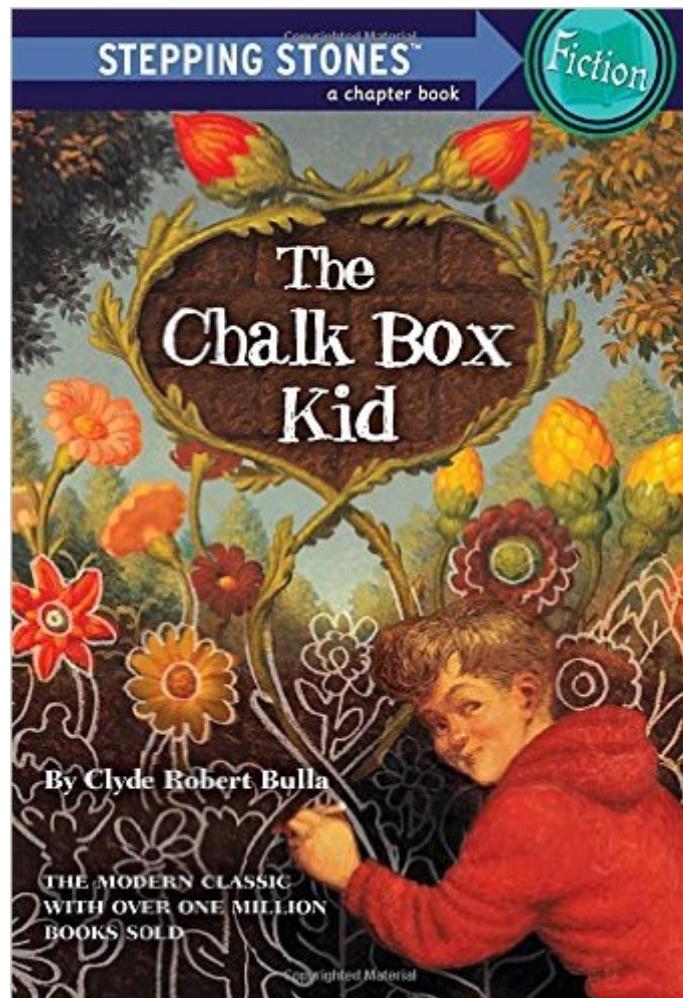


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# The Chalk Box Kid (A Stepping Stone Book(TM))



## **Synopsis**

A classroom favorite about the power of art and creativity. A new neighborhood. A new school. A lonely birthday. Life isn't easy for nine-year-old Gregory. Then he finds an abandoned chalk factory behind his house. It's a secret place, just for him! Now he can draw anything he imagines on the dark brick walls. What amazing thing will Gregory draw first? Two beloved classics—The Chalk Box Kid and The Paint Brush Kid—get a vibrant new look!

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 270L (What's this?)

Series: A Stepping Stone Book(TM)

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; 10th Anniversary ed. edition (September 12, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679805400

ISBN-13: 978-0394891026

ASIN: 0394891023

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (40 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,964 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational #65 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art #101 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

Nine-year-old Gregory's going through a tough time: his dad lost his job recently, he just moved to a new neighborhood, he switched schools, he didn't get to celebrate his birthday this year, and the one bright spot of everything -- the bedroom his parents added on to the house just for him (Gregory's never had his own room before) -- he has to share with his 20-year-old slacker Uncle Max, who just moved in. To make things worse, the kids at school aren't exactly standing in line to be his friends and his family doesn't have a lot of time for him now. Things start to look up when

Gregory discovers an abandoned chalk factory next door. Under the rubble are boxes and boxes of leftover chalk and Gregory starts drawing on the walls. What he draws and what happens when others take notice is the story. Discussion: This is one of the best beginning chapter books I've read in a long time. There are no 50 cent words and the sentences are short but the paragraphs pull you along so you'd never notice it. What makes this book so unique are the topics it skids around. Gregory is a very frustrated little boy. His parents both work and can't afford to give him the art supplies, clothes, garden space, etc that his friends have access to. His uncle is more of a spoiled new brother than an adult and neither he nor Gregory's parents take much interest in Gregory's concerns and activities. His new teacher is nice but he's having trouble fitting in at school. There is no place in his house that is private. Nothing horrible ever happens but little things build up and although he doesn't know how to say it, Gregory's pent-up frustrations need an outlet.

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