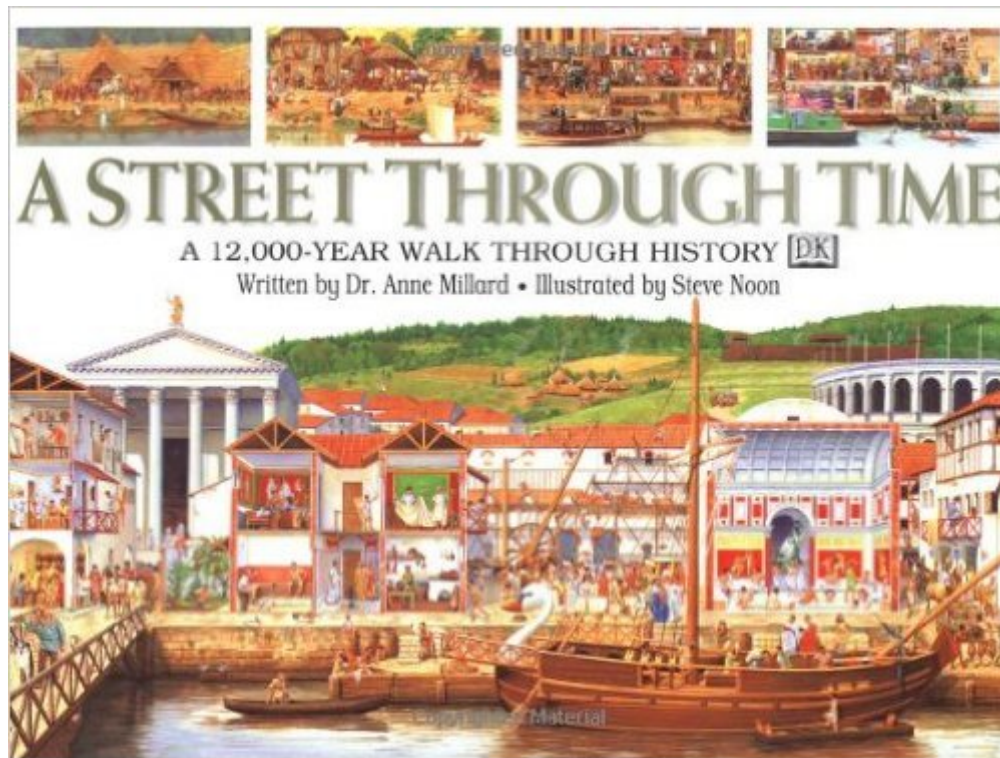


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# A Street Through Time



## Synopsis

Demonstrating the unfolding of history, panoramic views visiting a particular site every few centuries follow the evolution of a Stone Age riverside settlement into a twentieth-century city. A bold title and date with a few sentences describing significant changes appears in the upper-right-hand corner of each broad vertical scene. Added statements wind around the four borders, offering details about daily life of the period and inviting readers to search for significant activities among the many small vignettes in the larger view. Tiny figures busy at daily life offer an engaging chronicle of human experience over time as invaders and disease take their toll or more peaceful times bring prosperity and growth. The hypothetical street is in an unnamed European setting; Romans, Barbarians, Vikings, and the plague alter the fortunes of in-habitants. Some of the historical milestones represented by the fourteen segments are not so far apart, while long stretches of time separate others. It's a very telescopic view, compressing the rich complexities of history into a few glimpses, but there's plenty of human interest in the passing scene to keep readers poring over the shifting yet similar pursuits of people over time. The timeline construct is a useful demonstration for children, and the busy vistas would make a fine springboard for encouraging students to create scenes of local history.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: DK Children; 1st edition (November 9, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0789434261

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Product Dimensions: 10.8 x 0.4 x 14.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (43 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #515,257 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Archaeology](#) #263 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Customs, Traditions, Anthropology](#) #3448 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History](#)

Age Range: 10 - 17 years

Grade Level: 5 - 12

## Customer Reviews

I've had to buy a second copy of this wonderful book for my 14 year old son. He was deeply distressed when, thinking he'd outgrown it, I'd passed our first copy on to his school. The recommended age range is far too narrow, for adults have enjoyed it as a coffee table book as much as six year old visitors who find the transformation of years magical. My own children were impressed that civilizations do not always progress forward -- "The Invaders" and "The Plague Strikes" gave them a more dynamic sense of history. The fine illustrations pull the reader in, the rendering of characters give each of them full personality and interest. My kids generally have very limited interest in non-fiction; this one remains a favorite of their collection.

I originally bought this book for my older child, but my 4 year old son keeps this book glued to his side! I love the wonderful, detailed illustrations as well as the fascinating historical content. It brings to life the changes that occurred in a city in a way that words sometimes find hard to express, with a humor that children and adults alike will find charming. It has become one of my favorite books!

This is not a history text; it will not give you factoids or dates. But it will enliven your appreciation of the passage of time and the continuity of human existence. This is a large but lightweight book. Each page is approximately 13 by 10 inches, and each of the fourteen depictions are shown in a two-page spread of about 26 inches by 10. The site depicted is an area near a waterway, presumably in the English midlands, and the eras shown are 10,000 BCE, showing a winter settlement of Stone Age hunters; 2000 BCE, an early farming settlement; 600 BCE, the Iron Age; AD 100, during Roman occupation; 600, after the collapse of Roman civilization to barbarian invaders; 900, after the Viking raids; 1200s, a medieval village; 1400s, a medieval town; 1500s, during the Bubonic Plague; 1600s, during a time of religious wars; 1700s, the Regency period; early 1800s, the beginning of industrialization; late 1800s, a thriving city; and finally, a modern city. In successive time periods we see objects and buildings from the last era in ruins or having been adapted for other uses. We see that some things never change (boating or imbibing, for example) while others change markedly (technology, cleanliness, etc.), and that to "progress" is not always to move forward. A fun book with lively cross-section watercolor drawings that will bring the concept of history to life, this book will lose some relevance for North American readers (who might also enjoy Gail Gibbons' FROM PATH TO HIGHWAY about the Boston Post Road through history), but it is still eminently worthwhile and enjoyable.

"A Street Through Time" is a lovely, informative, child-friendly approach to history. My five year old adores it. We have probably read it 50 times. Great details, great jumping off spots for all kinds of different discussions with kids. I think the 9 - 12 age recommendation is too narrow. I think that inquisitive 4 and 5 year olds will love it too (and if they don't this year, they will soon!)

Though the age recommendation for this book is 9-12, our son got this book when he was only 4 years old and it has remained one of his favorites. Now, nearly two and a half years after he got it, it was taken into school just this week by him as "something special to show the class." Adults as well as kids can learn a lot about history from this book. Each page is from a different period in time, supposedly on the same plot of land (presumably in Europe). It is a great springboard for exploring ANY historical time... and where it fits in with others. The illustrations are wonderful and search-and-find type information snippets written around the borders help bring some starting points for discussion. Couldn't recommend this book more!

This is one of those books with GREAT detailed images that children love to dwell on for ages. Although they are looking for the similarities/changes from age to age, and looking for the little man cleverly hidden in each image, they are unknowingly also learning a LOT, as evidenced by the many questions they will ask. The idea of history and "long ago times" is often a difficult concept for younger children to grapple with, but this book (and others like it) serve as a great tool for starting to understand these ideas while they have great fun at the same time. Steve Noon has an remarkable artist's eye for detail (and for conveying it) that reminds me of David MacCaulay's books, which I also highly recommend, ex: "Pyramid", "Mill", "Castle", "Cathedral", etc.

This book fired my imagination as a kid. You see the same plot of ground through centuries, with a continuity that is cool (during a viking attack you see some people burying treasure, 500 years later you see other people finding it, etc) There's so much detail, and a good amount of humor in it too (in the Roman apartment houses, one person hammering nails, an indignant dad shouting through the wall as the mom holds the woken up baby, etc).

This is an excellent book with detailed information, beautiful drawings and extra fun activities for kids to enjoy and participate. We received the book on a Friday afternoon. My three kids, ages 6, 8 and 12, spent that Friday evening reading the book together. It was precious to watch them being so absorbed into the book.

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