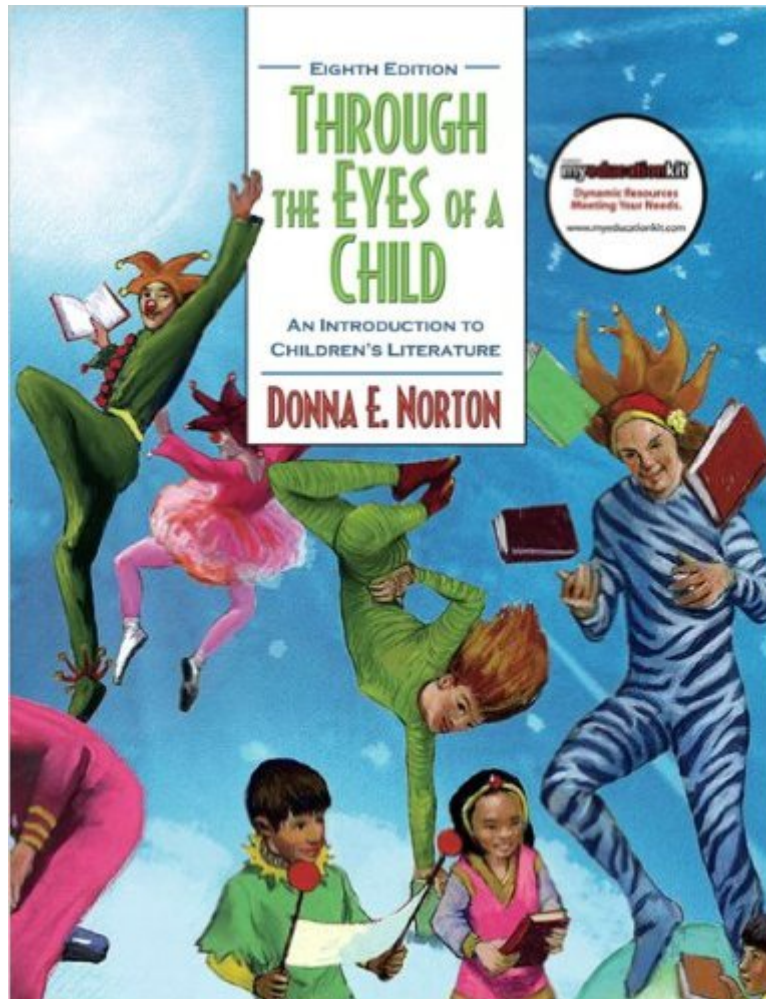


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# Through The Eyes Of A Child: An Introduction To Children's Literature (8th Edition)



## Synopsis

No text better prepares you for evaluating, choosing, and sharing quality children's literature than *Through the Eyes of a Child: An Introduction to Children's Literature*. This streamlined eighth edition continues to provide a visually stunning, theoretically sound, comprehensive overview of children's literature. Sharpened focus on contemporary issues in the field, deepened coverage of biography and informational books, and newly integrated technology give this new edition added relevance in the changing field. In addition to the text's contemporary and valuable information on literature for younger readers, some of the brightest stars of children's literature lend their talents to the new edition, providing insight into the craft and addressing the changing needs of middle grades readers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you plan to teach a children's literature course, then this book possesses nearly all of the information, history, and important milestones that you need...if you can get by the stilted language. It reads well for someone like me who studies/collects children's literature as a personal hobby; however, for the average reader? Get ready for a painful struggle. I would suggest using it in conjunction with two other books: Jacob & Tunnell's more classroom-focused *CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, BRIEFLY* and Rebecca Luken's more historical/applicable balanced *CRITICAL HANDBOOK OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE*.

It is hard to imagine a book that could take the wonder of children's literature and more thoroughly destroy it. The cover illustration makes you feel momentarily safe. Then the text begins and hope is slowly and mercilessly trodden into the dust. Take this for example: "Another approach to the study of art is recommended by Stephen F. Eisenman and Thomas Crow, who use art criticism that focuses on the relationship between art and ideology, the economic and social conditions expressed in the art (a Marxist approach to criticism)." Now pause briefly and consider this is a book about \*children's\* literature. Let us continue to some questions that should be used in this analysis: "What role does class play in the work of both the artist and the viewer? In what way might the artwork serve as propaganda? What is the dominant ideology that the artist challenged?" I'm now preparing to write a withering review of the oppression inherent in the "Cat and the Hat". All of this wouldn't be so bad if books were actually presented. Instead we get lots of small type with a reference to a random children's title in every other paragraph and the impression that children's literature is either dominated by the enlightened academic class or club-wielding classist Neanderthals. You know, the kind that make you read books like "Through the Eyes of a Child". DO NOT USE THIS IN YOUR CLASS. You will be torturing your students in a manner not allowed by the constitution. Hopefully, that at least, will carry some weight.

Bought this instead of the 8th edition as recommended for my children's Lit class this semester, and for the most part it hasn't made a difference. I think where the differences in these books come up most are the book lists in each section of recommended readings, as books are constantly coming out each year, and this is nowhere on our tests at all. There has only been one question on my test so far that I couldn't find in the book and I am halfway through, everything else seems to remain the same, but the pages vary. By this I mean that the teacher will say something is on page 182 and for me it may be on page 184, etc., but it is still there and the same. So by buying this book I saved over \$150 on alone and much more compared to if I had bought it through my college. There really wasn't a review like this when I bought the book comparing it to different editions, and I was looking for one, so I thought it would help if I created one. The book itself is very helpful from an English Major's standpoint. There is a lot of useful information here with different studies through the years (another reason the books don't seem to change too much), how reading helps children and their life as well different stressors and teaching them, and different books and lessons and recommended reading throughout. What I disliked about the book was the very small font, in comparison with most other text books, it seemed like reading one page was reading four. Overall, though, studying English and to become a teacher, and as a parent, this is a good book for anyone

becoming a teacher, or a parent looking to learn more about what to read to their children and the benefits of reading to their children. Highly recommended!

I usually like to read my textbooks cover to cover, but for the first time I find a text book unbearable to read. My physics textbooks are more entertaining than this book. The author simply writes thousands of three sentence summaries of children's books and places them in an obtuse sections. When the author is not doing these three sentence summaries she is filling up the book with citing any little idea some random person had. For the love of god just use a footnote and paraphrase so it is at least half readable.

This text covers the basics that one needs to know about children's literature. Would be good for teaching a course for school librarians or literature teachers of elementary or middle school. Just okay for teaching librarians geared towards public service, even children's librarians. Language is dry, definitely needs to be supplemented with professor knowledge. This text is good as a supplement to a talented and knowledgeable educator, but cannot stand alone ... textbooks are not supposed to. There are probably some better texts out there, but there are also many, many worse ones than this.

The book Through the Eyes of a Child had good definitions regarding literature terms and genres. I found the author's descriptions of numerous books fitting a particular genre helpful on one hand--but they also got lengthy and tedious to read. I suggest reading the first few pages of every chapter for pertinent information and scanning the rest.

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