

## Bookfolio for **The Cricket in Times Square**

**Author:** [George Selden](#)

**Illustrator:** Garth Williams

**First Publication Date:** 1960

**Publisher:** Farrar Straus & Giroux

**ISBN:** 0374316503

**Recommended for:** [Grades 3-5](#)

**Classification:** Fiction

**Genre:** [Fantasy](#)

**Story Summary:** Chester Cricket arrives unexpectedly in the Times Square subway station in New York City after having fallen asleep in a picnic basket in his native Connecticut. Mario Bellini, whose parents run a failing newsstand in the station, befriends the forlorn creature. Happy in his new home, Chester learns about the city and shares good times with his new pals, Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat. Chester unwittingly creates trouble for the Bellinis, but he makes it up to them by attracting people to the newsstand with his beautiful renditions of operatic, symphonic, and popular music. When autumn comes, Chester follows his heart and returns home to his meadow in Connecticut.

**Read-aloud Recommendation:** Chapters 4 and 5, Chapter 3, "Chester," pages 18-2

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:**

**R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

The Cricket in Times Square - Independent Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Hall of Fame</a> (Making drawings of animal heroes)	D , W
2. <a href="#">From a Cricket's Point of View</a> (Writing a story from a creature's point of view)	S , W
3. <a href="#">Words that Sound Like...</a> (Making a list of sound words)	D , W
4. <a href="#">Believe It or Not</a> (Writing a note to explain an event)	S , W
5. <a href="#">My Favorite Season</a> (Writing a poem or descriptive paragraph)	D , W
6. <a href="#">A Cricket Collage</a> (Making an informative collage)	D , R , W
The Cricket in Times Square - Group Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Another Object in the Newstand</a> (Writing another version of the story)	S , W
2. <a href="#">Share More Adventures</a> (Reading another book in the series)	D , R , S
3. <a href="#">On the Scene</a> (Interviewing story characters)	S
4. <a href="#">A Cricket Tale</a> (Writing and illustrating a picture book)	L , S
5. <a href="#">Music Appreciation</a> (Listening to music)	L , S
6. <a href="#">"Let's Talk About..."</a> (Discussing the story)	L , S

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