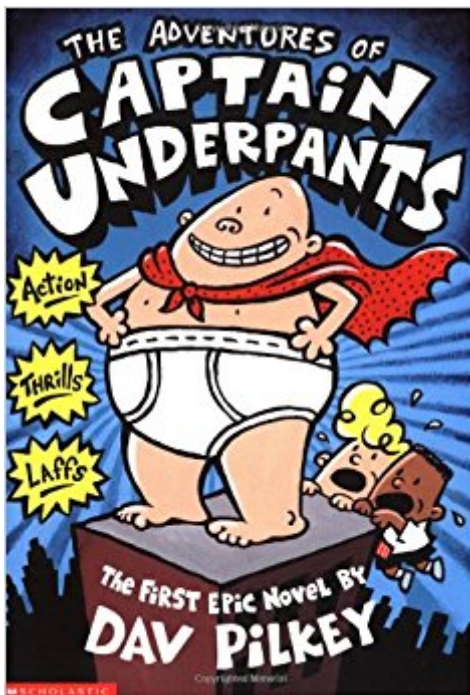


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# The Adventures Of Captain Underpants



## Synopsis

The first book in Dav Pilkey's mega-bestselling Captain Underpants series. Now with super-cool foil covers! Shiny! Fun! George and Harold have created the greatest superhero in the history of their elementary school--and now they're going to bring him to life! Meet Captain Underpants! His true identity is so secret, even HE doesn't know who he is! Acclaimed author and Caldecott Honor illustrator Dav Pilkey provides young readers with the adventure of a lifetime in this outrageously funny, action-packed, easy-to-read chapter book. With hilarious pictures on every page, THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS is great for both beginning and chapter-book readers. And like Dav's other best-selling books of humor, it is sure to provide even the most reluctant readers with hours of fun.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 720L (What's this?)

Paperback: 121 pages

Publisher: Scholastic (September 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 043908282X

ISBN-13: 978-0439082822

ASIN: 0590846280

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 5.2 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 849 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #625 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Chapter Books](#) #21 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship](#) #41 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-5-Pilkey packs an amazing amount of humor into what could have been a one-gag novel. Besides turning their principal into a silly superhero, George and Harold play tricks on just about everyone. They pepper pom-poms, put bubble bath in tubas, and fill a football with helium. Pilkey's illustrations are half the fun, and that magical moment when the hypnotized Principal Krupp dons his

Captain Underpants uniform and sings "Tra-La-Laaaaaaa" is priceless. Krupp is a worthy successor to Lamar J. Spurge, the nemesis of "the Cut-Ups" in James Marshall's great picture books. The "kneel here" sign in front of his desk says it all. Kid Appeal Award: Superheroes are always fascinating to kids. And children of a certain age will laugh at anything that has to do with underpants. Combining the two was a stroke of comic genius. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 2<sup>^</sup>-4. The title and the cover art, which depicts a toothy, egg-shaped fellow in a red cape and jockey shorts, are designed to keep this chapter book in constant circulation. The story is a superhero spoof: two misbehaving fourth-grade boys, Harold and George, hypnotize their school principal and turn him into their comic book creation, Captain Underpants. The boys have their hands full when the captain escapes and starts chasing bad guys in his underwear. The extra leading and slightly enlarged typeface make for easier reading, but the silliness goes overboard (picture villainous Dr. Diaper staring at a pile of rubber doggy doo), and the many action-packed illustrations rob the plot of some of its zip by commanding more than their share of attention. (The flip book pages seem clever, but they're really just a tease). Still, the humor is on target for some kids in this age group, who will undoubtedly look forward to a planned second adventure--Captain Underpants 2: Attack of the Talking Toilets. Stephanie Zvirin --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

It was not long ago that I treated an irrepressible 8 year old boy at the children's hospital where I worked. This kid was something else. He was smart, articulate and bubbly. We got to talking about books, and I told him about Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' (one of my long-standing favourites by that author). "Have you read Captain Underpants?" he asked me. Then he proceeded to regale me with the story of Mr Krupp and Harold and George. I was intrigued. At the follow-up appointment, my patient brought me one of his own copies of Captain Underpants, so I could see what he was going on about. I promised him the next time he came for an appointment, I would have read the whole series. His mom told me later, "You're the only doctor here who's willing to read Captain Underpants. You're doing pretty well." And here I am. I read Captain Underpants and I thoroughly loved it. It is one of the most banned books in libraries in the US, which probably goes to show you that it is extremely effective at engaging its target audience. I laughed in delight, reading the adventures of Harold and George, and remembered all the childhood hours I spent with my brother thinking up practical jokes that landed us in trouble again and again. I remembered the stink bombs,

the fart spray, the whoopee cushions, and simply remembered what it was like to be a kid. I have read a few of the reviews that express concern that the series encourages defiance of authority, but I have several points to make in response. Firstly, the authority figures in the book should be challenged. Quite frankly, if kids had to attend a school where the principal punished naughty behaviour by making them clean his house and mow his lawn, I would mount a protest. That is a highly inappropriate punishment. Secondly, I seriously doubt that reading Captain Underpants is going to turn a kid into a criminal or miscreant of the justice system. If you really looked at the kinds of things that turn kids into criminals, reading books is not one of them. Thirdly, Captain Underpants was wonderfully imaginative. It turns mundane things into objects of great potential (nefarious or otherwise). I love that it encourages kids to dream and imagine, and not be confined by the dictates of our time. If not for challenging ideas, we wouldn't know that the earth revolved around the sun, or that gravity makes apples fall to the ground, or that spores from a fungus (penicillin) could be critical in treating infection. Let's let kids enjoy being kids. Heaven knows, growing up isn't much fun. And for the love of all that is cotton-y and pre-shrunk, if they love the Captain, let them read it.

My kid loves the Captain Underpants series. Only two problems though: 1) Why does anyone want to read about a cartoon character running around in their underpants? 2) My son reads them so fast we have to order in bulk. Seriously, my son used to hate reading but read multiple books in the series at a record pace. I wish I had called Guinness Book of World records but who knew? I didn't even think he would finish one without being forced to read. +1 for the wife. Good decision.

My son was resistant to reading but loved this book. We trade off reading pages and his comprehension and confidence have soared. Like the author, my son is disruptive in class, loves to draw and has a good sense of humor -- Captain Underpants resonates and sustains his attention.

Such a cute and funny little book. Until I found this book we made up stories about Captain Underpants and his adventures. Didn't know there was actually a book until conversation with a friend. Thus began the quest to find this. Love sharing the stories with my great-grandson. We laugh a lot.

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I don't know how my daughter heard of Captain Underpants, she's absolutely intent having me take

her to see the film next month in theatre. She's 6. Beginning level reading. This book looks like a big kids, no pictures, novel. However, it's got pictures, and is very friendly for a younger kid. Well probably get the collection, it's cute and funny, and she loves it.

My son loves this book and has now read all 12. This is a great series for young kids who might not be that interested in reading on their own but who can read, like my kid.

My nephew struggled with reading until I challenged him with Captain Underpants. Now his reading scores have improved dramatically and he enjoys reading! Double win!

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