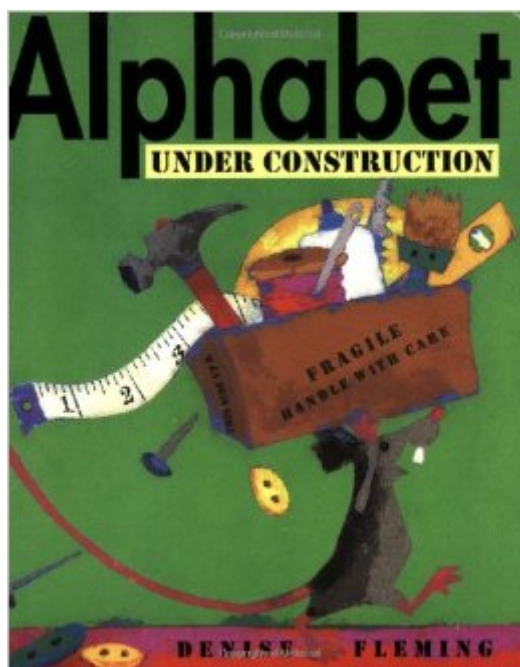


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# Alphabet Under Construction



## Synopsis

An artist's approach to introducing the alphabet Mouse airbrushes the A, buttons the B, carves the C . . . Mouse is hard at work constructing each letter of the alphabet. He dyes the D, erases the E, and folds the F. Mouse works his way right through to Z, constructing an alphabet that surpasses even the wildest artistic imagination. A bright, beautiful concept book from best selling picture book Denise Fleming.

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (July 25, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805081127

ISBN-13: 978-0805081121

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 11 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #32,715 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Alphabet](#) #138 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels](#) #138 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art](#)

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

Dear little mouse has a big job to do, building the entire alphabet with art supplies and construction tools, and he gets right to work Airbrushing the A, Buttoning the B, and Carving the C. And as he moves quickly, letter by letter, Folding the F, Measuring the M, Pruning the P, Vacuuming the V, or Zipping the Z, little ones will revel in all the creative fun. Author, Denise Fleming's text is kept to a bare minimum, just the letter and construction verb. It's her big, bold, and vibrant artwork, dazzling with entertaining details and engaging humor, that makes this book stand out. Perfect for preschoolers, Alphabet Under Construction is not just another "learn your letters" picture book, but an imaginative and inventive, joyous romp that shouldn't be missed.

Fleming's art is fantastic--her abstract art works really well here in this context. A wonderful romp

through the alphabet with the mouse from Lunch--witty variations on what to do with each letter as the mouse tries to build the alphabet in order (action verbs introduce each letter: the mouse kinks the "k" and vacuums the "v"). The book also comes with a poster--a nice addition for those who like Fleming's work. Highly recommended.

Although normally a Fleming fan, I was extremely disappointed in *Alphabet Under Construction*. For babies and toddlers just beginning to learn the alphabet, Fleming's illustrations make it difficult to discern letter shape. Particularly problematic is the letter "W", in which Mouse welds a bar of steel between W's two interior angled lines. Unfortunately, this means that the inside of the W appears to be an "A". My two year old misidentifies the "W" as an A every time, and technically, he's correct. Ultimately, the illustrated letters are too abstract for children learning their alphabet. Unlike another commenter, I believe that this book is more appropriate for children who have already mastered the basics of the alphabet and are simply building on that knowledge: namely, preschoolers. For babies and toddlers, there are better introductory alphabet books out there.

My twins beg for me to read them this book. They love their alphabet and this gives them something other than the typical ABC book. They love to tell me what the mouse is doing to each letter and I love that it's a nice change from Alligator, Bumblebee and Cat.

The author does an amazing and fun job showing the alphabet to children. I was disappointed that the cover was bent, that wasn't in the description of the item. Her illustration is unique and amazing. My preschool students absolutely love this book and it's one of their favorite.

My son is obsessed with the alphabet at 2 years old. This was the first present he opened from Santa on Christmas morning and it is now January 4th and he still goes to bed with it. His sister had to open the rest of his presents because this book was all he wanted. It is cute and clever and is helping with his spelling..yes I know how crazy that sounds when talking about a two year old.

My 3 year old had this memorized after about 5 times! He loves to "read" this book. Meaning he is only 3 so he really not reading but it's simple enough for him to memorize it after a few readings. He loves the mice and the pictures are nice. He now "reads" it to his little sister which is awesome!

recommends this book for the 'Baby to Preschool' age range, but unless your child doesn't know

their alphabet, I would say it is too simplistic for a preschooler. That said, it is an innovative, sturdy book that should delight toddlers and older babies. It shows a mouse hard at work, constructing and improving the letters of the alphabet. He 'airbrushes' the A, for example, and 'hangs' the H, 'yanks' the Y and so on. The use of a verb that corresponds with the letter in question, gives parents/caregivers the chance to point out (i.e. teach) the connection between the letter and its sound. For example: The mouse \*judges\* the J. \*Judge\* has the `juh`, j-sound. In addition, this book offers toddlers the chance to learn about the structure of reading. How text flows from page to page, and left to right. And they will also have a chance to pretend to read by remembering and reciting bits and pieces of the book because the text is not too long. Four Stars. The artwork is cute and the text is large enough that you won't need glasses (lol). Babies should enjoy the mouse, and Toddlers should enjoy the silliness. Both groups can learn and reinforce their understanding of letters, words, and reading. Parents can emphasize, letter sounds, word construction and memory work.

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