read this aloud to herself over and over and over. It is a pretty perfect book for her age: just the right amount of detail, illustrations that encourage further consideration, verbal simplicity and repetition, and after all the build-up, a fun and satisfying "surprise" at the end. And as a parent, I never found it tedious to reread. The best part was that my daughter reread to herself over and over.

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## **Savannah Spaulding says**

This story was about a little boy who is having a birthday and wants to share the happiness of making his cake with his friends. The Hen helps bring the eggs for the cake. The pig brings a pinch of salt for the cake from the otters. While the dog goes to get the sugar. The cat brings offers to bring the milk for the cake and the bear offers to bring the flour. Once the cake is made the monkey gets cherries to put on top of the cake. Each friend helps while the boy stirs and bakes the cake. Because each of his friends contribute a part of the cake for the boy's birthday and because they all shared the responsibility they all get to share in eating the cake in the end of the book for the boy's special day.

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## **Kelsi Watts says**

In pre-k or kindergarten I would make it a point to teach my students when each of their birthdays are. This book would be a fun book to read after learning their birthdays. Then, after reading the book, I would have each student bring an ingredient and the following day we could make our very own classroom birthday cake! It would be a very fun interactive idea to do. I give it a 5 out of 5 cakes!

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## **Melissa says**

Totally charmed! What a lovely counterpoint to Little Red Hen, too. I love the fanciful ways the animals acquire the ingredients: the hens picking up eggs with their wings and delicately adding them to a basket, the pig asking for a pinch of salt from--who else--picnicking otters, the dog pragmatically picking some sugar up at the store, and then (why not?) a monkey and a bear in the middle of all the farm animals. Other great details: the bear bouncing a soccer ball on his head; the cat interrupted in the middle of grooming with his hind leg straight in the air; the child's big tummy poking forward in their coveralls; the bear giving a piggy back ride to the hen as they went along on the quest; the bear and cat walking arm in arm. I would have been so happy reading this over and over to my girls when they were small...very disappointed we missed this one!

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## **Hilary says**

A nice enough story about a child making a birthday cake with animal helpers. Gentle and suitable for the very young but I find this sort of book too repetitive to read more than once.

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### **Baby Bookworm says**

*This review was originally written for The Baby Bookworm. Visit us for new picture books reviews daily!*

**Summer Reading Day 23:** We're continuing our birthday theme, leading up to JJ's very first birthday tomorrow, by choosing *It's My Birthday* by Helen Oxenbury as our book today! It's a short but sweet story about a little one making a cake and getting all their animals friends to help provide the ingredients. Adorable illustrations and a sweet story.

Be sure to check out The Baby Bookworm for more reviews!

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### **Sujeewa Ranasinghe says**

*It's My Birthday* book has very simple and repetitive text, therefore, when we read the book two three times children can retell the story by themselves. Illustrations also very cute and easy to understand the story. Using this book we can teach rhyming words and word families such as cake and make words create "ake" word family.

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### **Natasha says**

Nice story, though for a young toddler, the story isn't interesting yet but probably by her 2nd-3rd birthdays, she will enjoy it much more. Sweet illustrations. Not as much of a favorite as some of Helen Oxenbury's shorter books like *Tickle, Tickle* or *Say Goodnight*.

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### **Donna Smith says**

This book could be used to teach many lessons. It could be used for math in measurements with ingredients used for baking the cake. It a great tool for teaching rhymes as well as for teaching teamwork. Lots of colorful illustration.

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### **Jenny says**

I have given this book a low rating because I didn't feel it brought too much into a classroom for me. Sure their are many things that one as the teacher could do But I didn't feel like I would choose it if I had the chance. The book is about a little boy who is very focused on his birthday and making his birthday cake with

many animals and they all come together to help him make it but to me the message this gives out is just that every birthday needs to have cake and you need to have it. What if a child's parents doesn't have enough money for a birthday cake? This book would just make the parents feel worse for not being able to buy him one. Also another this is that the child is making the cake all by himself. I mean sure he has the animals help but in real life animals won't really be helping. Children will think they can make their own cake by themselves without any parent supervision which could turn out bad. Though the book didn't really grab too much of my attention I did like the part at the end when the boy decided to share cake with everyone who had helped and the book is also a good way to show to make a list of things such as ingredients.

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### **Britteny Gilge says**

It's my birthday is a story about a boy who is trying to make a birthday cake for his birthday. He gets eggs from the chicken, flour from the bear, milk from the cat, salt from the pig, sugar from the dog, and finally cherries from the monkey. He finally has all the ingredients he needs to start making the cake. His animals insist on helping him finally the cake is done and he starts to walk away. The animals are sad because they think that he is going to ask them to leave now. However, he instead asked them to help eat the cake! This story shows that a task can be accomplished with the help of your friends. I think it would be fun to read this story to a child and then use the recipe written in the back of the book to make a cake together!

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### **Darchelle Young says**

I greatly enjoy baking and I believe children can use this book to cook with parents. I felt that the book tried to hit too many concepts as they introduced animals, measurements, ingredients, and baking. This would need scaffolding and may be best utilized by actually cooking while reading. The content introducing animals can be a separate lesson so that the children get the most out of the story.

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### **Jalen says**

Although this book would not be on my top 10 favorite children's book, it is a great story to read if you as an educator are incorporating cake baking into a science lesson. I did however enjoy all the animals that gathered around to help the little boy bake his own birthday cake, but I would have added a parent or guardian in the story for safety precautions, other than it was a good book but not sure I would recommend it otherwise then a cake baking lesson or just have it on the shelf for children to read themselves.

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### **Jacqueline Lewis says**

I think this book is great for showing children how to work together to achieve one goal. It shows how things can go smoothly when everyone participates. I love that his friends were willing to help and so get to enjoy the cake with him.

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## **Green Bean says**

A little boy has big plans for his birthday cake. Sadly his pantry is empty! Luckily he has a menagerie of generous friends! Bear donates some flour, chicken lays eggs, cat chips in some milk and butter, and monkey proffers cherries for the top! Will the little boy gobble up the big birthday cake all by himself? Oxenbury's pastel illustrations are "awww" inspiring as usual!

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