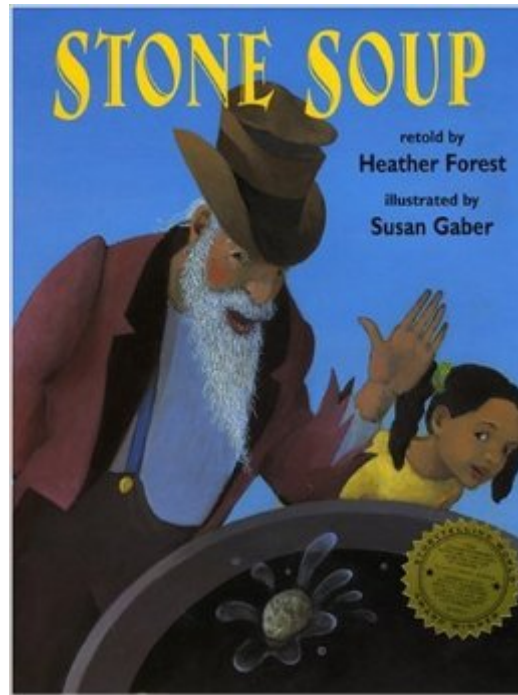


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# Stone Soup



## Synopsis

Two hungry travelers arrive at a village expecting to find a household that will share a bit of food, as has been the custom along their journey. To their surprise, villager after villager refuses to share, each one closing the door with a bang. As they sit to rest beside a well, one of the travelers observes that if the townspeople have no food to share, they must be in greater need than we are.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 310L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: August House (December 16, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0874834988

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Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.3 x 11.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #386,770 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European](#) #116 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #630 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

Stone Soup is a popular folktale in many countries that has been told for centuries. The Author Heater Forest tells a contemporary version of the popular folktale. Her Stone Soup is an imaginatively creative story with colorfully descriptive pictures that bring the plot about sharing to life. The author's writing is so clear and vivid that reader's can see the characters even before looking at the pictures. The illustrations are realistically drawn and help kids follow along with the story. The author uses the illustrations to teach kids a lesson about sharing. In Stone Soup, two hungry travelers stumble into a village. The travelers go door to door asking for food. Because the villagers say there is no food, the travelers decide to help them by making their magical soup. In the process of making the soup, the village learns that if everyone shares good things can come out of it. The language and concept is simple for kids. When the traveler talks to the villagers, he uses

simple words. "Please ," said one of the travelers, "we are hungry. Do you care? Will you share? Do you have any food?" These simple sentences express many ideas about sharing. "Do you care?" says that if a person doesn't share it's because they don't care. "Do you have any food?" says that if a person has food they should share it. Stone Soup isn't just good reading that is imaginative and creative; it also tells a moral, which teaches kids a lesson but doesn't preach to them. The moral, that if everyone shares then the outcome is huge, comes across clearly in this imaginative story. The travelers said the magic ingredient to their stone soup is sharing; every contribution counts from the smallest to the largest when people share. This is a idea kids can use in their lives. The author tells a well-written story that, even without pictures, could put the characters vividly in one's mind. The author makes a vivid picture of the travelers hopelessness in the reader's mind: "...travelers came along. Their coats were tattered. Their hats were torn. Their dusty shoes had holes in their soles." Using these descriptive words helps everyone enjoy this story. Susan Gaber illustrated this book. She made the pictures so detailed that a person can see the hair on a man's beard and the buttons on a kid's top, but not so much detail that it takes away from the story. The pictures are realistically drawn and colored. There are no purple trees or orange-haired people. This adds to the realistic plot of the story. Gaber does a great job drawing difficult items, for example: a kernel of corn and a green bean. The colors that are used are bright. When characters talk there is a picture of the main topic in the bubble of what the person is saying. An example of this is when a man says he has a potato and the picture shows a bubble with a potato in it. This helps kids follow the story. From start to finish, Stone Soup is a page-turner, with colorfully detailed pictures to its descriptive wording, which bring alive the imaginative story. Stone Soup is well-written for its age group, using word and concepts kids will understand, while at the same time teaching them a moral and new ideas about sharing. This is definitely one book to check out. -Michele Jicha

For the classic tale of two peddlers making soup out of a stone, there are many versions of this story. The illustrations and story in Heather Forest's version are superb! There is a recipe for stone soup at the end of the book. I read this story to my kids' kindergarten classes as a way to teach the idea that when you work together you can make something great for the community! The kids bring canned vegetables to "put in the pot" which is a box to bring to a local food pantry.

Two travellers come to a village and work their magic. Includes recipe. You must play the music, written and performed by the author herself !!!! The kids will naturally sing along. Before you realize it, you'll be a singing storyteller too.

I LOVE this version of Stone Soup! The illustrations are gorgeous, and depict a multi-cultural view. The story is easy to read, and easily understood by even younger kiddos. I am so excited to share this with my class at our Thanksgiving Sharing Feast!

for young and old alike. My 3yr old granddaughter loves to hear the story, look at the pictures, over and over. She wants us to make "stone soup"!

Our Special Ed K through 2nd class loved this book. We used it as part of a plants unit. We read the book, made our own "soup" with poster board and pictures of vegetables backed with Velcro and put them in the "pot." The kiddos loved it!

We love this book!!!! I am a Master Gardener Volunteer and run a children's gardening program. We use Stone Soup to end our season by telling the story and then making Stone Soup. The kids love the story of sharing and that everyone has something to put in the pot.

Has a message we could even try with our families and kids to share, love, bless and be even more blessed in return....A message for any culture to care for others

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