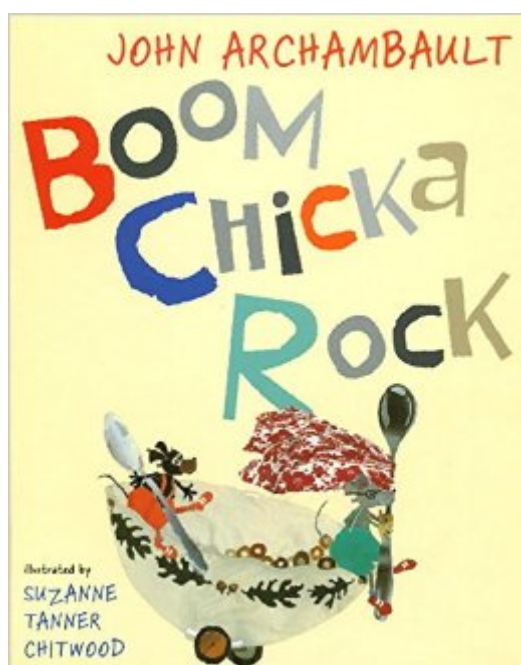


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# Boom Chicka Rock



## Synopsis

From the co-author of the bestselling Chicka Chicka Boom Boom comes this adorable counting adventure for children of all ages! Suzanne Tanner Chitwood's colorful collage artwork features mischievous mice dancing through the story. Readers can count down the Congo Line and tally up the Tangoing, Tip-Toeing mice on every page, and learn about time, too! A rollicking, rhythmic romp through the numbers. Read it out loud-it rocks.

## Book Information

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Philomel Books; 1st edition (2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399235876

ISBN-13: 978-0399235870

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #132,301 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Time #3788 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic #4862 in Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

## Customer Reviews

This new children's book was an instant hit with my three-year-old nephew. A big black cat lies fast asleep as the numbers on the clock turn into little mice, out to find the birthday cake. One by one the numbers climb down and scurry around the sleeping cat. My nephew would look for the cat on every page, sometimes in plain view, sometimes only a hint of tail showing. Midnight strikes, the cat awakes, the mice scurry back to their places. The illustrations are artful and humorous, and I always like rhymes for young children. Good for teaching numbers too.

So we made it through Chicka Chicka Boom Boom and Chicka Chicka 1,2,3 so we decided to finish the set off with this book. The focus here is more about the numbers on a clock face, so it is targeted (I think) towards slightly older children, the illustrations are not as bright or clear as in the previous books, and that makes it feel more suited for older children. That being said my 2 year old loves this book and we use it as a part of his number recognition work, and it seems to help for him. There is

the expected rhyming, which gives good pace for a children's book, but the illustrations could be clearer. I am happy we have this but equally a little disappointed that it does not seem as good as the others in this series

The one book above all others that my grandbaby loves---absolutely loves---is "CHIKA CHIKA BOOM BOOM", an ABC rhyming book. I have replaced three of these CHIKA CHIKA ABC books, due to the enormous amount of usage by her parents and by her. Because of the favorite status of "CHIKA CHIKA BOOM BOOM", I knew "BOOM CHIKA ROCK" would be a huge hit---and it was. My sister-in-law recommended the "Chika Chika" series to me, as she is an award winning elementary school teacher. I purchased the series and have never looked back.

I bought this book to complete the set. My grandson loves Boom Boom and 1-2-3 and this one is just okay. He still likes it because it is part of the Chicka Series but he always picks the other two to read before he reaches for this book.

Every time my kids ask me to read this book I cringe. Other reviewers have already summed up the issues: the clunky rhymes, the rhythms that don't scan properly, and so on. Aside from that, the "plot" (insofar as that word is applicable to a kids' book) makes no sense. You have these twelve mice trying to sneak past the cat in order to get to the food...but on one page the cat is sleeping, then you see his eyes peeking over the top of the table at the mice, then on the next page he's sleeping again. Several pages later, after the mice have jumped rope with his tail and smeared cake in his fur, they suddenly realize that he's awake and they flee. The whole thing just doesn't make any sense and drives me crazy. Also, as another reviewer pointed out, the "jive" slang used by the mice in this book is basically gibberish to kids (mine are ages 3 and 6). They don't understand any of the metaphors and they aren't familiar with the various types of dances mentioned in the text, so pretty much all of it goes right over their heads. Having said all that, though, my kids still like the book and choose it frequently. So I give it two stars because they like it, even though I can't stand it.

Great rhythm. Wonderful story for my young preschoolers. My older preschoolers use Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. But I like this better for my younger ones. Works with a unit on numbers or nursery rhymes ( images can be related to Hickory Dickory Dock).

Story line is hard to follow. I read it once to my class and gave the book away (to a child who might

enjoy looking at the pictures). Sidenote: Elementary students know few if any of the dances mentioned.

With the beginning title phrase, Boom Chicka Rock, Archambault repeats the line throughout the story giving the text a wonderful rhythm. The mice who tell the story come alive with the poetic verse and the unusual vocabulary which is a fresh look at some words. The mice are after food of course and the proverbial cat is asleep so the "mice must play". The mice sneak out to find the chocolate cake and each mouse has a number from the clock for their name. Appropriately, there are twelve mice who eventually form the hands on the clock. As the mice sneak around and explore the room, they speak in rhyme; and you can almost hear them singing the verse. Their rhythm is great and one could almost hear the mice running around getting into mischief and avoiding the sleeping cat. Adding to the sound devices, Chitwood has effectively used torn paper collage for the artwork. With vivid primary colors and mice portrayed like a track team, the text and art nicely complement each other. The torn paper collage shapes give the mice vibrant characteristics highlighted by the bright primary colors and the numbers on each mouse. The numbers reinforce learning numbers and learning where the numbers are situated on a clock. Overall, this lively story demonstrates a unique way of using the concept of numbers and blends the text with bright appealing pictures. It rocks!

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