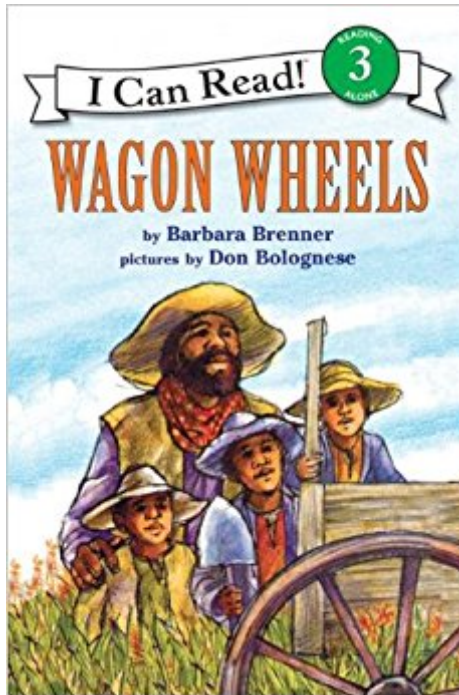




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# Wagon Wheels, Level 3, Grade 2-4 (I Can Read )



## Synopsis

Free people, Free land  
The Muldie boys and their father have come a long way to Kansas. But when Daddy moves on, the three boys must begin their own journey. They must learn to care for one another and face the dangers of the wilderness alone.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 380L (What's this?)

Series: I Can Read (Book 3)

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 1 edition (June 18, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064440524

ISBN-13: 978-0064440523

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #45,902 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in [Books > Children's Books](#)  
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> [Geography & Cultures](#) > [Multicultural Stories](#) > [African-American](#) #272 in [Books > Children's Books](#)  
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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 04 and up

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 3  
In 1878, the three Muldie brothers—ages eleven, eight, and three—and their father travel from Kentucky to Nicodemus, Kansas. Living in a dugout like the other black pioneer families, they endure hunger and hardships before spring comes. Ed Muldie leaves the boys to take care of each other while he looks for a better homestead further west. They hunt, fish, and stay in the dugout until their father's letter arrives months later with a rough map. Following the Solomon River, they make the 150-mile journey. Their courage and resourcefulness keep them safe and bring them to their father. Based on actual events, Barbara Brenner's tale (Harper, 1978) is told by Johnny, the oldest boy. Steven Michael Harper gives all the characters distinctive voices. His slow, expressive reading gives weight to the simple sentences of the text and allows youngsters to follow along. Sound effects—prairie winds, water in the creek bed, the

sound of the horses, and banjo music—all make life on the Kansas prairie very real. Page-turn signals are optional. This exceptionally fine production raises a significant piece of historical fiction to a very high level. Mary Jean Smith, Southside Elementary School, Lebanon, TN  
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Barbara Brenner's curiosity about the world ranges far and wide. Her interests are reflected in the wide scope of her quality fiction and nonfiction. Some of her best-selling titles include *Wagon Wheels* and *Voices: Poetry and Art from Around the World*, which was an ALA Notable Book for Children and an ALA Best Book for Young Adults. *One Small Place in a Tree* is a companion book to the striking *One Small Place by the Sea*. Barbara Brenner lives with her husband, artist Fred Brenner, in Hawley, Pennsylvania. Don Bolognese is the illustrator of many popular books of historical fiction, including the *I Can Read Books* *Buffalo Bill* and the *Pony Express* by Eleanor Coerr and *Wagon Wheels* by Barbara Brenner. He lives in New York City and Vermont.

Excellent story! I never knew there were so many African American pioneers! What an "eye opener" !! I would like to publicly thank the author for conducting the "due diligence" in researching and writing this story. This should be a movie ! African American "Tom Sawyers" ! Moreover, I would like to thank the Osage Native American Tribe for assisting the African American settlers in Nicodemus in their hour of need. What a story!! Buy this book and read it to your kids.

I adore this book. I bought it when my kids were little and still buy it for others as a gift or in bulk for book drives. It is a beautiful story of an African American pioneer family and their love for each other, their fortitude and incredible bravery. It is inspirational and heart wrenching. My kids are grown and in college now, and I still cry every single time I read it.

This book is beautiful. It tells the story of a father with his three boys who are beginning a new life out west after the Civil War. It's an easy read. I've used it with my second graders. I've also used it with at risk fifth graders. It led to serious discussions about racism, courage, good parenting, family. I would recommend this book to teachers and parents and kids. It's a perfect book to read together with young people.

excellent

This is a marvelous story that gives children a picture of life after slavery with accuracy and grace. The family is winsome. The story is important.

This is one of my favorite books to read to young children. It is so touching and since it's based on a true story it makes it that much more interesting.

I really enjoyed reading this book. Great history. I bought this for my grandson, who just turned 10 years old.

My children read this in our homeschool American history class. I originally planned to have them read a chapter each day but they sat down and just wanted to read it all. As each chapter ended they wanted to know what happened next. You have a winner when the kids can't put it down! Not only is this great reading practice for the young ones, but they learn about history at the same time and REMEMBER it! Kids remember what they enjoy. This is a great way to get out of the text book and have fun with learning.

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