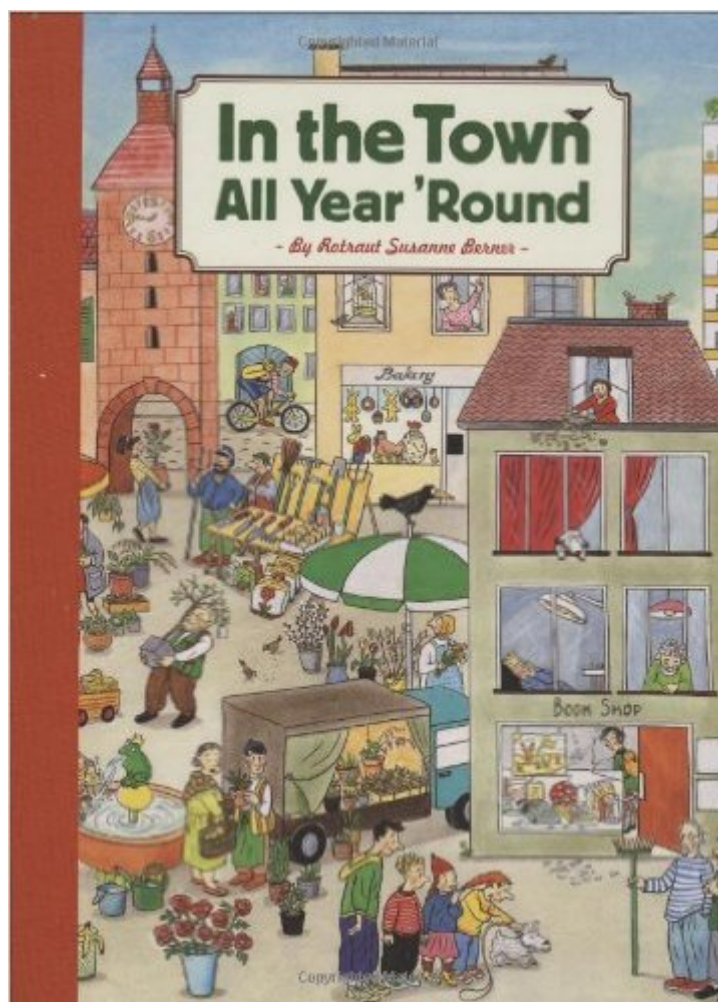


The book was found

# In The Town All Year 'Round



## Synopsis

Big, colorful illustrations and minimal text set the stage for a delightful cast of characters as they go about their day-to-day adventures in one little town throughout the year. Playing, chasing pets, running errands, going to work: following what happens and looking for the many small surprises in the pictures will absorb and amuse children and parents alike.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 72 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books (October 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 081186474X

ISBN-13: 978-0811864749

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.5 x 13.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (110 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,859 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Seasons #44 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

I found this at the library and immediately went out and bought a copy for my 2-year old. That was 14 months ago, and we've read it numerous times since then. It occupies the rare position of being not only her favorite book to read at bedtime, but mine as well (a welcome reprieve from Dora and Fancy Nancy!) All four seasons are lovingly depicted -- and lushly detailed, but never too busy like in a "Where's Waldo?" book. Many reviewers have pointed out that something new is observed each time -- that's an understatement. We read the Winter section (1/4 of the book) this morning and spent 45 minutes on it, looking in windows for characters we've not yet met, combing over the landscape to find animals we've not yet noticed. That should give an indication of how rich this book is. It is set in Germany (with no text whatsoever, except for signs in the scenes, rendered in English), and there is a character or two smoking (amid 50-100 other adults in a scene not smoking) and a postage-stamp sized cartoonish Renoir nude hanging in a museum (complete with little girl giggling at it). Your parenting skills can adequately handle this, I'm guessing! Somehow I survived all those

Little Golden Books where every father figure had a pipe stuck in his mouth, LOL. Bottom line: best children's book, ever.

My family has fallen in love with Ms. Berner's books. For Christmas, Santa Claus will be bringing as many books from Ms. Berner's collection as possible. Every night we read the German version of this book. It is actually four separate books. She has now come out with single story books detailing the life behind the characters. Every night my children pick a person each to follow in the pictures. The series of seasons allows you to see a person change and develop: a couple falls in love and then she is later pregnant, a pregnant woman has a baby, a small child grows bigger and enters preschool, and a man keeps searching for a lost friend, his goose. There are parades, birthday parties, Christmas markets, piano lessons, etc. The biggest question, which we have only lately realized, is where is Ms. Berner herself in the book. She is the woman whose back is to you on the beginning page for that season, the picture with the big tree. We have found her in all but one season. I cannot recommend these books enough. Children at a very young age can entertain themselves by following a person and creating their own story! This collection is a must have for every new parent or grandparent. You will get lost in the books!

This is a lovely book and seems to be a classic though it's recently written. Every page is teeming with things to look at and there are many pages. No words at all, but the pictures inspire the imagination. I also purchased her "Winter Book" and love it. That one has stories, poems, and songs about winter and winter holidays and traditions around the world. I use it as a resource for teaching, but it is lovely just to look at. I can't praise Rotraut Susanne Berner enough.

We have a 4+ year old and it is her favorite book. The book is broken up into 4 seasons. At the beginning of each season there are a list of persons and animals that are present in all of the seasons. There is no other words or dialogue in the pages that follow. All of the characters have their own purpose, story line including accidents, love and celebration. As I read through the story, over and over, other stories and relations are discovered. Our little girl knows all of the characters and loves to tell me about them. It's amazing how the story builds and builds and you too will love the time you spend with the story and your child. Cj Ann Arbor, MI

We are a "book" family... we watch very little TV, and instead spend hours reading books, either independently or to each other. And we have quite a large collection. But if we had to narrow down

our collection to our favorite one hundred or so I am sure this book would make the cut. We have quite literally spent hours looking through it together, there being so much going on on every page, and so many (charming!) stories to follow as you page through it's wonderfully illustrated pages. I especially recommend it to families with young children on the verge of reading... but adults and older children will love the discoveries they make in it too. Our family wishes that Ms. Berner would write another similar book! Regarding the complaint by another reviewer that there are characters seen smoking and drinking in this book... truthfully, I had to go back and look, as this just not something I ever noticed despite how long I have spent looking at it. The pictures in this book portray the busy goings on in a town (on streets, near construction sites, at shopping centers, in parks, etc.). If you were to walk your child through a busy town you would likewise occasionally see people smoking and/or drinking. (Heck, even in a child-friendly place like Disney World you could see this!) Are you going to keep your children out of busy towns too?

My husband noticed this book recently at a local toy store, and visiting grandparents happily bought it for our 18 month old son. This book rapidly became a favorite for all of us. Our son loves "reading," but becomes much more absorbed in this book than those with a narrative. His vocabulary is exploding at this point, and this book is perfect for supporting that development; he enjoys picking out and naming his favorite things on each page (a guitar, keys and a wallet, swings, baby chicks, dump trucks, etc.), but the ongoing stories of so many characters as they go about their lives give us ways of telling stories and introducing him to new words and ideas. Meanwhile, the illustrations are interesting enough that adults are entertained and engrossed as well. I am shocked by the couple of reviews that would deem anything in this book as inappropriate for children. There isn't a thing here I would be worried about our child seeing at any age, and while there are a few instances in which people are depicted smoking or drinking casually, and one art exhibit that features a (very small) painting of a naked woman, I am not only not troubled by these things but am pleased that the book does not erase them from the vibrant life depicted in this town. I plan on giving this book to children I know for every occasion for which a gift is warranted.

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