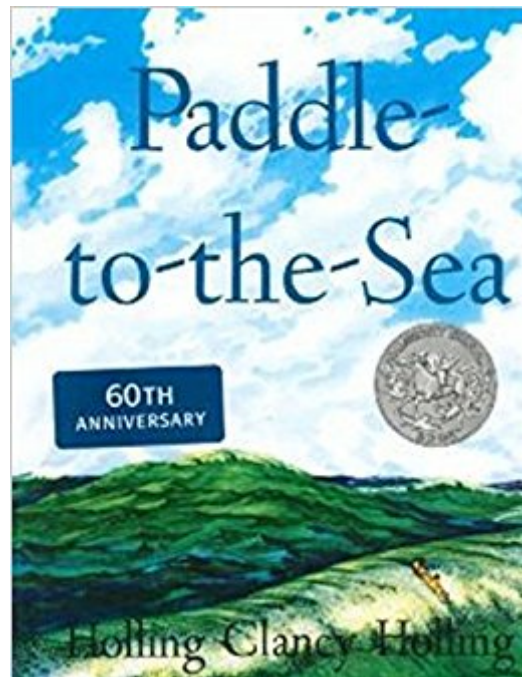




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# Paddle-to-the-Sea (Sandpiper Books)



## Synopsis

A young Indian boy carves a little canoe with a figure inside and names him Paddle-to-the-Sea. Paddle's journey, in text and pictures, through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean provides an excellent geographic and historical picture of the region.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840L (What's this?)

Series: Sandpiper Books

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Sandpiper Books edition (February 19, 1980)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395292034

ISBN-13: 978-0395292037

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 276 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #6,609 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in [Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Boats & Ships](#) #37 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States](#) #161 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#)

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-5-Holling's Caldecott Honor book, originally published in 1941, will surely find a new audience with this dramatic reading. Narrator Terry Bregy delivers an exceptional performance. His cadence ranges from smooth and easy to energetic, and listeners are lead along on the story's journey. A young Indian boy from Nipigon country in the Canadian wilderness carves an Indian figure in a 12-inch canoe that he names Paddle-to-the-Sea. Wishing that he could undertake a journey to the Atlantic Ocean, the boy sends the toy carving instead. Paddle-to-the-Sea begins on a snow bank near a river that eventually leads him to the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River, and finally the Atlantic Ocean. Along the way, Paddle's journey is fraught with danger including wild animals, saw mills, fishing nets, and a shipwreck. Paddle receives help staying on course from people who read the message carved on his canoe ("Put me back in the water. I am Paddle-to-the-Sea"). Four years later, Paddle has reached his destination, and listeners have

experienced an incredible story complete with geography, nature, drama, and adventure. Original music accompanies the reading and adds to the mood. A notable listening experience for families, public and school libraries alike will value this addition to their audio collections. ~~~~~  
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"Geography of the best kind made vivid by the power of imagination." Horn Book  
"Geography of the best kind made vivid by the power of imagination." Horn Book Guide

I have had this book since the first edition came out. Loved the story and enjoyed the experience recently when we passed through the town on Lake Superior where the story starts. I gave my old worn copy to my son who has 4 boys about the age when my grandmother gave it to me. I bought the new one to give to my other sons oldest boy. His three children (almost 4 now) will get to read it and learn about the Great Lakes and people. It is a great story for kids with lots about the lakes and living in that era as sub surface extras. I am 82 now and the story is still good.

This book illustrates the most natural way to teach geography to children. It is an older book and there is a reason it is still around. It's "flowing" story begins from one boy's curiosity about where the water in streams go. After hearing the explanation of how rivers from his area flow into the Great Lakes and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean, he crafts a small sea worthy, wooden canoe, places a miniature Native American passenger in it, and launches the canoe from a melting ice flow. The journey begins in one of the most northern streams in America. "Paddle to the Sea", the name of his canoe travels along the water's edge, where the tides and storms direct. While passing settlements and landscapes, both beautiful and serene, as well as wild and treacherous, the little canoe encounters many adventures. Children will sit on the edge of their seats as the vivid words capture their imaginations and they enjoy the lively exciting illustrations. "Paddle to the Sea" is an 'accessible' taste of the past, and a little flavor of what our country is like. The concepts in this book are 'accessible' to children as children learn best through pictures, whether it is through the words in the story that paint pictures, or the vivid illustrations. This book has both. "Paddle to the Sea" is a well told adventure that will capture the attention of any 8 year old child or older. Parents will enjoy sharing this book with their child as well.

I grew up in Northern Michigan and remember reading this book as a child. It is fun to now read to

my children and talk to them about all the landmarks that Paddle sees along his journey. One of my favorites and especially recommended to anyone who grew up around the Great Lakes.

BEST children's book ever !!!! A vintage classic , unusual story and great adventure. I enjoyed reading to my kids years ago and I loved it !!! Sent it to my grandchildren !!!

An amazing story that takes a child all through the great lakes! My 8 year old son LOVES this book!

I remember encountering Paddle to the Sea as a second grader in Oregon. It's one of those books that was shared during library day, and I still haven't forgotten it. It was significant to me as a child, and it's still significant today. It's the wonder and amazement of how a wooden carved canoe with its lone Indian paddler referred to as "Paddle" could journey from his origins, Nipigon Country, to the Sea towards the Grand Bank and France, could confront eye-popping experiences. Paddle sees the serene sounds of the cool Canadian waters, and the bewilderment of man's progress with a sawmill and its smoke-pipe buildings, which author, Holling Clancy Holling, ferociously describes as a monster eating away nature's domain -- tearing down trees and running an assembly line of log jams. Despite that scene, Paddle to the Sea contains imagery and imagination, which makes the book memorable. The artwork is great, and Holling's very descriptive language and familiarity of geography makes this book a learning experience. I found chapter 24 to be quite interesting because of its short snippet of history -- the discovery of the Great Lakes region, Champlain "the Father of New France" and the Iroquois. Every chapter in the book, all twenty seven, covers each different region that Paddle flows through, and bears significance to how the free-flowing waters, be it Lake Superior or the crashing waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, cannot stop a wooden canoe and its Indian paddler from riding through. Every child should read Paddle to the Sea, or have it read to them. And as for older children or adults that still want to revisit their curiosity of imagination, they will definitely find it unforgettable. You never forget about the books that touch you in some way.

What a very neat book! You follow "paddle-to-the-sea" around the great lakes. Very cool and my 7 year old couldn't wait until we could read more.

Beautiful book with beautiful illustrations. The quality of the binding does not match the classic nature of the book. It more than likely won't carry it through for another generation to really be able to treasure it.

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