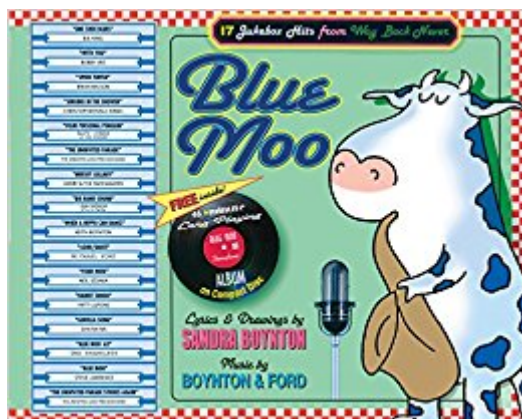


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Blue Moo: 17 Jukebox Hits From Way Back Never



Synopsis

Sandra Boynton and Michael Ford—the team behind *Rhinoceros Tap*, the Grammy-nominated #1 New York Times bestseller *Philadelphia Chickens*, and other toe-tapping book-and-CD sets—bring great words, great music, great performers to children and vintage children alike. Put a nickel in the jukebox, assuming you can locate a jukebox, and that you remember what a nickel is. Here's legendary Beach Boy Brian Wilson singing lead and 10-part harmonies on "Speed Turtle." The incomparable Neil Sedaka crooning "Your Nose." B. B. King brings you a wistful "One Shoe Blues," Gerry and the Pacemakers offer "Mersey Lullaby," and Broadway great Patti LaBelle sings—what else—the "Rabbit Tango." And then there's the hit single from Boynton's *Your Personal Penguin* sung by the impossibly cute Davy Jones of The Monkees. I mean jeepers, even Sha Na Na is here. And OH! The book! Boynton has filled it with all things 50s and 60s. And, well, golly, it's so happy and colorful and just terrific, Mister! Grab your saddle shoes, plunk two straws into that swell chocolate malt, and let's twist again like we did last century. 119,000 copies in print.

Book Information

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Age Range: 1 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 3 Up—Boynton is at it again, celebrating music with a CD/book kit that's filled with lots of '50s-style fun. She's urging her audience to gather 'round for "17 Jukebox Hits from Way Back

Never," sung by a cast of recognizable names from that era. Well, they'll certainly be recognized by the grandparents, anyway. But grandparents, parents, and children alike can enjoy this collection as they listen to such classics as "One Shoe Blues," sung by none other than B.B. King; "Blue Moo," sung by Steve Lawrence; and three numbers by "The Uninvited Loud Precision Band." There's "Speed Turtle," sung in pure Beach Boys-style by Brian Wilson; "With You," a '50s-style love song by Bobby Vee; and "Rabbit Tango," performed with great verve and panache by Patti Lupone. "About the Singers" includes a photo, biography, and past hits for each artist, even those who are fictitious. Each song is labeled in jukebox fashion: A-1 through A-14. As she did with Philadelphia Chickens (Workman, 2002), Boynton has combined a roster of celebrity singers, good humor, and lots of creativity for a gift of music and fun for every member of the family. © Jane Marino, Bronxville Public Library, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Sandra Boynton is a popular American cartoonist, writer, and songwriter. Since 1974, Boynton has written and illustrated over fifty children's books and seven general audience books, including five New York Times bestsellers. More than 60 million of her books have been sold—mostly to friends and family," she says. She has also written and produced five albums of award-winning children's music. Three of her albums have been certified Gold, and Philadelphia Chickens, nominated for a Grammy, has gone Platinum. She lives with her family on a farm in New England. Michael Ford, Sandra Boynton's esteemed collaborator on Philadelphia Chickens and Rhinoceros Tap, is a classically trained composer and pianist, with a long detour in Progressive Rock performance. He and his family live down the road a spell from Sandy.

This is the fifth or sixth Blue Moo we have bought. We have given them to parents of small people who are not happy, so far the babies have loved the songs. They are perfect for keeping the little people happy in the car! The songs are: "One Shoe Blues" by the indomitable B.B. King, "With You" by Bobby Vee, "Speed Turtle" by Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys, "Singing in the Shower" by Christopher Kale Jones, "Your Personal Penguin" by Davy Jones of the Monkees, "The Uninvited Parade" By The Uninvited Loud Precision Band, "Mersey Lullaby" by Gerry and the Pacemakers, "Big Band Sound" by John Ondraisk of Five for Fighting, "When a Hippo can Dance" by Keith Boynton, "Loud/Quiet" by Michael Ford, "Your Nose" by Neil Sadaka, "Rabbit Tango" by Patti LuPone, "Gorilla Song" by Sha Na Na, "Blue Moo '62" by The Sparklets, "Blue Moo" by Steve

Lawrence, and "The Uninvited Parade Strikes Again" by The Uninvited Loud Precision Band. If you want, you can buy the "One Shoe Blues" and "Your Personal Penguin" as separate books, we did and our kids enjoyed them! B.B. King's book comes with a DVD that is magic! If you want to hear the songs before buying the book, check out YouTube, I think they are all there! If you like this album, get Frog Trouble, your little people will like it! Every Day will feel like Christmas!

My first copy of PHILADELPHIA CHICKENS was a gift for my granddaughters. We all enjoyed it so much that I bought three more copies -- each one for myself but impulsively given away. Now I have BLUE MOO, and I'm keeping it for myself, so don't even hint for it. You may know Sandra Boynton's impressive children's books but this music thing she has going on is something else again. "Renegade children's music," she calls it. BLUE MOO is subtitled "17 Jukebox Hits from Way Back Never," and trust me, you don't need children around to enjoy it. Boynton collaborated with composer Michael Ford on these 17 fractured hits, and she mustered another stellar group of performers for the CD. Patti LuPone shines on "Rabbit Tango," and yes, that's the amazing B.B. King delivering the goods with "One Shoe Blues." Christopher Kale Jones of JERSEY BOYS fame croons "Singing In The Shower." When was the last time you heard a new release from veteran Neil Sedaka? Here he is in great doo-wop form with "Your Nose." And speaking of doo-wop, we have Sha Na Na singing "Gorilla Song" ("Banana nana nana nana, na na na"). Bobby Vee takes you down memory lane with the sentimental "With You," and John Ondrasik of Five For Fighting with a beautifully syncopated track named "Big Band Sound." How about "Speed Turtle":>> It's a ... Speed Turtle. Whoa-ho!>> It's a ... Speed Turtle. Oh, no!>> Man alive, it's in overdrive.>> Go, little turtle, go go. Yes, that's Brian Wilson, who else? And while I'm stating the obvious, "Mersey Lullaby" is (of course) recorded by Gerry & The Pacemakers. The title tune is offered twice, once by Steve Lawrence and in a jazzed up "Blue Moo '62" version by a house "girl group." Did you ever think of teaching a hippo to swing dance? "When A Hippo Can Dance" signals the idea:>> If you have a hippo you love very much,>> Yet you find it has one or two faults -->> Such as sleeping too late, such as making you wait -->> I suggest that you teach it to waltz. The 18 tracks on this CD (yes, 18, notwithstanding the subtitle) will get your toes tapping, get you up dancing in fact. What fun! Oh, and did I explain that there's a book too? A very entertaining illustrated songbook; which is handy because you won't want to miss a lyric. Sandra Boynton produces a wonderfully creative project that the whole family will enjoy. You'll want to get your own; I'm definitely keeping mine. Linda Bulger, 2008

At last! A playlist of singable tunes that appeal to everybody from toddler to grandparent! Even my adolescent granddaughter has her favorites and sings along on car rides. The songs are fun and energetic and some of the lyrics have sparked some good conversations with the kids. As Boynton fans would expect, there is a generous dose of imagination and humor. We've been playing and singing the songs for a couple of weeks now; the kids have memorized the lyrics and ask for Blue Moo when we get in the car. Thank you, Sandra Boynton!!

My 4-year old choir kiddos request "Singin' In the Shower" every week now :) These are great fun songs, just like all the Sandra Boynton CDs.

We have had this book/CD for four years now... some of these songs are very funny and some are really sweet. Personal Penguin and Speed Turtle are my favorites but all the songs are just good upbeat tunes perfect for your whole family. Some go along with children's books by Sandra Boynton (I think a different book/CD set contains Snuggle Puppy which is another of my favorite books from when my kids were little.) I bought this set recently as a baby gift because my whole family has enjoyed this CD for years. I can't stand a lot of the children's CDs out there, but this one is funny and fun with songs reminiscent of the 50s and 60s.

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