

Children's Literature Reviews

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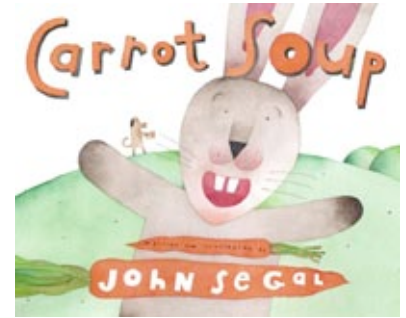
Carrot soup

written and illustrated by John Segal.

[Publisher description](#)

New York : Margaret K. McElderry Books, c2006.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 21 x 26 cm.



Annotations:

After working hard on his garden all spring and summer, Rabbit looks forward to harvest time when he can make soup, but every carrot disappears and Rabbit must find out who has taken them. Includes a recipe for carrot soup.

Best Books:

[Children's Catalog, Nineteenth Edition, 2006](#) ; H.W. Wilson; United States

[Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars, January 23, 2006](#) ; Cahners; United States

Horn Book Guide:

Fall 2006 Preschool Rating 3, Recommended, satisfactory in style, content, and/or illustration.

Reading Measurement Programs:

Accelerated Reader

Interest Level Lower Grade

Book Level 1.8

Accelerated Reader Points **0.5**

Reviews:

Connie Fletcher (Booklist, Feb. 15, 2006 (Vol. 102, No. 12))

Here's a springtime book that's great for kids who love planning and doing projects. Rabbit, a very organized animal, loves carrot soup. He spends the long winter paging through carrot catalogs (a full-page spread shows the different colors, shapes, and sizes of eight kinds of carrots). Then he plows and plants, waters and weeds, and waits. Finally it's time to harvest, but when he goes to pick the carrots, they are all gone. He frantically questions all the animals he knows, but not one admits to liking carrots. "Discouraged and disappointed, Rabbit went home," where he discovered a wonderful surprise. The clues are in Segal's stylized pencil and watercolor pictures, and observant children won't have any trouble determining where the carrots went. The delicate springtime greens and browns used in the background contrast nicely with Rabbit's comically expressive face. A recipe for carrot soup provides an appetizing finish. Category: Books for the Young--Fiction. 2006, Simon & Schuster/Margaret K. McElderry, \$12.95. *PreS-Gr. 2*.

Pat Trattles (Children's Literature)

It is spring, Rabbit's favorite season. It is time to plant his carrot garden. Rabbit plants, waters, weeds, and tends his garden. He waits and waits and waits. Finally it is time to pick his carrots and make his favorite carrot soup. But there is a problem. With his wheelbarrow and all his tools, rabbit goes to the garden to find--no carrots. Rabbit asks his friends Mole, Dog, Cat, Duck, and Pig in turn if they have seen his carrots, but all claim to know nothing. Sadly Rabbit returns home to discover all of his friends surprising him with piping hot bowls of carrot

soup. Rabbit's heartwarming story is told in simple, sparse text and accompanied by whimsical illustrations. Youngsters will delight in watching Rabbit's friends lugging carrots and balloons behind his back as they get ready for the surprise party. A recipe for carrot soup follows the story. It all makes for a delightful book that is sure to please young listeners. 2006, Margaret K. McElderry Books, \$12.95. Ages 3 to 6.

Gwynne Spencer (Children's Literature)

Rabbit is looking forward to growing all sorts of carrots in his garden so he can make his favorite food, carrot soup. He plows, he plants, he waits. But when he goes to harvest, there are no carrots! He asks his friends--mole, dog, cat, duck--and nobody helps him solve the mystery. When he goes home, all his friends are there and they have made all of his carrots into carrot soup as a surprise. The recipe is included for Rabbit's Favorite Carrot Soup. This would team nicely with Kraus' *The Carrot Seed* or *Eating Alphabet Soup* by Lois Ehlert. Other recipes using carrots might be found on <http://www.cookingupreading.com> web site. 2006, Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon and Schuster, \$12.95. Ages 3 to 6.

Kirkus (Kirkus Reviews, January 1, 2006 (Vol. 74, No. 1))

Rabbit plants his carrot seeds, tends his garden and waits and waits. When harvest time arrives, he finds his garden empty! He angrily asks mole who directs him to dog who directs him to cat who directs him to duck who directs him to pig. Rabbit can't even find pig, and his carrots are still missing. He goes home dejected only to find SURPRISE! His house is full of friends and bowls of carrot soup. Segal's first solo venture is a winner from soup to nuts. His watercolors of a distressed Rabbit and his innocent-acting friends are a perfect extension of the spare text. The ever-growing line of carrot-toting friends ineptly hiding behind trees on the right hand pages (behind Rabbit's back) will have toddlers giggling and pointing. Perfect for themes of gardening, friendship, parties and food. Rabbit's recipe for carrot soup is included. Delish! 2006, McElderry, 32p, \$12.95. Category: Picture book. Ages 2 to 5. © 2006 Kirkus Reviews/VNU eMedia, Inc. All rights reserved.

Horn Book (The Horn Book Guide, Fall 2006)

After carefully tending his carrot patch, Rabbit discovers it's been ransacked. While he's making inquiries, readers will spy (over Rabbit's shoulder) his animal friends preparing a surprise party for him. Segal takes a simple premise and a familiar kids'-book milieu and creates something original. His delicate illustrations, which include a page identifying various types of carrots, don't hurt. Category: Preschool. 2006, McElderry, 32pp, 12.95. Ages 2 to 5. Rating: 3: Recommended, satisfactory in style, content, and/or illustration.

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