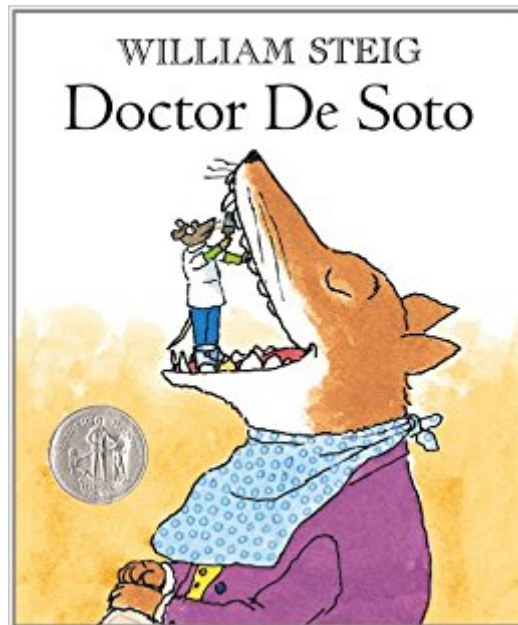




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# Doctor De Soto



## Synopsis

A Newbery Honor Book from the creator of Shrek. "Doctor De Soto, the dentist, did very good work." With the aid of his able assistant, Mrs. De Soto, he copes with the toothaches of animals large and small. His expertise is so great that his fortunate patients never feel any pain. Since he's a mouse, Doctor De Soto refuses to treat "dangerous" animals--that is, animals who have a taste for mice. But one day a fox shows up and begs for relief from the tooth that's killing him. How can the kindhearted De Sotos turn him away? But how can they make sure that the fox doesn't give in to his baser instincts once his tooth is fixed? Those clever De Sotos will find a way.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD560L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

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

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 134 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,981 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels](#) #136 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Doctor De Soto is a well-respected mouse-dentist who runs a successful practice with his wife (and able assistant) Mrs. De Soto. The De Sotos are friendly and professional toward all their patients, from chipmunks to donkeys to cows, the exception being "cats and other dangerous animals," as stated clearly on the sign outside the office. But the De Sotos are tender-hearted rodents, so when a miserable fox shows up begging for treatment, they agree to have a look (perhaps against their better judgment). As it turns out, this fox, with "a rotten bicuspid and unusually bad breath," manages to behave himself while tiny Doctor De Soto is standing mid-molar inside his gaping jaws. When the wily fox returns the next day to get his replacement gold tooth, however, he has

mouse-flavored snacks on his mind. Luckily, Doctor De Soto and his wife have anticipated such despicable canine intentions, and find a way to outfox the ungrateful fox. William Steig, award-winning creator of *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, once again offers young readers a clever, amusing tale of interspecies mingling. As usual, Steig's tone is matter-of-fact, and his enchanting illustrations of the responsible mouse couple and their foxy adversary are alive with expression and emotion. Kids will appreciate the De Sotos' wit, and will be delighted to read more about this diminutive couple's adventures in *Doctor De Soto Goes to Africa*. (Ages 4 to 8) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A somewhat unusual--and ravenous--patient is outfoxed by the resourceful mouse-dentist in this sly tale of mischief. Ages 3-up. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

These books are excellent for teaching young readers about the elements of story writing. It clearly portrays the issue, solutions, and moral take away. Would definitely recommend! Hope this helps.

Dr. DeSoto, a mouse, has a standing policy of never treating predators at his dental practice. One day, a fox appears and pleads for help, weeping so that Dr. and Mrs. DeSoto take pity on him and agree to replace his abscessed tooth. While helping him they realize he intends to eat them after his treatment is finished, and they devise a clever way to outwit him while still finishing the job. The story is satisfying on many levels. It builds on the principle of Aesop's fable of the crane and the wolf, showing that evil people will return evil for good. But the dentist and his wife demonstrate wisdom in doing good for this evil character, refusing to go back on their commitment yet not denying their real danger. In working together, this husband and wife team demonstrate courage, unity, and mutual care, exemplifying the kind of marriage I want to be defined as normal for my children. Steig tells the story in an understated way, with effective dialogue and gentle humor. Children will wait anxiously to find out how the two mice will resolve their problem, and will greatly enjoy the fox's discomfiture when he is defeated. This is an excellent early-reader story about how to deal with evil in the everyday world.

I bought this book for our dentist whose wife is his assistant. What could be more perfect? I read it through, and laughed a lot, too! It is a really cute book with great illustrations. Kids will love it.

Doctor De Soto by William Steig: There are many reviews about this book, however mine is from a personal perspective. I read this book to my daughter repeatedly. It rarely gets old or repetitive. The illustrations are so rich and the writing is clever and witty. This is such a fun book to read to little ones. "The fox, still woozy, said goodbye and left. On his way home, he wondered if it would be shabby of him to eat the De Sotos when the job was done." Rich with excitement and wondering how the De Sotos will prevail puts a gleam in my daughter's eye every time.

I'm a HUGE Steig fan. His books for children are just as much fun for the adults reading them to the tots. Dr. De Soto and his wife are smart, funny and willing to take on the risk to treat a fox who might just eat them after treatment -- but they have a terrific surprise in store for him that shows they're no dummies. Fun stuff and you cannot beat the illustrations.

Wonderful story and humorous illustrations

Good condition

Such a fun story, but so many lessons to be learned along the way, too. Dr. De Soto, a mouse, takes his job as a dentist quite seriously, trying to alleviate pain in the mouths of a large variety of animals. Taking pity on a crying fox with a terrible tooth, he knows that he's risking death for himself and his wife by helping the poor creature, but his better nature rules the day. When clever Dr. DeSoto figures out a way around his dilemma, children applaud the very satisfying result.

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