



## Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle

*Betty MacDonald , Alexandra Boiger (Illustrations)*

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The incomparable Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle loves children good or bad and never scolds but has positive cures for Answer-Backers, Never-Want-to-Go-to-Bedders, and other boys and girls with strange habits.

## Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle Details

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## From Reader Review Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle for online ebook

### Shawn Thrasher says

Father may have known best on television in the 1950s, but it's Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle all of these mothers turned to way back when. She had a funny, magical cure for crybabies, gossips, bullies and other assorted childhood "ailments."

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### Kelsey says

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle is back to using magic after trying farm-based, outdoorsy cures for a while. It's better than the third book, but not as memorable as the first two. The cures, being magic, aren't really clever either; just powder, candy, or a pill and then poof! The kid behaves.

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### Aarifa Leafpool says

I read this to my sister, one chapter a day. I'm enjoying it, but I think if Mrs. Piggle -Wiggle DIDN'T use all these potions and powders and other kinda magical things, it could have been a whole lot better, believe me! I think the other Mrs. Piggle Wiggle books are better, where they use LESSONS instead of magic.

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### Elizabeth says

Let me confess something here: growing up, I read Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle as if it was the second book, not the fourth, and, to be honest, I think it makes much more sense to do so. One reason is that in Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's Farm, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle has relocated to, well, a farm, whereas in this book she is apparently back in her old house.

Of course, reading the books out of order like this does make for an odd juxtaposition. Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle was full of "cures" for poor behavior, but those cures were sensible things: labeling all of your selfish kid's things, letting your messy child get away with not cleaning his room, letting your kids who don't want to go to bed to stay up as long as they want. The only cure not particularly "realistic" was the Radish Cure. Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle, however, does away with sensible cures and makes the cures completely magical instead. It's an odd switch, but I'm guessing the actual second book, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's Magic is thus named so as to let you know that things would be taking the turn for the fantastic.

The only reason I can think of for making Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's cures magical is that Betty MacDonald was afraid parents would actually prescribe her cures to their own children, so she made them magical so as to gainsay that. Or she thought it would appeal to children more if there was magic in there. Whatever the case, I thought some of the delight and charm from the first book became a little bit lost in Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle, if only because magical cures are a little more banal to me than ones that are more realistic. Of course, I could also be still affected by my childhood, where Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle was my least favorite book (although I still know this book basically by heart). Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's Magic was my favorite, though, so we'll see if I still feel that way when I read that one next.

Even though I thought that the magical cures were an abrupt, strange departure from the first book (perhaps as a result of me purposefully reading the books out of order), Hello, Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle still carries a tremendous amount of nostalgia for me. I read these books so many times growing up that even now, after not having read them for ten or more years, I still practically know them by heart—they feel familiar and comforting to me. Hello, Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle is not my favorite Piggie-Wiggle book, but it's still a good book for children, and a dearly loved book of my childhood.

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### **Elena Lydon says**

I like the part when Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle gave the girls Whisper sticks.

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### **Lanette says**

I didn't enjoy this one as much as the first. I was bothered by the fact that the cures in this one were more 'magical' as opposed to "commonsensical" and that the parents thought nothing of 'medicating' other people's children!!!

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### **Heidi says**

My absolute FAVOURITE Mrs Piggie Wiggle book.

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### **Talia says**

Ah, this book is from my youth! I loved remembering all the stories and reading the rich descriptions (especially of what the kids ate! Peanut butter and pickle sandwiches!!) I read this with my almost 6yo son; he liked some of the stories more than others. He said his favorite was the "Show Off Cure" (I think mostly because it mirrored what he does, and he liked hearing about the crazy stunts the kid did). His least favorite was "The Whisperer", probably because he couldn't relate to it. I do notice that in this book, Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle relies on magic potions and whatnot to solve problems, but (shrug) I tried turning it into a lesson by discussing what happened with my kid, and trying to troubleshoot as to what to do if he didn't have Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle's slowpoke spray or whatever. As this book is pretty old, I silently marveled at all the achronisms in the stories: all the moms stay home! All the kids have cake when they come home from school! Kids left at home by themselves! "Zowie!" I think I'll give another Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle book a shot at another time.

Also, there's only 5 stories per book, but no good stopping points, so if you're reading out loud, be prepared to read for 35-40 minutes (and have some water nearby!)

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### **Blue says**

This, in writing, was better than Magic or Birthday, fitting with a fun cadence and not repeating other books.

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However, even moreso than Magic these 'cures' are pure magic - just sprinkle this, problem solved, and maybe after it wears off the child (or adult) will continue to not do the disliked habit. In other books there was a bit of how the cure worked, such as setting an example or showing the character how annoying/gross ee's fault was.

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### **Anna says**

I love the imagination and old-timey sentiment that went into these books. And I love that you can basically read them in any order.

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### **NaDell says**

My eight year old and I read this book for our mother-daughter book group. The other kids usually stayed up to listen as well and they liked the stories and laughed at the right parts, so I could tell they were paying attention.

We liked the stories and I think if I call my kids 'slowpokes', now they'll really understand what I mean.

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### **Marya says**

Again, more magic, less wise old woman features in this book. I particularly noticed how these stories spent page after page demonstrating the problem, with only a couple of pages left at the end to wrap everything up with a sprinkling of magic. In one story, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle only appears off screen for less than one paragraph! It's not a wholly unenjoyable book, and if that seems like faint praise, it's because it is.

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### **Danielle says**

Man, are these chapters long.

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### **Sarah says**

This was a huge disappointment after how much we enjoyed Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle. Well, O. wasn't disappointed, but he's five and if it's silly, he likes it. The thing that most bothered me was that in this one, the "cures" were all magic potions, powders, etc., while in the first, they were actual things you could do (i.e. let kids who complain about going to bed stay up as late as they want until they realized that they're too exhausted to do fun things). Instead of the children learning a lesson, there was just a fix administered by the parents.

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### **Sheri S. says**

My (almost) five year old daughter really likes Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle. She is fairly entertaining with her crazy suggestions and remedies for any number of problems (i.e. being a slow poke, being boastful, etc.). I appreciate the author's creativity with the names of characters, such as Mr. and Mrs. Quadrangle. The book is definitely dated as evidenced by young children being left at home alone, but this doesn't impact the story too much. It is kind of fun to remember how lives of children used to be several decades ago.

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### **Josiah says**

I really enjoyed this. It was funny but not as creative as the other ones.

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### **Quenby Olson says**

My kids have enjoyed every Piggle-Wiggle book I've read to them. I'm not sure what this says about them or my parenting... :D

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### **Carie says**

The first Mrs. Piggle Wiggle Book was by far our favorite. This did not have the same magic as the first book.

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### **Cassandra Cridland says**

Delightful tales for all ages with straight forward cures for what ails us.

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### **Amanda says**

I thought about giving this book 3 stars, but decided on just 2... mainly because of how disappointed I was reading it compared to the first one! The kids in this book are quit a bit naughtier then in the first one, to the point where it wasn't funny and I skipped over a few paragraphs while reading it to my 5 year old because I didn't want to give her any bad ideas! The cures were disappointing to... instead of actual remedies that taught the children lessons it was just a quick pill or something and poof they were all better... definitely not even near the same level of awesome as the first one!!!

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