

Prairie Evers

By Ellen Airgood

Annotation

- Prairie Evers has been home-schooled her whole life. After a move up north with her family, Prairie finds herself going to public school for the very first time. Prairie discovers that between raising chickens and nurturing a brand new friendship with a girl her age, school and life in upstate New York aren't quite as bad as she anticipated.

Book Talk

- Until she is ten years old, Prairie Evers is schooled at home by her Grammy, both in academics, but also in tromping through the woods on nature walks in rural North Carolina. Her parents decide to move north, but her beloved Grammy only stays a short time before heading back to North Carolina, leaving Prairie to face life without her. At first Prairie hates her new home, and school is definitely as bad as she thought. But as she settles in to her new life, she makes her first true friend and discovers the joys and hardships of raising chickens on her own. When a crisis occurs in her friend Ivy's life, Prairie turns to her Granny for advice, and she learns the true meaning of friendship and family ties.

Book Trailer

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceHmClZBsKg>

Author on the Internet

- Website: <http://www.ellenairgood.com/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Ellen-Airgood-Author-170994686278457/>
- Blog: <http://ellenairgood.com/blog/>
- Tumblr: <https://www.tumblr.com/search/ellen+airgood>

Items to use in a library display

- Birdhouses, Quilts, Chickens/Chicks

Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics

- Both adults and children in the book show that people sometimes show character traits that are not often obvious until we come to know someone better.
- What is the best show and tell item you've ever brought to school
- What are some of the advantages and disadvantages to being home-schooled versus attending public schools?

First Line of the Book:

- "Just exactly one year ago, right after midnight on New Year's Eve, my grammy told me, 'Prairie, I have ushered in the new year with you, and that is all I can do.'"

Non-Fiction Companion Titles

- Care of Chickens
- Folk Music
- Nature
- Wild Animals (Coyotes)

What to Read Next

- *The Trouble With Chickens* by Doreen Cronin
- *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl
- *Loot* by Jude Watson
- *Hope was Here* by Joan Bauer

Other Books by this Author

- *South of Superior*
- *Education of Ivy Blake*

Additional Resources

- Music: American Pie, Don Mclean
- Art/craft activity: Paper quilts, painting birdhouses, drawing chicken wire designs
- Fun Facts: <http://www.ellenairgood.com/chickenfacts.shtml>
- About the author: <http://ellenairgood.com/author.shtml>
- Lesson ideas: Designing quilts with geometric designs, character traits - friendship, kindness, positivity