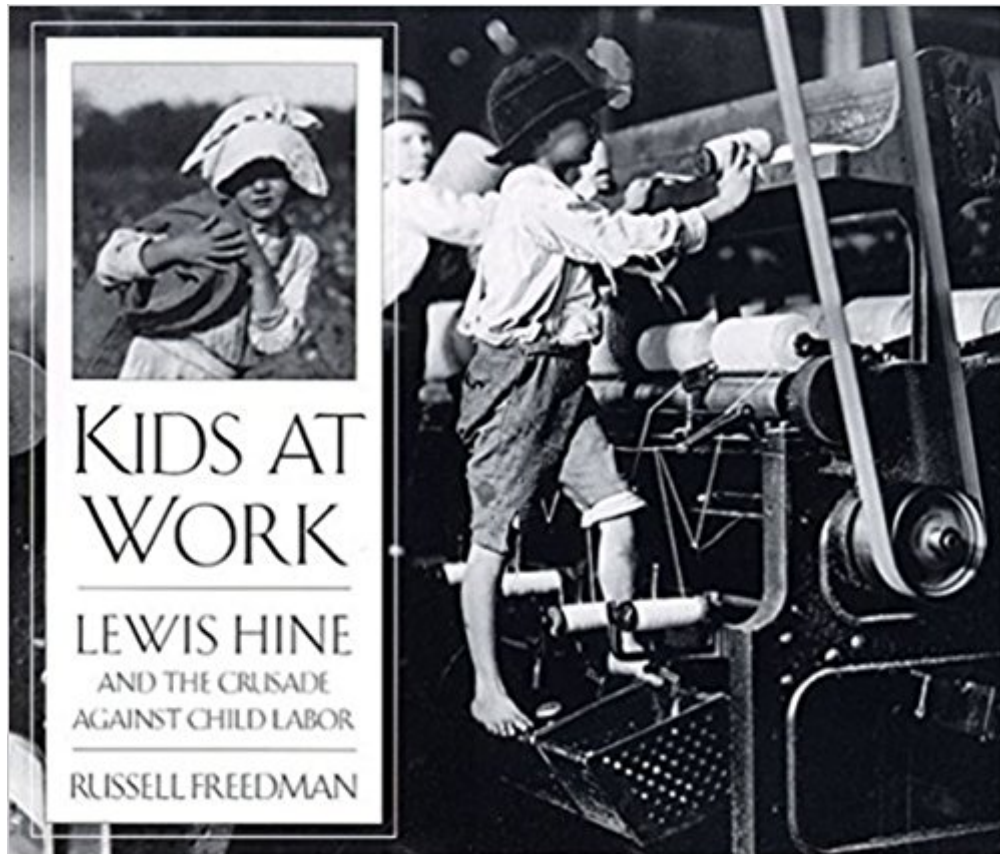




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# Kids At Work: Lewis Hine And The Crusade Against Child Labor



## Synopsis

Photobiography of early twentieth-century photographer and schoolteacher Lewis Hine, using his own work as illustrations. Hines's photographs of children at work were so devastating that they convinced the American people that Congress must pass child labor laws.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Hine photographed underprivileged child laborers from 1908-1918; their depleted faces look out from almost every page. "Freedman does an outstanding job of integrating historical photographs with meticulously researched and highly readable prose," said PW in a starred review. Ages 10-up. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 5 Up-Using the photographer's work throughout, Freedman provides a documentary account of child labor in America during the early 1900s and the role Lewis Hine played in the crusade against it. He offers a look at the man behind the camera, his involvement with the National Child Labor Committee, and the dangers he faced trying to document unjust labor conditions.

Solemn-faced children, some as young as three years old, are shown tending looms in cotton mills or coated with coal dust in the arresting photos that accompany the explanations of the economics and industries of the time. Both Freedman's words and quotes from Hine add impact to the photos, explaining to contemporary children the risky or fatiguing tasks depicted. Details such as Hine's way of determining children's height by measuring them against his own coat buttons add further depth and a personal touch to the already eloquent statements made by his thoughtfully composed

black-and-white portraits. Also included are some of the photographer's other projects throughout his career. Readers will not only come to appreciate the impact of his groundbreaking work, but will also learn how one man dedicated and developed his skill and talents to bring about social reform. Susan Knorr, Milwaukee Public Library, WI Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is important photographic history, though written with an anticapitalist slant. While child labor was certainly a black mark on our nation's history when taken in the context of today's accepted thinking, at the time period children worked much harder on farms. Most of these children came from farm families that were forced into the city by lean crop yields. With massive crowding and families in need of money, children were once again expected to contribute to the family's income, just as on the farm. The end of child labor under such conditions should be celebrated.

We bought this book as a supplement to the audio CD below. After listening to the CD and getting this book, we weren't expecting the wonderful surprise of interest it all generated in our family! Unbelievably powerful! Oh, and the photographer is Lewis Hine. This book is a wonderful supplement to this story and going deeper into the era! [http://www..com/Counting-Grace-Elizabeth-Winthrop/dp/0739339028/ref=tmm\\_abk\\_title\\_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1392225012&sr=8-1](http://www..com/Counting-Grace-Elizabeth-Winthrop/dp/0739339028/ref=tmm_abk_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1392225012&sr=8-1) Two years ago we listened to the audio CD (six CDs). I am STILL recommending it to friends. Highly recommend the audio CD! I had originally got it mainly for our 10 y.o. to listen to while in the car I had planned for other things for our younger kids to do while DS was listening. We ALL were so into it! (Age range 4-10 and myself!) The kids would immediately ask for me to turn it back on to continue whenever we got in the car. After we finished the CDs, they as to hear it AGAIN! It was just as good the second time. As far as audio CDs go, they are often only as good as the reader. This one definitely hits the mark! This reader is wonderful and easy to listen to. Not boring at all! Moves along smoothly and quickly. Don't skip the author interview at the end! This too is fabulous! Provides so much interesting insight into the story. Do not listen to the interview first, it may skew your vision of the story a bit. There is also a free teacher's guide at the author's website.[...] These would make a delightful gift pairing for any child.

This is a great little volume. Although it's theoretically for students, I believe adults would find it riveting. First of all, the photos taken by Lewis Hine tell the narrative on their own. However, Russell Freedman, as always, provides insight and thoughtful commentary worthwhile for younger and older

readers. In terms of "how it is," I'm referring to child labor (often child slavery) as it exists today in other parts of the world. Looking at these pictures helps to make the plight of those children more real and more urgent.

If a picture is worth a thousand words, this book really speaks volumes about the atrocity of child labor in America. Lewis Hine performed heroic deeds with his camera, helping to awaken Americans to the injuries and diseases of the country's youngest citizens. Russell Freedman provides rich background information and context about Lewis Hine the photographer, and his incredible documentary photos.

Thank you very much, excellent seller, happy to buy again.

The book was very good and fun to read. I almost always had a hard time with History when I was in high school. But this book made learning about kids working in bad and dangerous conditions more enjoyable to learn. I like it a lot because it has pictures and quotes about the kids experience which gives you a strong picture of what life was like for those poor kids. It makes happy knowing today that kids go to school and even grownups don't work in such harsh conditions.

Freedman has collected dozens of black and white photographs taken by Lewis Hine during the first decades of the twentieth century. Hine worked as an investigational photographer for the National Child Labor Committee (NCLC). The NCLC wanted the United States government to pass laws concerning child labor, and thought that photos of the work children did would be more effective persuaders than mere speeches and statistics. Hine traveled the nation with his camera taking photographs, sometimes despite risk to his person. The text of the book serves partly as a brief biography of Lewis Hine, and partly as explanatory backdrop for the scenes in the photographs. Freeman gives enough background information to put the images in their context, but not so much data as to overwhelm the reader. The machines, tools and environments are so strange to the modern eye that without clarification, many pictures would be meaningless. The most shocking photographs in the collection are of the young boys involved in the coalmines. The filth on their faces, hands and clothing is astonishing. By comparison, the dangers and deplorable conditions of working in a cotton mill are not as readily apparent as those of working in a coal mine. However, reading Freeman's text exposes the dangers of moving machinery and smothering lint and humidity not so clear in the photos. The book concludes by sharing the changes in child labor laws that Hine's

photographs helped bring about, as well as information on the child labor situation of today. This book is full of eye opening and shocking information for the unaware. School may be hard, but without child labor laws things could be so much worse.

This is a fascinating book and I highly recommend it. If we are not vigilant and mindful, and choose not to participate in the political fortunes of our country, we could go back to the days of child labor. I think that would be sad.

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