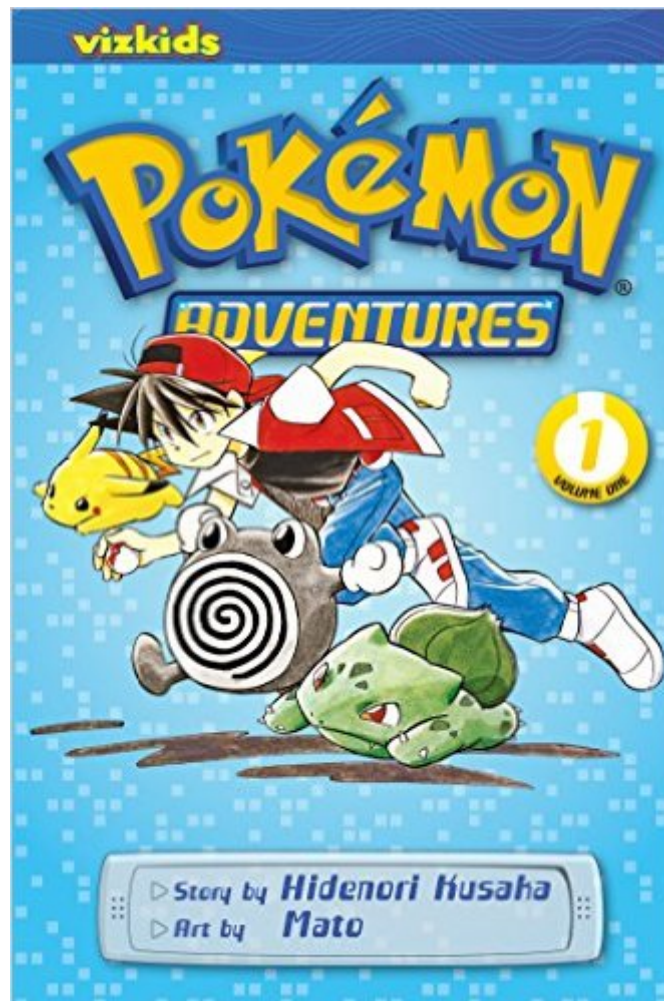


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Pokémon Adventures, Vol. 1 (2nd Edition) (Pokemon)



Synopsis

Adventures inspired by the best-selling Pokémon video games! All your favorite Pokémon game characters jump out of the screen into the pages of this action-packed manga! Red doesn't just want to train Pokémon, he wants to be their friend too. Bulbasaur and Poliwhirl seem game. But independent Pikachu won't be so easy to win over! And watch out for Team Rocket, Red... They only want to be your enemy!

Book Information

Series: Pokemon (Book 1)

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media - Children's; 2 edition (June 2, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1421530546

ISBN-13: 978-1421530543

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.8 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (73 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #19,407 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga #32 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Media Tie-In #83 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Video & Computer Games

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I cannot express how happy I am that this series is getting published again. I fell in love with this manga series when I was about 12 and I can remember doing chores around the house in order to buy all of these books. I was seriously addicted. In high school when I found out there were more than the 7 published in the U.S, I saved up enough money to buy them off of ebay from Singapore. This ended up being something like 200 dollars.....so you could say I love this series a little too much. As far as I'm concerned, this series goes where the anime series should have gone. Don't get me wrong, I loved the anime series, but these books actually have a plot other than "Ash and co meet new character. Jessie, James and Meowth then show up, try and steal Pickachu, get butts kicked, blast off at the speed of light, etc. etc. etc." The humor is good, the artwork is adorable and

Red is a cocky but lovable hero. If you have a child who loves Pokemon, get them this series please. I know I was enthralled. It breaks my heart that this series doesn't get more attention. It follows the same basic plot as the video games, which is why the main character's name is Red instead of Ash. It also means that the series is pretty well sectioned. The first three have a clear ending, with no cliff hangers. The fourth starts a spinoff with a different main character but the same basic cast. Again, this series is finished off at number 7, and when I was a child, I thought that was the end. No. 8 and its sequels are actually being published for the first time in the U.S. As I want them to continue releasing these books in the U.S. (I really don't want to have to buy them from Singapore again) please try out this series :) It's kinda the best.

Pokemon Adventures Volume 1 is essentially a release of a similar named manga from a few years ago. I do not know many of the details from that one for I was intrigued by this release and cover and saw that it was "new". Essentially Pokemon Adventures follows the storyline of the video games, probably Pokemon Yellow version the most and expands upon it. The manga does not follow the exploits of Ash Ketchum nor even mention his name at all. Professor Oak's grandson, Gary, ie, Blue in this one, is still here but once again they don't reference Gary from the show either. Team Rocket is present however it also does not have Jesse, James, or Meowth. So ultimately, this manga takes place in the video game world and takes some elements from the anime, but does not directly reference them. Volume follows Red, the main character, as he goes to do what Professor Oak told him to do in order to become a Pokemon master. Because Professor Oak is too old, he gave Red and Blue a Pokedex and entrusted them with travelling around the world to gain data on every Pokemon imaginable. He also told Red that in order for him to become a Pokemon master he must fill up this device. Red starts the journey with a Poliwhirl, but ends up catching more and more Pokemon. The story is quite fast paced and up the ante on the seriousness of Pokemon. Team Rocket seems more evil than they were in any recent showing with their use of wanting to kill anyone who stands in their way and carrying out experiments on Pokemon or tricking townspeople. Red and Blue often run into Team Rocket at the same time as they keep having run-ins with them and their search for the mysterious Pokemon. All in all this is a fantastic fast paced story that is based in the Pokemon universe and is sure to please any Pokemon fan adequately. Art is done very well clear and easy to read words and panels. The modern English sounding translation is crystal clear. And finally, the manga is read in the traditional format. Bonuses in the back of the manga include a summary of Red's adventures, a Pokedex of key Pokemon he used, and a preview for Volume 2.

Even as a child I thought the Pokémon animated series was childish and silly: the repetitive formula, the slapstick that doesn't work, the lack of epicness we get from the games. Still, I bought this manga -- not expecting much besides what I read in the reviews -- to blow off some steam between assignments and work as a graduate student and being a new father. It's a manga for kids, sure, but it's like being 10 again and having that dream realized, of witnessing Pokémon come to life in a solid fictional series that is a lot truer to the games. How is it better than the anime? First, the story is a couple of hues darker. Trainer and Pokémon often get hurt together in battle, and both are confrontational. Sometimes, the objective of the opponent is not only to win, but to eliminate the trainer and Pokémon, i.e. killing! In a few instances, I even shuddered when some Pokémons were what appeared to me defeated beyond the healing capabilities of a Pokémon Center! (I won't spoil anything.) One of my favorite parts is Red's visit to Lavender Town. Also, the characters are way more interesting, starting with the protagonist. Red is a cocky wannabe trainer with talent and drive; he actually catches a lot of Pokémon and takes Prof. Oak's original bidding seriously. He's also caring and the relationship with his Pokémon feel a lot more real -- especially with his oldest one, Poliwhirl/wrath. Misty, Brock, Bill, the Pokémon Fan Club mustachioed guy, EVEN THE BUG CATCHER (guy with a net and hat), they're all more interesting. And Blue as a rival is awesome too, brooding and proud. That said, it should be self-evident that this isn't a manga for adults, but if you can still enjoy playing Pokémon (technically a child's game), then you'll definitely have a good time reading this manga.

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