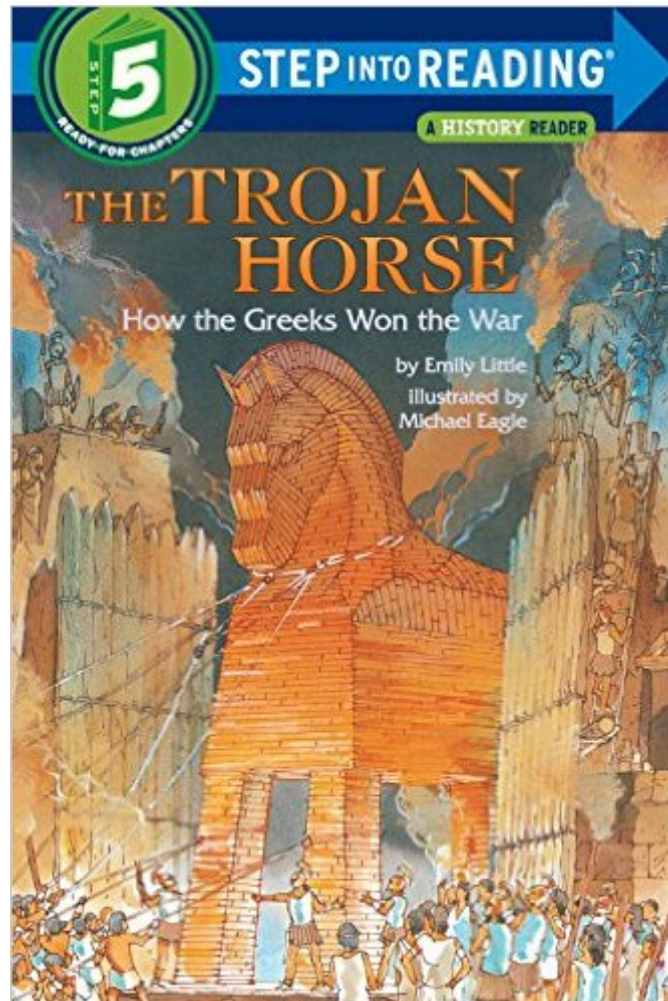


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# The Trojan Horse: How The Greeks Won The War (Step Into Reading)



## Synopsis

Illus. in full color. "An ancient history lesson emerges from this account of the way the Greeks tricked the Trojans and rescued Helen of Troy. The book is well tailored to younger readers with careful explanations and short sentences; a pronunciation guide is appended. Drawings portray the story's main events. A nice supplement to units on ancient Greece or mythology."--Booklist.Â Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450L (What's this?)

Series: Step into Reading

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (November 8, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394896742

ISBN-13: 978-0394896748

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (49 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,527 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars #8 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe #17 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars

Age Range: 7 - 9 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

I read several 'Trojan War' books while trying to decide which to use for my 7-year-olds. I liked this one the best. It had nice illustrations and the story flowed fairly well. The author cut out A LOT, but I felt it appropriate for this age group. No blood and guts here!This is not the definitive story of the Iliad. But it works as a gentle introduction for 1st through 3rd graders. Even my 3-year-old listened in. I found them re-enacting the story for days afterward and it was a constant topic at dinner.The next time around (5th grade) I'll use Rosemary Sutcliff's Black Ships Before Troy and The Wanderings of Odysseus. I think they're fantastic retellings of the story, just a bit much for my little ones right now.

This step into reading book is geared for 2-4 grades. The chapters are short and fully illustrated. The sentences are kept short but the story still remains interesting. There is a pronunciation guide at the back of the book for those unusual names like Menelaus. Great reading for a unit study on Ancient Greece.

This book was good enough, or at least better than nothing, but considering the excitement of the topic it could have been written in a MUCH more engaging manner. The sentences are short and choppy and the whole narrative is just a bit blah. It didn't even mention that Helen was "the face that launched a thousand ships." How can you tell the story of the Trojan war without mentioning that? Overall, though, it was a good way to tell the story to my first grader. I'll still keep my eyes open for a more exciting version.

My parents bought me this book when I was very young and I've happily bought copies first for my nephew and now for my daughter. It's a simple, spare account of the Trojan War focusing on the causes of the war and the end of the war itself. The Trojan Horse introduces a handful of the Iliad's cast--Odysseus, Menelaus, Helen, Priam--but omits stories like that of Achilles and Hector. It also includes a lot of archaeological information, making this a hybrid of archaeology and Homer. The final chapter briefly describes the rediscovery of Troy by the 19th century archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann, a chapter that excited me as a child about the reality of history and the fact that much of it still out there somewhere, waiting for us beneath the dust. Perhaps my favorite part of the book is the illustrations. These excited me even before I could handle reading the story on my own. They're detailed, dynamic, and powerfully evocative of the world created by the story. With names like Agamemnon floating through the story, The Trojan Horse may be best suited as a transitional text for kids learning to read with a parent's help. With such good illustrations, it also works as a picture book you can read to a preliterate child. I recommend it heartily for anyone with a child showing an early love for history and myth. Highly recommended.

This is a very competent introduction to The Iliad and The Aeneid for children (the story really conflates elements of the two epics, e.g., there is no Trojan Horse in the Iliad). The book presents a plausible political back drop for the conflict (that does not appear in either epic but makes sense), as well as Helen's betrothal to Paris, as the catalysts for the conflict. There are battle scenes. The construction of the horse, Sinon's deception, and the ultimate fall of Troy are well dramatized in language easily understood by children. There are maps to orient the reader to the locations of

Greece, Asia Minor, and the Aegean and Black Seas. No, it's not eloquent but it's written in language easily understood by my seven year old boy and even enthralling to my near four year old boy (in combination with the pictures). That's quite an achievement given the relative complexity of the story that's told, I'd say. My boys love it, and nearly have it memorized. They are already enthralled by a seminal element of Western literature and for that I am in debt to this little book.

Although it is written in a more no-nonsense, simplistic, and factual style than many other books on the topic, my kids (ages 6-12) were enthralled. They talked about it constantly for many days after.

This was a very interesting book about the Greeks winning the war against Troy. I had meant for my 11 year old and I to read it together but my 6 year old became very interested and so she joined in listening along as well. The pictures were not great but the story was not boring and that is what I was looking for in this book.

I generally like the Step Into Reading series and this is the only Level 5 book I could get my second grader to finish (with my help). This book just makes the Trojan War accessible and fun to read about. Job well done to the authors!

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