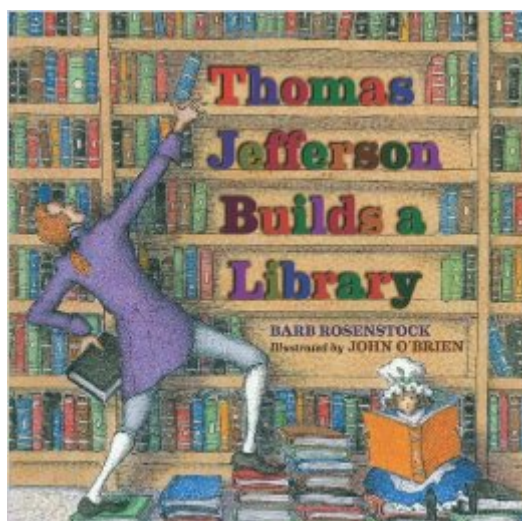


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# Thomas Jefferson Builds A Library



## Synopsis

As soon as Thomas Jefferson learned to read, he found his passion: books, books, and more books! Before, during, and after the American Revolution, Jefferson collected thousands of books on hundreds of subjects. In fact, his massive collection eventually helped rebuild the Library of Congress—now the largest library in the world. Barb Rosenstock's rhythmic words and John O'Brien's whimsical illustrations capture Jefferson's passion for the written word as well as little-known details about book collecting. Author and artist worked closely with experts to create the first picture book on Jefferson's love of reading, writing, and books. An author's note, bibliography, and source notes for quotations are also included.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 830L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Calkins Creek (September 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590789326

ISBN-13: 978-1590789322

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #393,454 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > U. S. Presidents & First Ladies #261 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary #344 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Books & Libraries

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## Customer Reviews

This is a book for anyone who loves books, is an admirer of Thomas Jefferson and history or those who just want a very good, different book to read to their children or for themselves - no matter what their age. It is aimed at grades 3 to 6, but the younger ones will need some help. The illustrations are in colour and highly stylized. There are quotes of Jefferson's and some interesting facts...49 books was quite a luxury in colonial times. We learn about Jefferson's love of books, really an obsession - yet he helped to rebuild the Library of Congress after it burned in the War of 1812. There are notes

about Jefferson at the end, including the fact of him being a slaveholder. It's an interesting and educational book for many.

One of my favorite quotes of all time is "I cannot live without books." Thomas Jefferson. This book shows very clearly the passion that Jefferson had for the written word his entire life. He himself estimated that in his lifetime he spent \$15,000 on his library; more than a quarter of a million dollars in today's market. An entertaining and extremely informative picture book to share with elementary age students or bibliophiles.

For students studying American history --even intermediate grade 4th and 5th grade students--Rosenstock's story about Jefferson's fascination with books provides a different, closer-to-home, real person view of Jefferson. There's a great quote from Jefferson in the author's notes that reveals his wish to be at home with family and books versus working in politics. This would be worthy of posting and discussing the tensions our "Founding Fathers" felt between the call of a new nation and their personal passions. The same could be said for Ben Franklin and George Washington, I'm sure. This could also be read to much younger students, too, to get across the idea that books have evolved, how they were valued in this time period because of their expense and so forth, and that throughout history there have been passionate readers. Very interesting note by the author at the end -- "Thomas Jefferson, Slaveholder" as if we want to glorify Jefferson for his book reading, but we want to keep in mind he was a man of his time and there were clear contradictions between his beliefs and actions. Rosenstock has written several biographical stories based on primary sources--her work is worthy of an author study and could serve as a writing mentor for intermediate grade students.

This was a good book. I read it with my eight year old and it is full of information I didn't know. It's written to keep kids interested. I love books and reading so it was nice to see Thomas Jefferson in the same boat. We also were pleasantly surprised that he was a redhead, since we have one in the family too. You never know what you're going to learn.

Nice enjoyable story of Thomas Jefferson and his love of books. I didn't know he helped make the first library of congress. Loved reading this.

This is nonfiction at its best! A lyrical portrayal of the birth of our public library system. This is a

picture book for kids and adults!

Great biography! Would be a good for read-aloud with younger and quick informative read for older students (and adults)

Love this book, perfect for those beginning to build personal home libraries of their own!

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