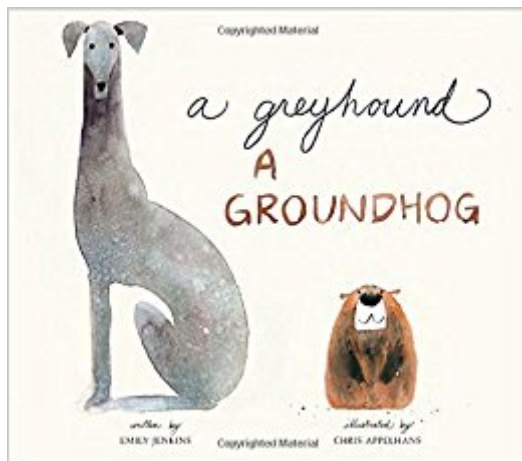


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# A Greyhound, A Groundhog



## Synopsis

"But what Emily Jenkins and Chris Appelhans's lyrical collaboration is really about is the intoxicating thrill of friendship, and boundless joy of play..." *The New York Times* A "merry read-aloud." *The Wall Street Journal* From a heavyweight author and illustrator duo comes a delicious tongue twister of a picture book that features a little round greyhound and a little round groundhog. With very spare, incredibly lively language, this is an entertaining read-aloud, with two amazing—and oh-so-adorable—characters at its heart. When a greyhound meets a groundhog, wordplay and crazy antics ensue. The two animals, much like kids, work themselves into a frenzy as they whirl around and around one another. (Around, round hound. Around, groundhog!) The pace picks up (Around and around and astound and astound!), until they ultimately wear themselves out. Jenkins's masterful text is deceptively simple. *NPR on Toys Meet Snow* by Emily Jenkins Appelhans, whose career up to now has been in animated films such as *Coraline*, is a revelation. *Booklist*, Starred, on Sparky!, illustrated by Chris Appelhans Appelhans makes an auspicious picture book debut with strikingly beautiful watercolor and pencil illustrations. His style, reminiscent of Jon Klassen's, incorporates a muted color palette, but with a slightly softer, rounder quality, while also weaving in visual deadpan humor. *The Horn Book*

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade (January 3, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0553498053

ISBN-13: 978-0553498059

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #72,091 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape](#) #89 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Words](#) #465 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

From A Greyhound, a Groundhog

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PreS-Gr 2 • In a picture book that demands to be read aloud, a greyhound and a groundhog spin in visual and verbal circles. A limited gray and brown watercolor palette and an equally limited selection of consonant and vowel sounds characterize this phonologically clever, fundamentally joyful, and subtly unified picture book. Words, text, and creatures begin in simple lines (the words "A hound. A round hound" are printed in a straight line above a sleeping greyhound on the first page), but all three increasingly start to rotate (the sentence, "The ground and a hog and some grey and a dog" later curves around the page, accompanied by a whirling, tongue-lolling canine). Just as readers grow accustomed to the muted colors and tongue twisters ("Around, round hound/Around, groundhog!"), both begin to change: "around and around" becomes "and astound" as the greyhound fully facing readers for the first time notices one butterfly, and then more, come into the visual field, bringing with them the latent pinks, blues, and purples that an observant viewer will have seen hiding in the grays all along. The butterflies soon fly off the edge of the page, but the amazement lingers as the eponymous animals, finally worn out, settle in for a nap accompanied by newly restraightened, resimplified text. VERDICT A lovely, lyrical paean to the natural order, with an element of wonder and grace. Perfect for one-on-one and group sharing. • Jill Ratzan, Congregation Kol Emet, Yardley, PA

"But what Emily Jenkins and Chris Appelhans's lyrical collaboration is really about is the intoxicating thrill of friendship, and boundless joy of play..." *The New York Times* "A merry read-aloud." *The Wall Street Journal* "This delightful story is a feast for the eyes and ears, and it will hold up well to repeated demands from eager young listeners." *Kirkus*, starred review "Dedicated to picture book icon Ruth Krauss, this elegant pas de deux between two unlikely creatures recalls the sense of uninhibited play that Krauss brought to her own work." *Publishers Weekly*, starred review "A lovely, lyrical paean to the natural order, with an element of wonder and grace. Perfect for one-on-one and group sharing." *School Library Journal*, starred review "Appelhans's watercolor illustrations are both adorable and artful, and the fluid style beautifully complements Jenkins's story of unlikely friendship, joyful rambunctiousness and wordplay." *Shelf Awareness*, starred review "This unusual duo will make a heartwarming addition to any read-aloud collection." *Booklist*, starred review

I love this whimsical little book of friendship and wordplay. The premise is simple and the text is sparse but fun. But the real joy for me are the gorgeous watercolor illustrations which are masterfully done, especially the expressions and the movement of the greyhound and the groundhog. I own a greyhound myself and recognize how the illustrator has perfectly conveyed postures, poses, and action of the breed.

I am a librarian. The illustrations are incredible, full of energy and movement. The text is a tongue twister. Kids may not pick this up to read on their own and it is difficult to hold attention of students unless an activity is connected with it (I created a listening activity). Obviously, a great emphasis on the /ou/ /ow/ sound. Definitely purchase if you are teaching that particular concept.

VERY sparse and thoroughly ridiculous wording. My three-year-old grandson told me that the book was boring -- 1/3 of the way through. It is the least favorite of all the books for children that I've bought online. The illustrations are a bit weird, as well. Look into the book before purchasing, which is what I should have done.

I sent it to my niece!

very fun, kids love it!!

Very cute children's book with rhyming words. Since I have a greyhound, I really love this book! Like the simple, but clear illustrations, too.

Beautiful art and a great book for any age

It was the perfect book for a dear friend who lost her greyhound to heart issues. I work at our local library and it was the first time I ever saw a book on a greyhound. She love book.

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Grumpy Groundhog  
Guide to Adopting an Ex-Racing Greyhound: History, Training, Grooming, Health, Feeding, Temperament  
Groundhog Day

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