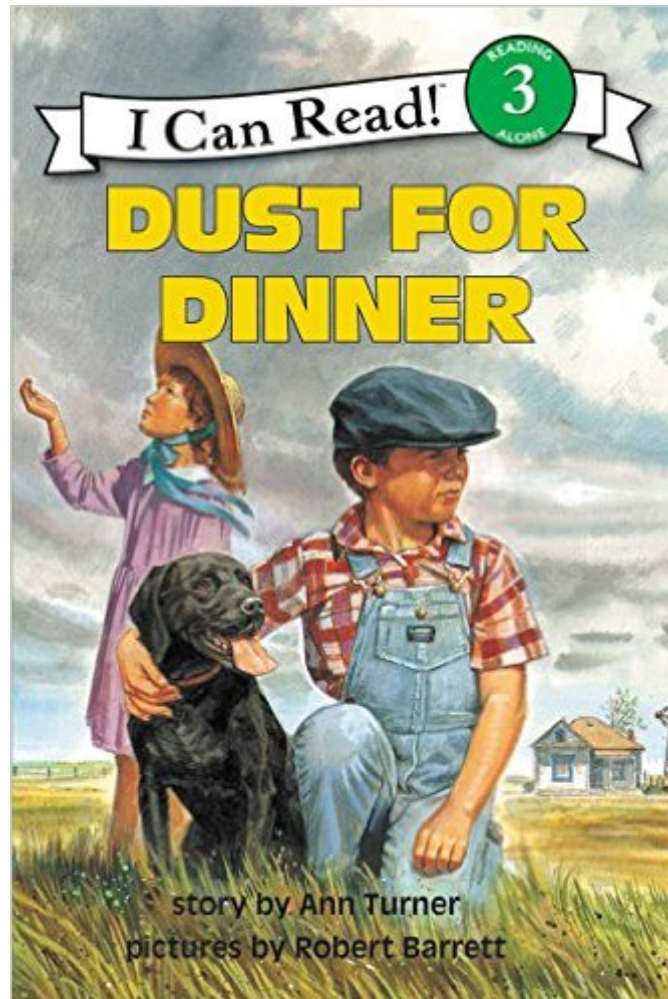


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# Dust For Dinner (I Can Read Book - Level 3)



## Synopsis

Jake and Maggy lived on a farm where they loved to sing and dance to the music from Mama's radio. Then terrible dust storms came and ruined the land. The family had no choice but to auction off the farm and make the long, hard journey west to California-away from the dust storms, where the land is still green. Along the way, Papa tries to find work, and Jake and Maggy try to help too. But what if Papa can't find a job? What if California isn't better after all? Ann Turner's dramatic story about the dust bowl, set during the Great Depression and beautifully captured in Robert Barrett's paintings, shows how one family stays together during difficult times.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 390L (What's this?)

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (January 3, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 006444225X

ISBN-13: 978-0064442251

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #143,146 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #201 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s](#) #2247 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

I featured this book in my 4th grade class's unit on "How We Came to California." It was the best book that told about the journey of many families to the Golden State during the Dust Bowl Days because it included why they left, how they came and the struggle once they got here. To make it even more special, my grandmother came to read it to the students because she lived in CA during this time and helped the people who came to her town from Oklahoma and Kansas. Having an elder read it to the kids was the most memorable thing to many of the kids who simply did not know

about this period of their family's history.

Gradeschool children who read this story identified with the story characters. Students went away with appreciation for this time in American History. It was easy to read and informative. It made many students realize how fortunate they are.

Set in the Dust Bowl era of the Midwest, this is an excellent book for today's young readers. Before there were tech and housing bubbles, there was the Dust Bowl. A period where drought took over and the wind kept blowing dry air for years. The agricultural regions of the Midwest had many families that depended on farming to make a living. When it collapsed from drought, the families had to auction off their land and possessions and move out West to find work and start a new life. This book follows the tale of one family that had to make difficult decisions to stay together and develops the role of each family member as the story unfolds.

Meet Mama, Papa and their two children Jake and Maggy as they live out life on their farm in the 1930's. All was good until the rains stopped and the dust came. This book will allow your child to see what it was like to live through the Dust Bowl era. Finally there was no other choice but to sell up the farm and move. The family had very little but did keep Mama's radio and Sam, the dog. Read of their trip west to California trying to get work on the way so that they could have more to eat than just bread and water. Some days were good, some were bad. Well-written and illustrated. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

Children will enjoy the books in this series, build reading skills, expand vocabulary, and learn about history altogether while reading these stories! The illustrations are good as well. We loved them all and read them more than once. You could add these to a study of American history for young kids and make the curriculum more interesting.

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