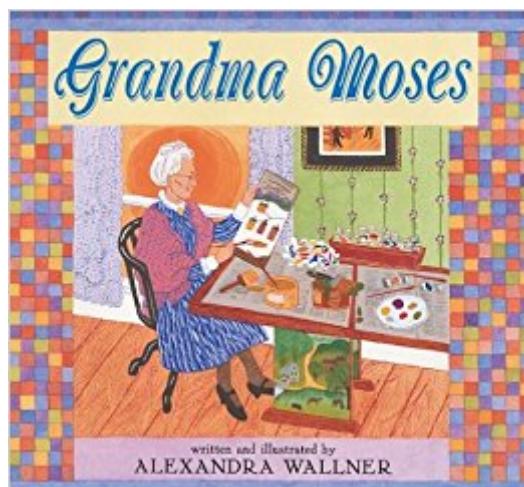


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# Grandma Moses



## **Synopsis**

This inviting picture book covers the childhood, courtship, and mature years of Anna Mary Robertson, the self-taught artist whose cheerful, upstate-New York landscapes and scenes of family gatherings first garnered serious attention as she turned 80. Robertson's experience with and exposure to creative endeavors throughout the years are woven naturally into the narrative: she built "air-castles" (played make-believe), designed homemade paper dolls, watched her father paint "landscapes" on their living room walls, and, as an adult, painted an outdoor scene on her parlor wall

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 and up

Grade Level: Preschool and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Kindergarten-Grade 4-This inviting picture book covers the childhood, courtship, and mature years of Anna Mary Robertson, the self-taught artist whose cheerful, upstate-New York landscapes and scenes of family gatherings first garnered serious attention as she turned 80. Robertson's experience with and exposure to creative endeavors throughout the years are woven naturally into the narrative: she built "air-castles" (played make-believe), designed homemade paper dolls, watched her father paint "landscapes" on their living room walls, and, as an adult, painted an outdoor scene on her parlor wall. An author's note puts the artist's life in perspective, historically, and a bibliography highlights the source of the text's quotes. Wallner's folksy illustrations depicting both the chores and the glory of farm life serve her subject well. This work complements W. Nikola-Lisa's *The Year with Grandma Moses* (Holt, 2000), a title that presents Robertson through

her own voice and art, but is more circumscribed in its coverage. Grandma Moses is sure to be appreciated during units focused on the accomplishments of women, artists, or octogenarians. Wendy Lukehart, Washington DC Public LibraryCopyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PreS-Gr. 3. Wallner, who previously presented the lives of figures such as Beatrix Potter and Laura Ingalls Wilder, now offers a short, illustrated biography of artist Grandma Moses. Beginning with Moses' childhood in rural New York, this picture book traces her lifelong interest in art. Though farm work and child rearing occupied her time for many years, the mental images she stored would serve as her subject matter when she became active as a painter in her seventies. Well-chosen quotations from Moses' autobiography give her a distinctive voice within the clearly written text. Decorative, narrative, and naive, Wallner's pleasing artwork recalls Moses' American primitive style. Although readers will have to look elsewhere for reproductions of the artist's paintings, this attractive book serves as a charming biographical introduction. An author's note and bibliography are appended. Carolyn PhelanCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Illustrations done in a folk art style as she herself might have painted them. A good book for introducing this artist and her type of art.

Excellent.

I got this book because it was recommended in our school's art docent program. I ended up donating it to the school because I didn't want any other docents in the future to think that they should have to buy it. It's fine as a story, but I expected the illustrations to be by Grandma Moses...since she's an artist and the book was about her. I did end up getting a few big picture books of Grandma Moses' work at the local library. She has done some phenomenal works outside of painting. My favorites include: The Year With Grandma Moses by W. Nikola-Lisa. It had a simple text on each page as well as a more informative one, so it was great to be able to chose the simple side of the page for my son's first grade class. Grandma Moses: An American Original by William C. Ketchum, Jr. was awesome for large pictures and other art Grandma Moses produced. And the best part was that you can get these at the local library.

Grandma Moses portrays the life of artist Anna Mary Roberston. Under her father's influence, during

childhood, Anna Mary became interested in the arts and her passion for painting intensified as she grew. The story moves the reader through the various stages of Anna Mary's life, discussing her dreams and desires and culminates with her success as an artist. Even though this book is geared towards beginning readers it is appropriate for readers of all levels, as it inspires individuals to follow their dreams, no matter what obstacles they may have to overcome.

We really liked this book. It is a biography of Grandma Moses' life. She was always interested in painting but really did not get to do too much until late in her life. We read this book for reading but would also make a good history book for the late 1800 - early 1900. It could also be used for art. She did not use expensive materials in her art and she painted the life she knew. Could be followed by an art project. Recommended for ages 6-10 years.

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