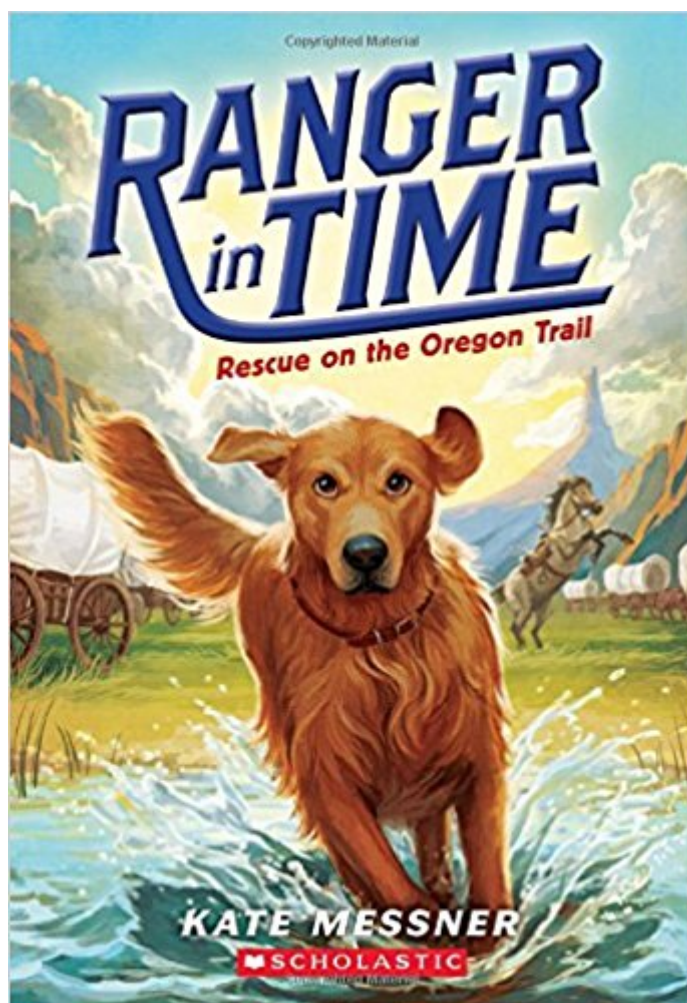


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# Rescue On The Oregon Trail (Ranger In Time #1)



## Synopsis

Meet Ranger! He's a time-traveling golden retriever who has a nose for trouble . . . and always saves the day! Ranger has been trained as a search-and-rescue dog, but can't officially pass the test because he's always getting distracted by squirrels during exercises. One day, he finds a mysterious first aid kit in the garden and is transported to the year 1850, where he meets a young boy named Sam Abbott. Sam's family is migrating west on the Oregon Trail, and soon after Ranger arrives he helps the boy save his little sister. Ranger thinks his job is done, but the Oregon Trail can be dangerous, and the Abbotts need Ranger's help more than they realize!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 690 (What's this?)

Series: Ranger in Time (Book 1)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press (January 6, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 054563914X

ISBN-13: 978-0545639149

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 76 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,784 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Time Travel](#) #12 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s](#) #62 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Gr 3-5 • Ranger is a golden retriever who trained as a search-and-rescue dog. Unfortunately, he never passes the final test due to those pesky squirrels he can't help chasing. One afternoon, while playing outside with his owner, Luke, he comes across a buried first-aid kit that transports him back to the year 1850. Finding himself in Independence, Missouri, Ranger meets the Abbott family, who is making the treacherous journey on the Oregon Trail. Confused by the strange sights and smells, the dog decides that this must be some sort of new tracking test. Convinced that

if he passes he will be reunited with his beloved Luke, Ranger takes on the challenge with gusto. He quickly becomes an invaluable family member by babysitting the Abbotts's ever-wandering toddler, making fast friends with young Sam, and warning them of dangers along the trail. This excellent story contains historical details, full-age illustrations, and enough action to keep even reluctant readers engaged. A wonderful author's note at the end is full of quotes from authentic journals, factual information on search-and-rescue dogs, and suggestions for further reading. This is a stellar choice for readers just starting full-length chapter books and would be a hit with young history buffs and dog lovers as well. --Amy Nolan, St. Joseph Public Library, St. Joseph, MI --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Kate Messner is the author of *THE BRILLIANT FALL OF GIANNA Z.*, winner of the E.B. White Read Aloud Award for Older Readers; *CAPTURE THE FLAG*, an SCBWI Crystal Kite Award winner; *HIDE AND SEEK*; *MANHUNT*; and the Marty McGuire chapter book series. A former middle-school English teacher, Kate lives on Lake Champlain with her family and loves reading, walking in the woods, and traveling. Visit her online at [www.katemessner.com](http://www.katemessner.com).

Time travel has long been a staple of the science fiction/fantasy genre both for adults and for children. But this is the first time I've read a book that focused on an animal time-traveling. It creates an interesting conundrum for the animal since Ranger, a dog, can't explain to himself or to his new companions what happened and where he came from. I liked the fact that Ranger's skills in tracking and finding are clearly explained by his search-and-rescue training. The time travel elements are kept simple which is appropriate for a book for the 7-10 age group. More sophisticated readers might desire more explanation but for young readers it's best not to get bogged down in details. The book moves smoothly and quickly through the plot which will keep children turning pages. This new series I think will be a fun way to introduce young readers to just how interesting the past can be, in this case the pioneers who traveled across the plains to find a new life for themselves. The author includes many of the dangers that these pioneers faced such as buffalo stampedes, dangerous river crossings, and disease (including death). And yet the troubles Ranger and his adopted family face don't overwhelm the book. And Ranger despite his new attachments never forgets Luke and his original home. The book works well as a read-a-loud and would make for an excellent introduction to historical fiction while including a science fiction twist that will draw readers into the story.

A dog who travels through time and saves people--what child could ask for more? Messner is a

gifted writer for mid to upper elementary readers and has written several books that I recommend highly to my library patrons. This one is a light, easy read for grades 3-6 and will leave them feeling satisfied and likely to reach for additional books in the series, which does not have to be read in order. Social studies teachers will appreciate the historical backdrop and accurate depiction of the time period featured and readers will be unaware of all that they are learning while following golden retriever Ranger into various places and times saving the day. The only reason for the 4 star review rather than five was due to the fairly predictable pace in the book, but many young readers will appreciate the fact that the storyline does not twist and turn its way to a conclusion.

I really wanted to love this book as a read aloud for my 5 year old because he loves Hank the Cowdog and enjoys Magic Treehouse so I thought this would be a good mix but the writer essentially dumps you into the time period (Oregon Trail) with no real explanations or understanding of what is going on and while I thought the dog would be the main character of the book like Hank, Ranger just kind of hangs out through the whole book and doesn't feel like the main character. I would have rated it a 3 but my son said he liked it so I'm willing to give it a 4. And FYI there is a death of a mother and father early in this book that was slightly troubling to my young reader and we have to talk about it a bit so if you haven't had that discussion realize it will come up.

Ranger is a hyper-active golden retriever who just failed search and rescue training. He loves his human family and chasing squirrels but one day he uncovers a mysterious and magical box and is transported back in time. In the first installment of this series, Ranger ends up in 1850 on the Oregon Trail. It's here that his search and rescue training becomes second nature as he helps a new family and their friends survive a wagon train ride west. It's a delightful book with historical insight and author Kate Messner does not gloss over the realities of life on a wagon train across the prairie. Not everyone will survive the journey but most will thanks to Ranger to the Rescue! No doubt Ranger will time travel to many exciting periods in time always trying to get home to his family. This is simply a delightful book for children that adults will enjoy and appreciate. I can't wait to read more of Ranger's travel in time adventures.

I bought this book for my granddaughter's 4th grade class Christmas gift swap. I felt it would be good for either a girl or a boy. Plus I knew a little about the author. My granddaughter didn't see it when I brought it to her class. Amazingly she chose this book without knowing that her Nana had sent it in. She loved the story.

My son loves this book! He's a 7 year old dyslexic student who hates to read. However, he heard about this book and asked for it so I got it. He hasn't put it down yet! We can't wait for the 2nd book!

This is a fun story told from Ranger's point of view. He was trained as a Search and Rescue dog, but he kept chasing squirrels, so he didn't pass the test. Instead he went back home with Luke and chased squirrels until one day he dug up a box--a strange box--so Ranger decided to show it to Luke; he shoved his head through the leather strap so he could carry it and then the box got hot and bright, and Ranger closed his eyes because of the light. When he opened his eyes, he was on the Oregon Trail, where he joined Sam and his family and their wagon train on the trail, sometimes helping them with his search and rescue training, but he never stopped wondering where Luke was and wanting to go home. I bought it because I was curious about a time-traveling dog and a story about the Oregon Trail. I did a lot of research on the Oregon Trail for Detour Trail, and I'm always ready to learn more. The author's note covers the history of the trail and search and rescue dogs, and there's a bibliography for readers who want to find out more. By the way, Ranger does go home after escorting the train to Oregon, and there's another adventure upcoming.

very engaging for a young reader, the author was very informative about the history of the Oregon trail but in such a way that a young reader would want to learn and read about it.

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