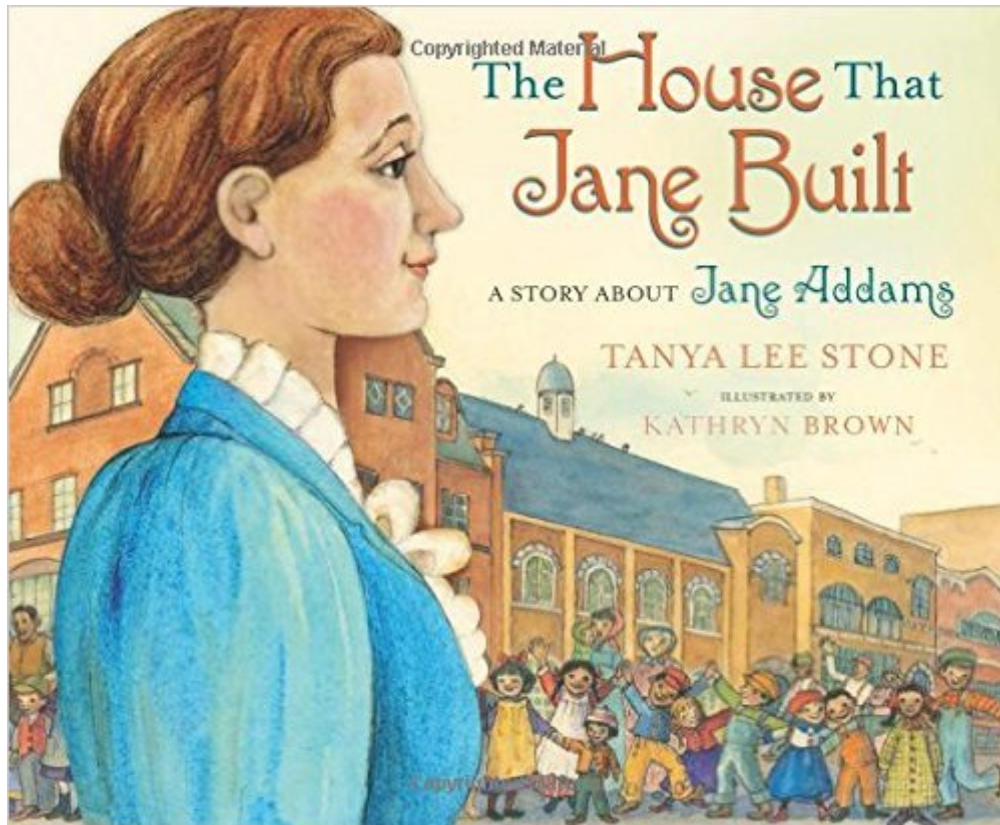


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The House That Jane Built: A Story About Jane Addams



Synopsis

This is the story of Jane Addams, the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, who transformed a poor neighborhood in Chicago by opening up her house as a community center.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR) (June 23, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805090495

ISBN-13: 978-0805090499

Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #422,494 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #127 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #135 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists](#) #274 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Author Tanya Stone and illustrator Kathryn Brown deliver a charming and accurate introduction to the productive and inspiring life of Jane Addams. I have researched Jane Hull and the settlement house movement fairly extensively, and this book offers young readers enough information for them to remember this remarkable woman's efforts, but not so much to overwhelm them. On the first page of the book, Stone asks "Why would a wealthy young woman do this (i.e. use her wealth to feed, clothe, and educate poor people while living their neighborhood as well) when she could have lived anywhere?" This question resonated with me since I had asked myself the same question when I first learned about Jane Addams and Hull House in high school. As an educator, this book delights me as I would like to see more emphasis on women and social reform taught in social studies and history courses. In addition, I can see a great benefit to reading the book with one's child as a springboard for discussing the value of community and helping others. Finally, the writing, the woman's biography, the history, and the art are engaging and accessible for primary aged

children; I know I would have loved to read about a woman who made a difference in the world when I was a young girl! I also enjoyed the author's note at the end and appreciated that she listed further resources. Regardless of your purpose in reading this book, you'll find there's a reason it has won so many awards! Finally, the muted watercolor illustrations provide a sense of time and place and depict the diversity of people who were served by Hull House in Chicago at the turn of the last century, so even the art informs young readers' historical awareness.

This is a beautifully written and illustrated book about a very admirable woman. My 9 year old granddaughter and I were both impressed. The main body of the book is mostly concerned with her heart and actions for the poor, but a small section in the back also includes information about her peace activism. I am proud to be named "Jane" when I read this excellent book!

Summary: Growing up in a wealthy Illinois family, Jane Addams felt strongly that she wanted to help poor people. As a young woman, she visited Toynbee Hall in London. It was called a settlement house because wealthy people "settled" or lived among the poor. Upon returning home, Jane decided to start a settlement house, Hull House, in Chicago. She devoted the rest of her life to helping people living in poverty to learn skills that could help them have better lives. Her model helped shape community centers that continue to serve people today. An author's note tells more about Addams' work for peace that included membership on the boards of the NAACP and the ACLU, and was recognized with a Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. Grades 1-5. Pros: An inspiring story of a woman who was one of the most famous American women of her time but is little known today. Cons: I looked Jane Addams up on Wikipedia and realized how much this brief picture book had to cut out of her rich and interesting life story.

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