



## ***The Lorax: eco edition - Dr Seuss***

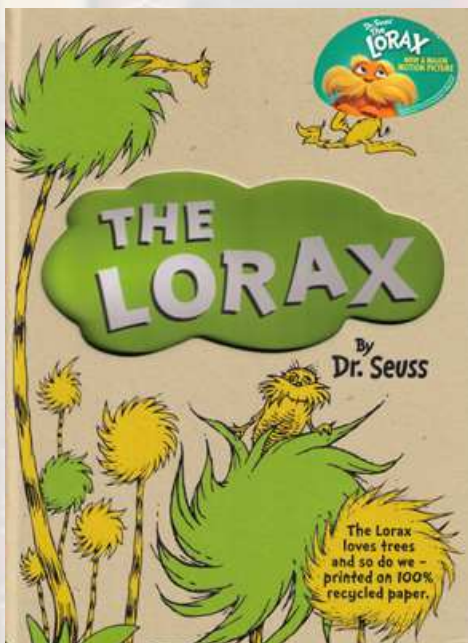
**Published by HarperCollins, RRP \$20.99**

First published 40 years ago, *The Lorax* introduces children to the little eco-warrior with the big walrus moustache. Created by Dr Seuss, the bouncy rhyme and zany characters continue to captivate young readers. The environmental message is timeless.

A young boy lives in a dismal, polluted town and is curious as to how it became so run down. He visits the reclusive Once-ler who lives in a dilapidated Thneed factory. For a fee, the greedy Once-ler tells how he cut down the beautiful Truffula trees to meet consumer demand for knitted Thneeds. The damage enraged the Lorax. "Mister!" he said with a sawdusty sneeze. "I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees." But his attempts to halt the destruction fell on deaf ears. The Once-ler invented a Super-Axe-Hacker which whacked off four Truffula Trees at one smacker. As the devastation continued, the Brown Bar-ba-loots who once played by the trees and ate their Truffula fruits were forced to leave in search of food and shelter. A similar fate sent the Swomee-Swans and Humming-Fish far away.

Although the storyline is rather gloomy, the Lorax hints at the possibility of improvement if people are willing to make it happen. The young boy represents the future, he symbolises optimism and the potential for renewed growth. A cautionary tale with a seed of hope. An attractive, hardback edition printed on 100% recycled paper.

**Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett**



**Author's website: [www.seussville.com](http://www.seussville.com)**

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