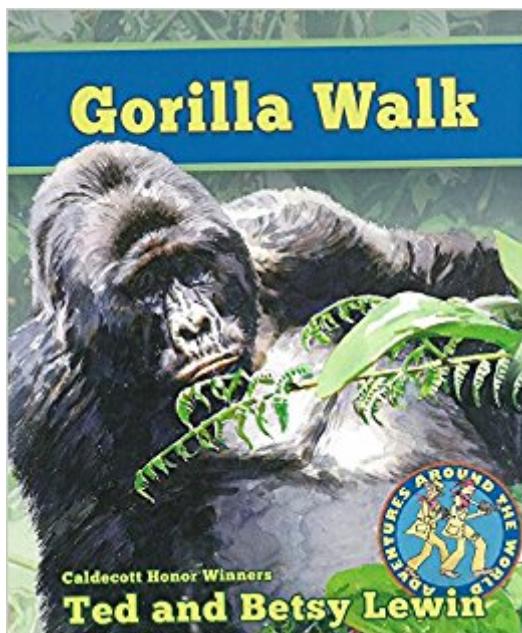


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# Gorilla Walk Gorilla Walk (Adventures Around The World)



## Synopsis

The Lewins trek through the heat, humidity, mud, and dense vegetation of the Impenetrable Forest of southern Uganda to visit mountain gorilla families and observe the gorillas in their natural habitat.

## Book Information

Series: Adventures Around the World

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Lee & Low Books (October 20, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1620141825

ISBN-13: 978-1620141823

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.2 x 9.9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,974,967 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Books > Travel > Africa > Rwanda & Uganda #1081 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #2766 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment

Age Range: 6 - 11 years

Grade Level: 1 - 6

## Customer Reviews

The Lewins' first collaboration recounts their 1997 journey to southern Uganda to view mountain gorillas. Before taking readers along on their expedition, the authors explain the phenomenon of ecotourism that makes such sightings possible: trackers spend up to two years habituating mountain gorillas to the presence of humans. Writing in the present tense, the Lewins emphasize the rough conditions, noting that "the heat and humidity are dreadful" and, though their water supply is depleted, they trudge on, "caked with mud, our hearts pounding from exertion, our faces sucked in from dehydration, our hair matted down with sweat." The recounting of the first sighting of a mountain gorilla is curiously flat; the authors note that "our thirst and fatigue are forgotten," but they don't communicate excitement, much less exhilaration. The watercolor art alternates between labeled, sketchbook-type images and full-spread, realistic paintings rendered with an appreciation for light and shadow. The former offer a solid overview of the area's wildlife and illustrate selected moments in the Lewins' travelogue, while the latter situate readers at the trekkers' side. But the art

disappoints in the encounters with the gorillas: the images of these animals are the least defined. Readers may come away with the feeling that one really had to be there to appreciate it. Ages 6-up. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4 Up-This gorgeous book is the illustrated journal of the Lewins' trip to Uganda to see the mountain gorilla. An introduction talks about this endangered species, where the animals can be found, and describes the process of "habituation," which allows for ecotourists to visit them on a limited basis. Each page is rich with captioned, border drawings that offer glimpses at the terrain, animals, and people that the couple encountered on their difficult journey through the jungle, battling heat, bugs, and mud. Side drawings show their progress, providing humorous asides, such as the drawing of two men falling down a muddy slope with the caption, "Ted takes out a porter." Interspersed with the text are lush, watercolor double-page spreads showing the humans walking through the sun-dappled trees, and, later, the gorillas among the leaves. Readers learn about the animals' habits, their family structure, and how trackers interact with them. A final section gives facts about mountain gorillas. Throughout, the authors transmit their wonder and respect for the creatures. Although young children may be interested in leafing through and "reading" the pictures, the book's tone and vocabulary speak to more mature readers. This is a visual feast for the older set who don't often have picture books written for them, suitable for reports, but especially for browsers with an interest in ecology, animals, or travel. Sally Bates Goodroe, Harris County Public Library, Houston, TX Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

love

My children and I loved this book. It's a fascinating first-hand account with unbelievably lovely watercolor illustrations. So many children's books have hurried, poorly done, and / or downright ugly illustrations, so I always get excited when I find one that is beautifully illustrated. I put it on my list of favorite children's books!

As an artist and a teacher I see many valuable qualities in this book. First of all there is the opportunity for young people to learn about an important endangered species, Mountain Gorillas. Then there are the exquisite, artistically inspiring watercolor illustrations - equal to the quality of P.J.

Lynch (When Jessie Came Across The Sea). But most importantly to me, this magnificent book also gives guidance to children in pursuing a life long dream. It doesn't make it look easy and I can't say I would want to go to the Impenetrable Forest, but thanks to Ted and Betsy Lewin I don't have to. The authors had never seen anything but photos of dead Mountain Gorillas. They wanted to meet them alive, face to face. And they did. It's an amazing, exciting, true-life adventure that keeps you on the edge of your seat! It's better than Indiana Jones because it's real. The authors are wonderful examples of heroes that are clearly willing to do whatever it takes (and it takes a lot) to make their dreams come true.

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