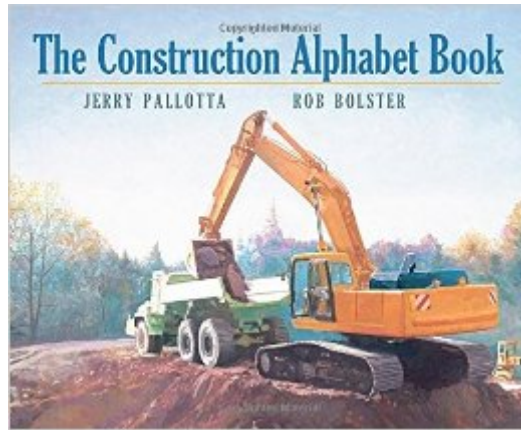


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# The Construction Alphabet Book



## Synopsis

Smash! Crash! Ka-boom! A is for Aerial lift. B is for Backhoe. C is for Cement Mixer. Readers explore construction equipment in this noisy alphabet book. Jerry Pallotta's trademark humor punctuates the informative text. Vibrant oil paintings bring to life a busy construction site.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0640 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge; 1 edition (June 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570914389

ISBN-13: 978-1570914386

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (234 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,576 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Heavy Machinery](#) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Construction Vehicles](#) #260 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

After seeing the front cover illustration of The Construction Alphabet Book on [Amazon](#), I knew that I'd not be disappointed with the interior images, and had to purchase this book. My three year old son is obsessed with digger machines, as well as all things construction and farm, and when book after book arrived from [Amazon](#), for myself and my older child, he asked for his turn to receive a new "digger" book. Rob Bolster's dump truck and excavator illustration caught my eye, and as we now have a huge library of construction books, I've become more choosy in the selection of new books.

Exposing my children to literature and the arts is important to me; the illustrations that were created for this book are exceptional, accurate, and they capture the wonderful light and color of Edward Hooper. With so many poorly illustrated children's books, even our little guy can point out the mistakes in some illustrations, equipment and even in the text of many books, this is a refreshing addition to our collection. Even for the less sophisticated art lover, the beautifully composed pictures

of construction vehicles, that are so full of wonderful color and light, will capture your child's attention as much as the subject and text. This will be a book that I will actually keep and enjoy long after the toddler obsession has moved onto something else. In the future, we will be looking for other books illustrated by Mr. Bolster and hope to meet him at a book signing!

I purchased 3 copies of this book. My son and 2 nephews are construction crazed toddlers, and finding this book on made Christmas very merry. The illustrations are gorgeous, the language very informative, and entertaining as the author provides the sounds the equipment produces. If you want to provide a child with a realistic, educational look at the construction world along with alphabet reinforcement this book is sure to be hit.

I didn't expect the text to be so sophisticated. Typically, an alphabet book's purpose is to teach preschoolers their letters by associating the beginning letter with a familiar object, so I was expecting a book about construction machinery perfect for a 3-year-old boy's birthday. The authors of this book are clearly construction experts, but don't have the foggiest notion of how to explain construction concepts in language that is relevant to a young child. Parents better be prepared to explain the meanings of such words as: asphalt; scaffolding; commute; surrounded; structures; debris; assembled; circular; axles; sunset; mobile; acronym(!); compresses; impact; disrupting; borer; blade; excavator; trench; rotates; aerial - oh, and my favorite, "Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation"!! The large colored illustrations are technically accurate (always a plus), but it's my opinion that the information in this well researched book is not suited to be an alphabet book. By the time a child is old enough to be interested in such detail, s/he has been reading for a while, which makes the tacked-on text attempts to appeal to little ones by adding descriptions of the noises made by the machines incredibly incongruous (e.g., "Croosh, croosh, croosh, croosh, croosh, shhhuk!"; "eeng, eeng, eeng, eeng, eeng, eeng"; ""Rnn, rnn, rnn, rnn, rnn, eeeee, SCRAPE!"). The information would be informative for third- or fourth-graders, but they'd be insulted by the alphabet-book format and the childish noise descriptions.

This is one of the few books I have found for kids about construction equipment that mostly correctly identifies the various pieces of construction equipment. Being in construction there is nothing that annoys me more than having to explain to correct misinformation in children's books. This is my biggest complaint about the Mighty Machines DVD's as well. If you are going to teach kids about construction equipment, then teach it correctly. This book gets 5 stars for being mostly accurate.

Finally, I can hold meaningful conversations with my four year old without him having to stoop down to my level, and other moms in the neighborhood, used to refer to any big construction vehicle in the vicinity as a bulldozer. The looks of searing disappointment he gave at those times has been etched into my soul. Never again. You should check out the author's other alphabet books. We also have the underwater one and the beetle one, and my son loves all of them.

We recently bought this for a 3 year old 's birthday. He is obsessed with trucks. It's a great book for the variety of trucks they include. He currently asks for it to be read multiple times a day. I love that it keeps him entertained at this age with the pictures, but he will learn a lot for years to come with all the detailed information. I'd recommend it for ages 3 on up.

My twin boys 3 yrs. old love this book. This is one of the books that gets chosen for bedtime reading every night and we have had it for about a year now. I could probably recite all the words without looking at the pages. That is how much we have read it.

I bought this for my 3 year old for his birthday. He enjoyed it then, but is growing into it more now, months later. He loves looking at the detailed pictures. My older 6-year son is now reading it to his brother and learning new sight words. I see this being a good book for several years!

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S'mores: A Camping Alphabet (Alphabet Books) J is for Jump Shot: A Basketball Alphabet (Sports Alphabet) G is for Gold Medal: An Olympics Alphabet (Sports Alphabet)

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