



bugs, poems about creeping things

## Editorial Reviews

From School Library Journal

**PreSchool-Grade 3**—Like the open jar depicted on the blue cover, this compact volume attempts to capture a variety of bugs for closer examination. The 40 small poems feature everything from a louse to a chocolate-covered grasshopper. Playful black-and-white cartoon illustrations and page layouts punch up the poetry's delicate silliness. While the book's small size seems intended for individual reading, the selections themselves work best shared aloud. Several of them are intended for two voices or a chorus. Pair this lively title with Paul Fleischman's glorious *Joyful Noise* (HarperCollins, 1988).—*Julie Roach, Cambridge Public Library, MA*

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## Children's Literature

These bugs crawl, creep, fly, sting, itch, bite, chew, and jump. They are fat, skinny, graceful, big, and tiny. There are dragonflies, spiders, termites, lice, apple worms, and gnats. They all have one thing in common—they are celebrated in delightful, refreshing, and often humorous poems. The opening poem that ends with "I've always said / that bugs are pests, / but bugs who read / are welcome guests" sets the tone for all that follows. The ink drawings are the perfect accompaniment, and its small size allows it to easily slip into a pocket while on a nature walk to woo the bugs with lyrical poems all their own.

## From [Booklist](#)

Creepy, wild, and silly, the very simple verses in this small book are for reading aloud and joining in; in fact, many are for two voices, the second voice sometimes a buzzing chorus. Sounds and slithery movements of ticks, millipedes, worms, grasshoppers, grubs, cicadas, spiders, and more are part of the fun. The page design--sometimes with white type on a black background, sometimes with black on

white--is dotted with pictures that extend the wordplay--from a "bad bug / bed bug" to a pleading mosquito ("All I ask is / one / small / bite"). Nothing could be further from the grand poetic tradition, but the poems encourage the physical action that makes words fun. *Hazel Rochman*

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★★★★★ **This book is "creepy"**, March 26, 2009

By [JBebe](#)  - [See all my reviews](#)

This collection of poetry about bugs and creepy things by David Harrison is a must-have for any bug lover!

The clever and humorous writing coupled with the comical black-and-white sketches of bugs makes for a nice little collection, which is most definitely in the same vein as Shel Silverstein's [Where the Sidewalk Ends 30th Anniversary Edition: Poems and Drawings](#). The "Flea" poem particularly makes me think of Silverstein's humor - it is about a flea named Ralph who (somehow) swallowed a cow and a horse, and then tried to swallow a giraffe but got stuck halfway. It is accompanied by a nice little drawing of a flea with half a giraffe sticking out of its mouth.

Other topics include bugs such as fireflies, pill bugs, ladybugs, termites and moths. Enjoy!