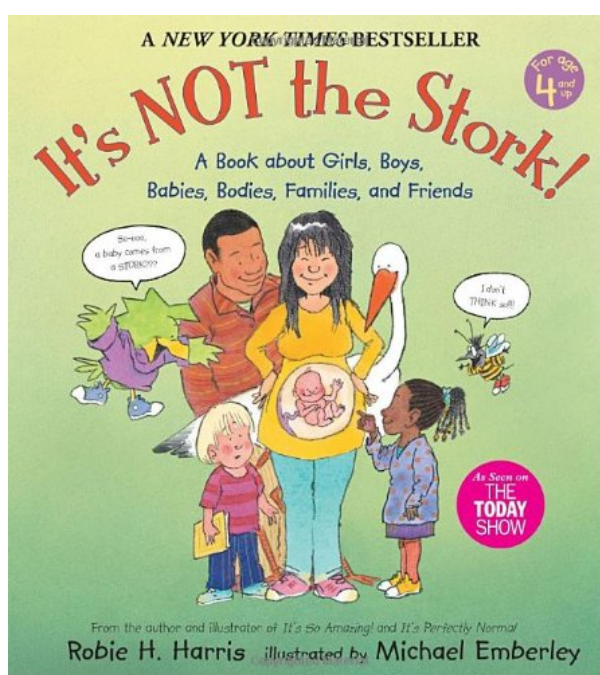
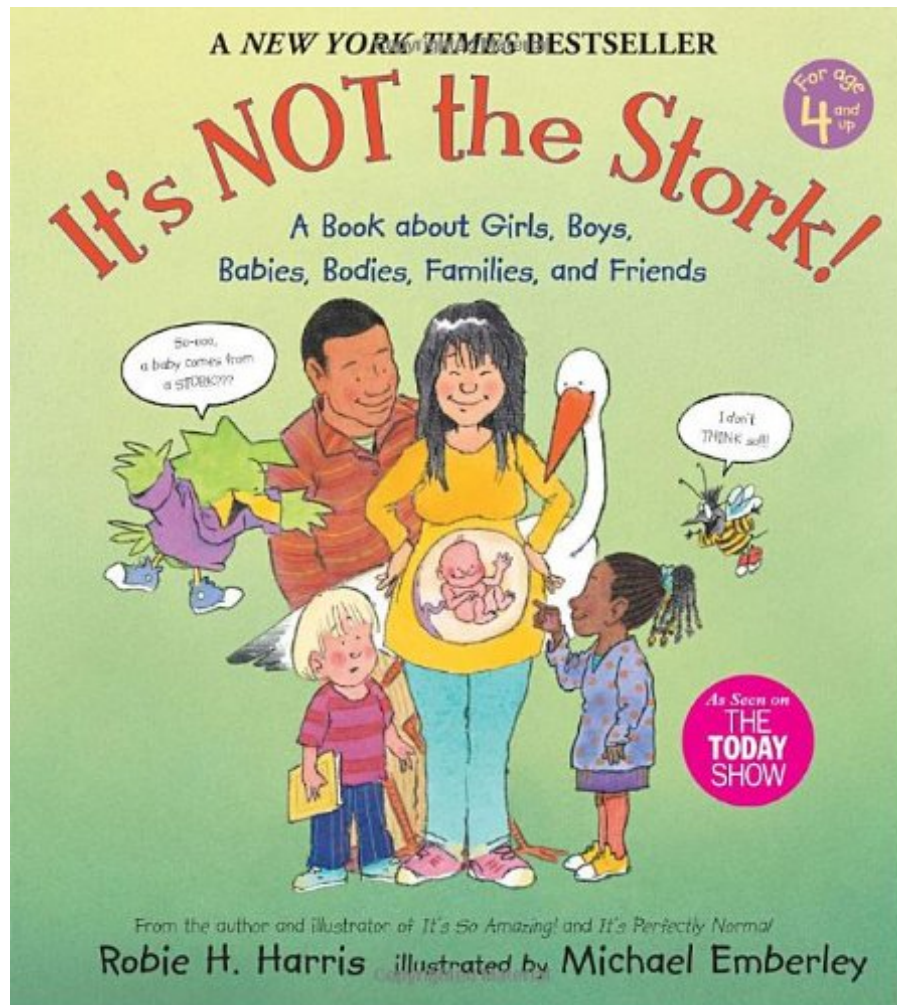


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From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 3—Harris opens by introducing two cartoon characters—a green-feathered bird clad in a purple shirt and blue high-top sneakers and his spike-haired friend, a bee. They wonder, So where DO babies come from? Their conversational commentary, given in word balloons, is a lighthearted supplement to a more focused narrative. Told in the second person, the text is straightforward, informative, and personable. Facts are presented step-by-step, starting from the similarities and differences between boys and girls bodies, moving to a babys conception, growth in the womb, and birth, ending with an exploration of different configurations of families as well as a section on okay versus not okay touches. The book is logically organized into 23 double-page sections. Friendly and relaxed cartoons, either interspersed with the text or appearing in comic-strip form, are integral to the titles success in imparting the material. The labeled drawings show both the outside and the inside parts of the body. As the bee and bird say to one another, Knowing the names of ALL the parts of your body is—PERFECTLY NORMAL! Overall, this book will be accessible to its intended audience, comforting in its clarity and directness, and useful to a wide range of readers.—Martha Topol, Traverse Area District Library, Traverse City, MI

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From the expert team behind *IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL* and *IT'S SO AMAZING!* comes a book for younger children about their bodies — a resource that parents, teachers, librarians, health care providers, and clergy can use with ease and confidence.

Young children are curious about almost everything, especially their bodies. And young children are not afraid to ask questions. What makes me a girl? What makes me a boy? Why are some parts of girls' and boys' bodies the same and why are some parts different? How was I made? Where do babies come from? Is it true that a stork brings babies to mommies and daddies?

IT'S NOT THE STORK! helps answer these endless and perfectly normal questions that preschool, kindergarten, and early elementary school children ask about how they began. Through lively, comfortable language and sensitive, engaging artwork, Robie H. Harris and Michael Emberley address readers in a reassuring way, mindful of a child's healthy desire for straightforward information. Two irresistible cartoon characters, a curious bird and a squeamish bee, provide comic relief and give voice to the full range of emotions and reactions children may experience while learning about their amazing bodies. Vetted and approved by science, health, and child development experts, the information is up-to-date, age-appropriate, and scientifically accurate, and always aimed at helping kids feel proud, knowledgeable, and comfortable about their own bodies, about how they were born, and about the family they are part of.

- Sales Rank: #1170 in Books
- Brand: Candlewick Press
- Model: 3939507
- Published on: 2008-08-26
- Released on: 2008-08-26
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.42" h x .25" w x 10.35" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 64 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

148 of 153 people found the following review helpful.

Great job on anatomy and babies but really drop the ball on sex and bad touches.

By Mary Terp

This book does a great job of explaining a lot of technical information about the proper name of sexual body parts and explains in exhausting detail how a baby develops from the joining of an egg and sperm. The no-holds-barred cartoon pictures of naked kids are perfect.

But they really drop the ball with the page that explains how the sperm gets into the woman. They introduce sex as a "special kind of loving" with a picture of a couple in bed having what looks like the most amazingly fun cuddle fest complete with little hearts all over the place (picture attached). There're several problems with this; 1) my 6 year old step daughter is constantly complaining that she shouldn't have to sleep alone and very jealous of the other adults in her life that get to cuddle and enjoy special love without her in their beds. This picture isn't going to help. 2) It's vague and misleading and says that when a man and woman get "close together" the "penis goes inside the woman" which makes it sound like all you have to do is get to close to a man in bed and his penis will just jump inside you. 3) It is a complete after thought really when they say that kids are too young for this "special kind of loving" 4) Doesn't "special kind of loving" sound exactly like the words a predator would use? And wouldn't they say "you're a big girl now, we can have special loving together" . . . (Ugh shuddering).

We are thinking less information would be better at 6 years of age and rather than throw out the baby with the sex page we simply censored the one bad page with a taped on piece of construction paper. It now jumps from a picture of female reproductive organs to the sentence that says "kids are much too young for a special kind of loving called sex. . . during sex the man's penis can release sperm into the woman's vagina." and then the explanation for how babies happens proceeds from there.

The pages on good touch/bad touch are also confusing and don't even begin to address equipping kids to protect themselves from being groomed for sexual abuse or preventing them from being sexually abused. The assumption seems to be that a predator will simply grab a kid and start touching their private parts and that's the only form of sexual abuse. It doesn't address when someone asks you to touch their private parts, show you their private parts or want to see yours. It spends a great deal of time talking about how it is "ok" for a "friend" to hold your hand and hug you and how that touch is ok if you are ok with it. It implies that only an adult might touch you in a bad way (when often it can be a child just a few years older that sexually abuses). It's not the purpose of the book to address this topic exclusively, but maybe they shouldn't have included it at all because it feels like it is a dangerously small amount of information and misleading. I could totally see a kid thinking they know what bad touch is now and a predator convincing them that what they are asking them to do is not bad at all, just something a "friend" does with another "friend".

19 of 19 people found the following review helpful.

Only one flaw IMO.

By Harmoni Simmons

I really like this book it touches on so many topics using correct scientist terms in an age appropriate way.

The only think I did not like is they refer to the intact penis as uncircumcised... It is not uncircumcised just as woman with breasts aren't unmastectomed... But nothing a little ink can't fix I do hope they fix that in future editions.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

When a Man Loves a Woman Very Much...

By Morgaramabingbong

I was pregnant, and this made it so we could have a talk about bodies and how babies are created and born with our 5-year-old without having to figure out the right words. I wanted to make it so that our daughter was comfortable with her body and comfortable asking us questions about her body and the process of creating a baby. We also wanted to teach her about good touches and bad touches. Our daughter loves this book, and we're both excited that she's now 7 and can read the next book. Thank you for making this easy on us!

Oh, and when someone says there's a baby in a belly, she corrects them by saying, "Baby in the UTERUS!" It's, uh, pretty amazing. :D

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