



Book Kits for the 2021 Beehive Book Awards Graphic Novel Nominees

The Cardboard Kingdom

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Peter & Ernesto: A Tale of Two Sloths

Tiger vs. Nightmare

Urban Legendz



The Cardboard Kingdom

Author: Chad Sell

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers

Publication Date: 2018

ISBN: 9781524719388

Grade Level: 4-7



Description

Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colorful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom. This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters--and their own inner demons--on one last quest before school starts again. In the Cardboard Kingdom, you can be anything you want to be--imagine that!

Themes

Friendship, Imagination, Family, Gender Roles, Self-Expression, Siblings, Inclusion

Author Information

Chad Sell grew up in a small town in central Wisconsin. He lived in a neighborhood much like the Cardboard Kingdom, where he and his friends bounded through backyards in imaginative games and outfits. He also drew a lot and came up with all kinds of colorful characters. His favorites were often the villains, because despite being different and misunderstood, they were powerful and confident, and they got the best costumes. Chad lives in Chicago with his husband and two cats.

Chad Sell invited ten other writers to help bring the Cardboard Kingdom to life and fill it with the many heroes of the realm: Jay Fuller, David DeMeo, Katie Schenkel, Kris Moore, Manuel Betancourt, Molly Muldoon, Vid Alliger, Cloud Jacobs, Michael Cole, and Barbara Perez Marquez. More information about each collaborator is given in the chapter section corresponding to which he/she contributed.

Learn more about Chad Sell and The Cardboard Kingdom at www.chadsellcomics.com.

Follow the creators of the kingdom on Twitter at @TheCardboardK.

Discussion Questions

1. Many of the kids in The Cardboard Kingdom become a character who is different from his or her own personality. Why do you think they did this?
2. What character would you choose to be? Why?
3. What is your favorite summer activity? Why is it your favorite?
4. It can be hard to make new friends and join a new group. What would you do if someone was trying to join your group or make friends with you? Why?
5. Would you rather live in medieval times like the Knight and the Sorceress or in a future time like the Robot and the Mad Scientist? Why?

Activities

1. Create costumes of the characters from the book. Work as a group to write a play/skit based on the characters from the book. As a group, practice the play then perform it for each other or friends and family members.
2. Make Cardboard Kingdom masks using these patterns: <https://ntanos.co.uk/collections/the-cardboard-kingdom>
3. Have a mad scientist activity where kids can try out different simple science experiments, such as giant toothpaste, slime, invisible ink and ice cream in a bag.



4. Make a castle out of cardboard boxes then hold a jousting competition with stick ponies and paper lances.
5. Have kids write and illustrate a one-page story about a favorite summer activity.
6. Make Bristlebots and then make some robot art. <https://www.makerspaces.com/how-to-make-a-bristlebot/>

More Resources

- <https://youtu.be/P8d2ypzykNk> - Author interview
- <https://mommypoppins.com/kids/50-easy-science-experiments-for-kids-fun-educational-activities-using-household-stuff> - easy science experiments
- https://www.ducksters.com/history/middle_ages/history_of_knights.php - Middle Ages for kids

Similar Books

- The Time Museum by Matthew Loux
- The Season of Styx Malone by Kekla Magoon
- Recess Warriors by Marcus Emerson
- Making Friends by Kristen Gudsruk
- Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina
- All's Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

Related Non-fiction

- Build Your Own Robots by Rob Ives
- A Noble History of Knights by Izzi Howell
- 101 Coolest Simple Science Experiments: Awesome Things to Do with Your Parents, Babysitters and Other Adults by Holly Homer & Rachel Miller
- 51 Things to Make with Cardboard Boxes by Fiona Hayes
- The Kids' Money Book: Earning, Saving, Spending, Investing, Donating by Jamie Kyle McGillian



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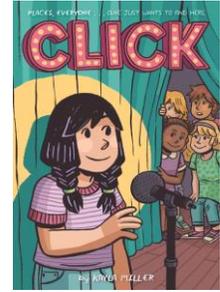
Author: Kayla Miller

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

Publication Date: 2019

ISBN: 978-1328911124

Grade Level: 3-6



Description

Olive “clicks” with everyone in the fifth grade—until one day she doesn’t. When a school variety show leaves Olive stranded without an act to join, she begins to panic, wondering why all her friends have already formed their own groups . . . without her. With the performance drawing closer by the minute, will Olive be able to find her own place in the show before the curtain comes up?

Themes

Family, Friendship, Popularity, Self-discovery, Talent Show

Author Information

www.kayla-miller.com

Kayla Miller is a cartoonist, author, and illustrator living and working in New York. They have a BFA in Illustration from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. When not busy working on graphic novels, Kayla enjoys watching bad movies, trying to cook new recipes, playing games (both board and video), and reading other people’s graphic novels.

Discussion Questions

1. When her teacher announces the 5th Grade Variety Show, how does Olive initially feel? How does this change throughout the day? Why do you think that happens? How would you feel in Olive's situation?
2. Olive is lucky to have her Aunt Molly to put things in perspective and help Molly discover her unique talents. Do you have someone like Aunt Molly in your life? Who would it be and how do they help you through tough situations?
3. Olive finds that she has not "clicked" with any particular group of friends, but that she is friends with everyone at different times. Are you like Olive with lots of friends, or do you find yourself clicking with a particular group? What are the benefits and drawbacks to each?
4. There are many different groups or "cliques" that Olive has friendships with. What group do you think you'd like to be a part of and why?
5. What are the reasons Olive decides she wants to host the variety show? Based on Olive's personality, do you think she will be a good host? Why or why not?
6. If you were going to participate in a variety show, what type of act would you do?

Activities

1. Have a variety show -- either spontaneously or planned in advance so there is time to practice.
2. Make friendship bracelets to celebrate the friendships that you have.
3. Watch videos of old variety shows and compare them to today's television shows.
4. Teach kids some basic magic tricks, karate moves, dance moves, or cheers like the characters do in the book.
5. Have a lip-sync contest or just lip-sync to some favorite songs.
6. Make a pretend microphone. Here is a link to one example:
<https://www.iheartartsncrafts.com/microphone-craft-kids/>



Similar Books

- Real Friends and Best Friends by Shannon Hale
- Smile, Sisters and Guts by Raina Telgemeir
- Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson
- Invisible Emmie, Positively Izzy, and Just Jaime by Terri Libenson
- Sunny Side Up, Swing It Sunny and Sunny Rolls the Dice by Jennifer Holm

Related Non-fiction

- How to Be the Funniest Kid in the Whole Wide World by Jay Leno
- Cliques, Phonies and Other Baloney by Trevor Romain



Peter & Ernesto: A Tale of Two Sloths

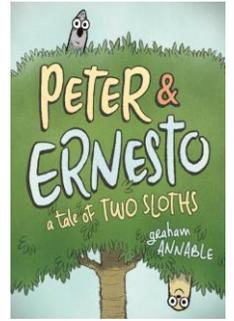
Author: Graham Annable

Publisher: First Second

Publication Date: April 10, 2018

ISBN: 9781626725614

Grade Level: 1-5



Description

Peter and Ernesto are sloths. Peter and Ernesto are friends. But Peter and Ernesto are nothing alike. Peter loves their tree and never wants to leave, while Ernesto loves the sky and wants to see it from every place on earth. So Ernesto leaves to have a grand adventure, and Peter stays behind and frets. Will their separation tear these friends apart...or can it bring them closer together?

Themes

Adventure, Adventurers, Comic Books, Friendship, Individual Differences, Separation Anxiety, Sloths, Travel

Author Information

Graham Annable is an Oscar nominated cartoonist and animator living in Portland, Oregon. He has created works for television, film, video games, and comic books. Find out more at Graham Annable's website:

<https://www.grickle.com/>

Discussion Questions

1. Peter and Ernesto are very different sloths. Do you think you are more like Peter or Ernesto? Why?
2. Describe a time you went to a new place. Did you feel brave or scared?
3. Ernesto takes a dive underwater on the back of Louie the whale. What do you think he heard, saw, and felt?
4. Ernesto says "There's no need to move much when you're content." Where do you feel most content? What makes that place special?
5. Ernesto encounters a bear while in the Arctic. What do you think you would do in that situation?
6. Peter and Ernesto meet many new animals on their adventures. What animal would you like to see in person?
7. While searching for Ernesto, Peter has an adventure of his own. How do you think Peter has changed? Is he the same sloth at the beginning and end of the book?

Activities

1. Write a backstory for Peter and Ernesto. Do you think they have always lived in the same tree? Have they always been best friends?
2. Peter and Ernesto pass the time by cloud watching, pointing out clouds that look like the shapes of animals. Spend some time outside cloud watching. What shapes do you see?
3. Ernesto learns about constellations from a camel in the desert. Draw and create your own constellation.
4. Peter often sings his way through tough situations. Write your own song you can use to help with a tough time.
5. Plan a trip to a place you have always wanted to go. Where would you go? How would you get there? Would you take someone with you or go alone?

More Resources

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJUfiEFh1w4> Inside a Baby Sloth Orphanage and Rescue Center
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHn5OO1t1yc> All About Auroras: Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) and Aurora Australis for Kids



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCoCaCL-uhc> See Antarctica From the Back of a Whale

Similar Books

- *Sparky* by Jenny Offill
- *Tiger vs Nightmare* by Emily Tetri
- *Mr. Wolf's Class* by Aron Nels Steinke
- *Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea* by Ben Clanton
- *Camp* by Kayla Miller
- *Real Friends* by Shannon Hale
- *CatStronauts: Mission Moon* by Drew Brockington
- *Lea Leads the Way* by Lisa Yee
- *Pax* By Sara Pennypacker
- *The One and Only Ivan* by K. A. Applegate
- *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo
- *In Your Shoes* by Donna Gephart

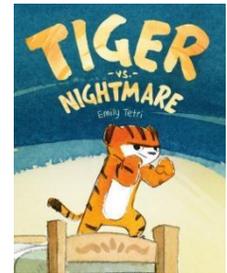
Related Non-fiction

- *A Little Book of Sloth* by Lucy Cooke
- *Amazing Animal Friendships: Odd Couples in Nature* by Pavla Hanackova
- *Stars and Constellations* by Nick Hunter
- *Biomes: Discover the Earth's Ecosystems: with Environmental Science Activities for Kids* by Donna Latham
- *The Young Adventurer's Guide to (Almost) Everything: Build a Fort, Camp Like a Champ, Poop in the Woods--45 Action-Packed Outdoor Activities* by Ben Hewitt
- *What to Do When You're Scared & Worried: A Guide for Kids* by James J. Crist



Tiger vs. Nightmare

Author: Emily Tetri
Publisher: First Second
Publication Date: 2018
ISBN: 9781626725355
Grade Level: 1-3



Description

Tiger is a very lucky kid: she has a monster living under her bed. Every night, Tiger and Monster play games until it's time for lights out. Of course, Monster would never try to scare Tiger--that's not what best friends do. But Monster needs to scare someone ... it's a monster, after all. So while Tiger sleeps, Monster scares all of her nightmares away. Thanks to her friend, Tiger has nothing but good dreams. But waiting in the darkness is a nightmare so big and mean that Monster can't fight it alone. Only teamwork and a lot of bravery can chase this nightmare away.

Themes

Bedtime, Best Friends, Cooperation, Courage, Dreams, Fears, Friendship, Monsters, Nightmares, Problem Solving, Sleep, Teamwork

Author Information

Emily Tetri is a Design and Color Supervisor, Background Painter, and Visual Development Artist who has worked for Nickelodeon, Warner Bros, Dreamworks, and currently, Cartoon Network. Tiger vs. Nightmare, a Giesel honoree and Eisner nominee, is her first book. See examples of her artwork and more details of her work history at her website, emilytetri.com, contact her by email at etetri@gmail.com, and follow her on Instagram @hootle.

Discussion Questions

1. Monster was supposed to be the one scaring Tiger, but they became friends instead. Have you ever met someone who became your friend though at first you didn't think that you'd get along with them?
2. Do you have a family member or friend who you talk to about your fears like Tiger? Why do you talk to that person when you're afraid?
3. How does it feel to have a friend help you with a problem?
4. What are some different ways a friend or family member has helped you? What are things you have done to help a family member or friend?
5. What is something you were afraid of but you aren't afraid of anymore? How do you think you got over that fear?
6. What could you do to face something that worries or scares you now?

Activities

1. Create your own Monster – draw, paint, build, etc. a monster-friend you'd like to have living under your bed to scare nightmares away. Supply clips or string/ribbon for kids to hang their Monster at their bedside.
2. Talk about what games you like to play with your friends. Ask what makes that game fun to play with that friend.
3. Discuss what kinds of actions and words are validating and helpful when someone is experiencing fear or anxiety. To practice doing/saying those things, pair off and pass around a bowl filled with slips of paper listing items or scenarios. Have each person select a slip of paper; what is written on the paper is their "fear" (could be silly, like spaghetti, or more realistic). Have the pairs take turns telling their partner what they are afraid of (according to the slip of paper), while the other listens, validates,



and then offers them comfort or advice.

4. Research self-soothing techniques that could be used anytime, such as deep breathing. Show a video or animated gif and/or teach a song or rhyme to demonstrate the technique in a memorable way. Practice as a group.
5. Make a worksheet of fill-in-the-blank affirmations that can be read when scared or worried for everyone ("I am strong because...", "I am brave because...", etc.)

More Resources

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1SL1XTdfTQ> - 1 minute book trailer
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkA72v2doig> - 1 minute book review by YouTube channel One Minute Books, a review channel for young adult and children's books presented by a youth services librarian
- <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/703731> - Project Muse link to Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books' review
- <http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/?p=4761> - Feature on author Emily Tetri from book blog Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast

Similar Books

- Dragon Night by J.R. Krause
- My Monster Friends and Me by Annie Sarac
- This Book is Spineless by Lindsay Leslie
- After the Fall by Dan Santat
- The Dark by Lemony Snicket
- Scaredy Squirrel at Night by Melanie Watt
- Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark by Katie Tsang
- Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx by Joe Todd-Stanton

Related Non-fiction

- The Anxiety Workbook for Kids by Robin C. Alter
- Put Your Worries Away by Gill Hasson
- Dreams and Astral Travel by Rosemary Guiley
- The Mysterious Secrets of Dreams by Carl R. Green
- Dreams and What They Mean by Elsie Olson
- Scared? by Nuria Roca



Urban Legendz

Author: Paul Downs and Nick Bruno

Illustrator: Michael Yates

Publisher: BiG by Humanoids

Publication Date: June 11, 2019

ISBN: 1594657149 and 978-1594657146

Grade Level: 4-7



Description

After his mother's death, teen Dwayne is forced to uproot himself and move into the home where his mother grew up: a shabby apartment in Brooklyn. Overshadowed by his socially salient older brother, and pressured by his policeman father, Dwayne often feels out of place, a sentiment that is only intensified in these unfamiliar surroundings. Before too long, however, his personal problems are cast aside when he gets suckered into joining a new crew of young vigilantes, devoted to solving a series of sinister cases surrounding mysterious monsters that have been wreaking havoc throughout the city.

Themes

Teenagers, Supernatural, Paranormal fiction, Legends, Vigilantes, Brooklyn, Survival

Author Information

Paul Downs is a screenwriter, animator and educator with seventeen years of experience spanning film, commercial and video game production.

Paul has written and developed projects for Cartoon Network, 20th Century Fox, and a live-action family film being produced by Smart Entertainment (Ted, Blades of Glory, Anger Management).

Paul's animation credits include Robots, the Ice Age franchise, Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who, Rio, Epic, Free Birds, Spies in Disguise, the 2017 Oscar® nominated film Ferdinand as well as the two short films: Surviving Sid and the Oscar® nominated, No Time for Nuts.

Paul lives in Florida, with his wife Jen and their two children, where he teaches Story/Animation at Ringling College of Art and Design.

Nick Bruno is an American Film Director and Animator at Blue Sky Studios, who in 2019 will make his Directorial debut with the animated Spies in Disguise.

Bruno was born and raised in Mohegan Lake, NY, USA, where, at an early age, he learned he could combine his love for drawing and filmmaking by pursuing a career in animation. He studied illustration and the fine arts at UMass Dartmouth, and went on to receive his Masters at NYU studying computer animation. In 2005, Bruno joined Blue Sky Studios as a Junior Animator on the feature film Ice Age: The Meltdown.

Most recently, Bruno served as Supervising Animator on The Peanuts Movie and in 2015, VARIETY named Bruno one of their "Ten Animators to Watch."

Additional animation credits include work on Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who, Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs, Rio, Ice Age: Continental Drift, Epic, Rio 2, and Ice Age: Collision Course, as well as two short films: Surviving Sid and the Oscar® nominated, No Time for Nuts.

In addition to animating, Nick has developed films at 20th Century Fox and has co-written a live-action family film being produced by Smart Entertainment (Ted, Blades of Glory, Anger Management).

Bruno resides in his hometown, with his wife Allison and their three children.



Discussion Questions

1. Which of the different Urban Legends seemed the creepiest/scariest to deal with? Why did you select that specific creature?
2. Have you ever moved to a new city and had to change schools? How did your move compare to that of Dwayne or D's experiences?
3. How important is the role of friends in the book? Give some examples.
4. D stole his dad's police scanner to help his new friends. Are there ever any good reasons to steal?
5. How did the community come together to save their city? Have you ever had to work with people who you don't typically hang out with? How was it?

Activities

1. Create a model of your favorite Urban Legend discussed in this book.
2. Write a backstory for Riff Raff. How did he end up homeless and how did he end up in his situation fighting the different Urban Legends?
3. One of the main storylines in this book revolves around the building and opening of "The Block." Construct your own version out of LEGO or blocks.
4. There are a number of different monster attacks throughout the book. Select one or two and try to recreate some of the aspects of the attack using a digital format.
5. Select your favorite scene from the book and rewrite it as a script. Then find some friends to act out that scene
6. Create a list of songs that could be included in the soundtrack of this story if it was turned into a movie.

More Resources

- <https://youtu.be/aJpGWPDSnAc> - 1-minute video trailer for the book.
- <https://www.livescience.com/33322-alligators-crocodiles-new-york-city-sewers.html> - Article about if alligators actually could live in New York.
- <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/76667/why-does-new-york-city-have-five-boroughs> - Article about why New York City has five boroughs.
- <https://www.nycgo.com/neighborhoods-boroughs/about-nyc-five-boroughs/> - Official guide to the five boroughs of New York City.

Similar Books

- Never Fear, Meena's Here! by Manternach, Karla
- How to Bee by MacDibble, Bren
- Castle of Books by Sanna, Alessandro
- Doug's Dung by Rooks, Jo
- Stargazing by Jen Wang
- New Kid by Jerry Craft
- The Witch Boy by Molly Ostertag
- Super Sons: The Foxglove Mission by Ridley Pearson

Related Non-fiction

- Encyclopedia of Urban Legends by Jan Harold Brunvand
- Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid: The Book of Scary Urban Legends by Jan Harold Brunvand
- Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark by Alvin Schwartz