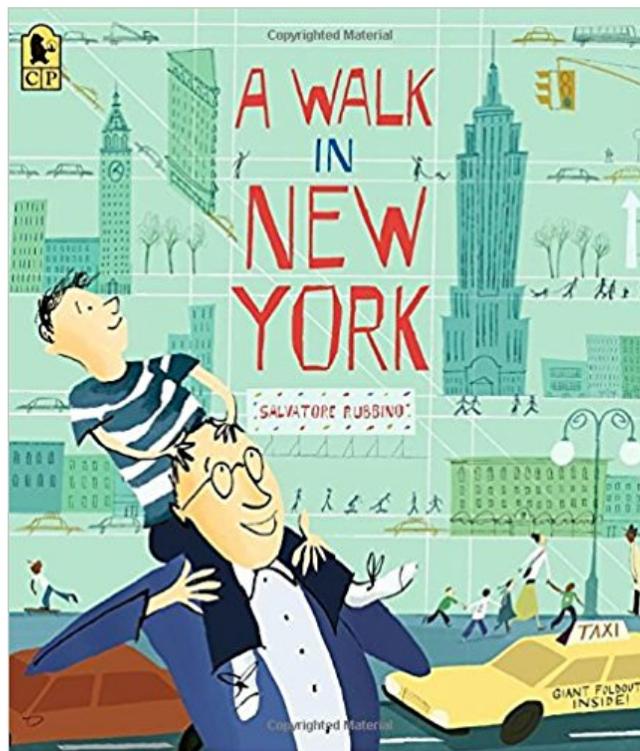


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**Review of *A Walk in New York*  
By Salvatore Rubbino**

Adult/Educator Reviewer: Maria Cristina Lopez  
Wayside Schools, Austin, TX

Student Review: Madelín Eloisa Escamilla, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade



Rubbino, S. (2017). *A walk in New York*. Sommerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

ISBN: 978-0763695101

## Adult Review: Maria Cristina Lopez

**A**t first glance, this picture book may appear to be a fictional story about a boy taking a walk through New York City with his dad, as they visit Manhattan for the first time. After a closer look at the amazingly detailed illustrations, you will find facts about some of New York’s finest tourist attractions such as: Grand Central Station, The Empire State Building, and The New York Public Library. The author captures the reader’s attention by making them feel as if they are walking right along with the characters in the story, enjoying the city as a tourist would.

“The author captures the reader’s attention by making them feel as if they are walking right along with the characters in the story, enjoying the city as a tourist would.”

This book would make for an excellent mentor text when teaching primary age students how to write and publish their own picture books. Students can study the craft of Rubbino, more specifically how he creates interest and hooks in a reader in other ways than just through the text on the page or the storyline. One of the craft moves that Rubbino used in this book was the contrast in font to help the reader differentiate between the narrative and the facts about each attraction. Additionally, the text was strategically placed all around the page so that the reader was drawn to and forced to look closely at all the details in the illustrations. One of the most engaging parts of the book was the fold out of the Empire State Building; not only was this a

pleasant surprise but added to the effect of the height of the building, especially how a tourist might see the building from their perspective, looking from the ground up. When elementary students are learning how to create their own picture books, it is these types of texts that we use as models to help us study what writers do to capture the readers’ attention.

One challenge that educators might need to consider is that students might wonder if this book falls under the nonfiction or fictional genre. On the other hand, this book and others by Rubbino could be used as an inquiry into the nonfiction picture book genre, which is a genre that is not always taught in most classrooms.

Overall, *A Walk In New York*, with its beautifully detailed illustrations, was a fun read. I highly recommend it for primary classrooms.

## Student Review: Madelín Eloisa Escamilla

**I** have always wanted to go to New York City. My mom has been there I have not. I hope to go one day. Through this book I felt like I was there. The author made me feel like I was walking around New York. Each page is full of interesting facts about New York City.

Some facts that I learned that really surprised me were: “Around 172 different languages are spoken in New York City.” “The Empire State Building has an

“I took my time reading this book because I looked closely at all the details in the illustrations.”

observatory on the 86<sup>th</sup> floor. It is open every single day of the year.” “More hotdogs are eaten in New York than anywhere in the U.S.”

Even though there was not a lot of words in the story, I took my time reading this book because I looked closely at all the details in the illustrations. My favorite part of the book was the giant foldout inside. It was an unexpected surprise. One thing that I thought

that was missing from the book was a page about Time Square. Everyone who visits New York wants to go to Time Square. That is what I want to visit the most when I go to New York. I wish the author would have taken me there in this book.

This book is perfect for kids who want to learn more about New York.