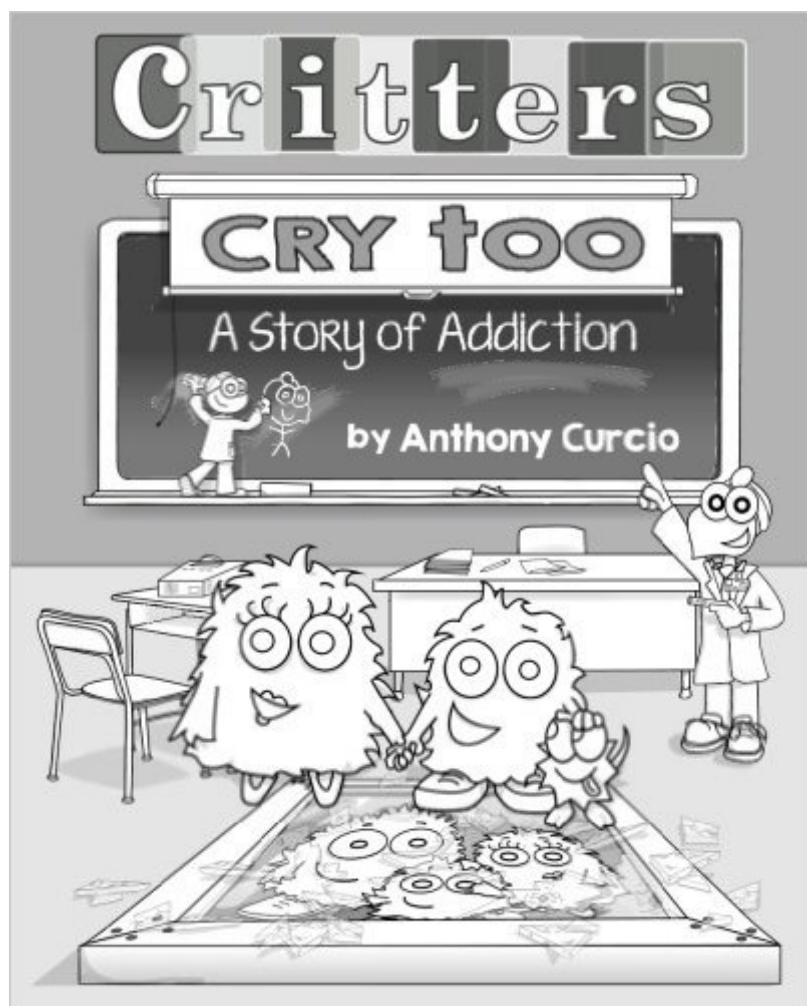


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# Critters Cry Too: Explaining Addiction To Children (Picture Book)



## Synopsis

Critters Cry Too is a fully illustrated (32 page) picture book that explains addiction and feelings associated with this disease in a way that children can easily understand. K-5 This book is a wonderfully created resource that engages children with illustration and humor in order to explain a difficult topic that so many children are faced with. The author tackles difficult feelings and answers questions that would surely arise in a young person's mind who loves someone who is addicted: Is this my fault? Why does \_\_\_\_\_ act like this? Does \_\_\_\_\_ love me? The story encourages children to open up and discuss feelings, as the main character finds this is the only way to stop from being 'madsad'. Very creative and inspirational material, ideal for those working closely with children in this situation. Children's/Emotions/Addiction K-5 Book Description: Critters didn't need much to be happy, a good game of critterball and doing what they loved to do most, talking to each other, was usually enough. But when Whateveritwas (what Critters called cookies) came, all of that changed. Some Critters stopped talking, stopped playing and stopped being themselves. All they wanted was more Whateveritwas. With a broken heart, Calvin had to do something but there wasn't much of anything he could do. Following good advice from an obnoxious insect friend and having a loved one to talk to, Calvin learns how to find himself even while some of the Critters he loves were still lost. Topics Covered: Drug and Alcohol Addiction Understanding irrational/selfish behavior Discussing feelings and the 'Elephant in the Room' Loving someone who is chemically dependant Feeling alone and ashamed Inspires hope and promotes confidence

## Book Information

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ISBN-13: 978-0692587324

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #500,585 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Substance Abuse #87 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs

## Customer Reviews

Addiction is hard enough for adults to understand so imagine how hard it is for little ones to understand. This book was a great way to start the conversation but can be confusing depending on the age. Must continue to talk it out with the little ones. I applaud this book for approaching this very destructive and terribly painful disease for young children to understand. I actually saw a light bulb go off in my son's head when he finally understood what was happening with \*\*\*\* and it was because of this book.

Great! This author does a great job with this delicate subject! It is hard to explain certain issues to little ones but this book nails addiction. Whether this is for your family or another do not hesitate. Trust me, it will make things so much easier when it comes to talking with children.

I found Critters Cry Too by Anthony Curcio to be an extremely insightful, informative, and entertaining children's book. I heartedly enjoyed reading this moving story of Calvin Critter and his family and their struggles with addiction. The author does an excellent job of tackling and explaining a hard topic to kids. I enjoyed the fun illustrations and the use of some of the words in the story, especially "madsad" to describe their critter feelings. There are many things in life that will make a person "madsad" and kids and adults can relate easily to the critters' feelings in the book. The story is narrated by Dr. Rhymer Roach, who I found to be quite charming and engaging as the book unfolded. He was my favorite character. Calvin and his family are happy go lucky critters, who love to talk, sleep and best of all play Critterball, a game I wanted to play too as I read the book. Life is great until "whateveritwas" is introduced to their peaceful world of Zapatos. "Whateveritwas" is the substance to which Calvin and his family form an addiction to very quickly. I found the cookie to be a smart kid-friendly representation of a substance or activity that can cause a person's addiction and it was utilized very well in the book. Without giving much away, I was very happy with the ending of this book. I found this book to be a beneficial tool in showing the perils of addiction and how it can affect a user and the people around them. As a child of a parent, who suffered from drug addiction, this would have been a wonderful book to read growing up. It would have helped me understand my father's sickness better and his struggles as an addict and now a recovering addict. This is a MUST READ for all kids and should be a staple in library systems. Five stars all around!

When I first stumbled upon this Children's book, I was looking for a tool to assist my cousin's girlfriend explain to her children about their father's absence due to

addiction. Addiction is not an easy subject for children to understand and they are left with more questions and feelings of hurt than answers. As the daughter of two recovering addicts, this book spoke to my inner child and the struggle that Calvin Critter has, I have had and many children today continue to have. The author, Anthony Curcio, uses a different approach of having a black and white illustration that I think helps to show that addiction can affect anyone, no matter your color or background. By having the Whateveritwas introduced randomly also shows how the addiction can come out of nowhere and there is no one person to blame. Just that you have to be willing to let go and say no once you realize that it is bad for you. I love the narration character, Dr. Roach. Even though he looks more like an ant to me than a roach, he is a delight to the story and I think keeps it going at a pace that the tone is still engaging for children and not so heavy that they are unable to understand it. I think that this is a great tool for therapists, social workers, and teachers to be able to engage the children they teach that may have a parent or loved one who is an addict understand that it's not their fault and they need to share their feelings about it with their loved ones so that they know how much the addiction is hurting them and that they just want them to say No and get better.

This is another great book by a great Author! This book talks about addiction in a cute way in which is very relatable to children. The Critter family is the main focus and they seem like the perfect family until a particular item is introduced to their environment. The short read really speaks to children on their level and promotes healthy conversations regarding a emotional topic.

I applaud the author for tackling such a tough topic. Addiction is tough to explain to anyone, let alone children! It was splendidly done. I read it to my niece (age 5) and she loved it, especially the critters. The part about Ralph really hit home for her. You could see from her expressions that she was actually understanding it. The black and white made it a bit harder for her to say focused so I would want a colored version. Still even I got into the story! It reminds me of the Fraggles from my childhood and was a joy to read together. Although I do have one question: Who introduced the Critters to the Whateveritwas?

The best of two worlds, a beautiful children book, with nice and funny black and white pictures, and a clear, concise and simple to understand message for the young generations. What more do you want for such a price? I recommend to buy the printed version of the book too.

Cute and engaging illustration. The level of understanding that was gained after reading this book with my son was amazing, and it wasn't sad like I had initially anticipated. It was much more matter of fact and hopeful. The only downside in my opinion was the lack of color, but the book far exceeded my expectations regarding its message and clarity. Highly recommend!

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