Book Kits for the 2022 Beehive Book Awards Kids Graphic Novels Nominees

Anti-Hero

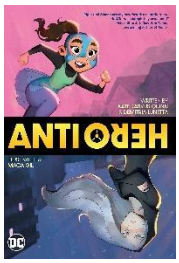
Fox and Rabbit

Major Impossible

Pea, Bee & Jay: Stuck Together

When Stars Are Scattered

Anti-Hero



Author: Kate Karyus Quinn & Demitria Lunetta
Publisher:
Publication Date:
ISBN:
Grade Level:

Description

Piper Pájaro and Sloane MacBrute are two 13-year-old girls with very different lives but very similar secrets. Popular, outgoing Piper is strong. Like, ripping-the-doors-off-cars strong. She longs to be a superhero, even if she tends to leave massive messes in her wake. Snarky Sloane, on the other hand, is super smart. Like, evil-genius-smart. To help her family, she has to put those smarts to use for her villainous grandfather.

When a mission to steal an experimental technological device brings the two girls face to face with each other, the device sparks, and the two girls switch bodies! Now they must live in each other's shoes as they figure out a way to switch back.

Anti/Hero is a story that explores what makes a hero, how one can find friendship where it's unexpected, and what it means to walk in another person's shoes...literally!

Themes

Crime, Empathy, Friendship, Law enforcement, Protection, Robotics, Science Fiction, Strength, Superheroes, Technology, Villains

Author Information

Author Kate Karyus Quinn's website https://www.katekaryusquinn.com/

Author Demitria Lunetta's website https://www.demitrialunetta.com/

Discussion Questions

1. Was Sloane right to do jobs for her grandfather? Does helping her family change that at all?
2. What would you do with a robot army like Sloane's?
3. Should Piper be out trying to be a hero with no formal training, a mentor, or telling anyone where she was going?
4. How would you react or feel if you switched bodies with someone else?
5. Have you ever gotten to know someone and been surprised to find that they are different that you thought they would be?

Activities

1. **Craft –** Build a robot https://youtu.be/qkXEqcjkoiM , https://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/science-projects?s=robot
2. **Movement Activity –** Do some strength training exercises https://www.parents.com/fun/sports/exercise/strength-training-exercises-for-kids/
3. **STEM –** Experiment with circuits https://stemeducationguide.com/simple-electronics-projects/
4. **Literary Activity –** If you were a super hero what would you be like? Design a hero for yourself, and write your mission statement, telling why you do what you do.
5. **Life Skill –** Practice empathy https://www.understood.org/articles/en/teaching-empathy-activities

More Resources

- DC Comics website for Anti Hero https://www.dccomics.com/blog/2020/04/16/antihero-asks-you-to-walk-a-mile-in-someone-elses-secret-identity

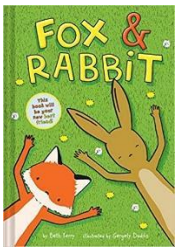
Similar Books

- *Dear Super-Villains* by Michael Northrop
- *Green Lantern: Legacy* by Minh Lê
- *Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth* by Judd Winick
- *Miles Morales: Shock Waves* by Justin A. Reynolds
- *Primer* by Thomas Krajewski

Related Non-fiction

- *Empathy is Your Superpower* by Cori Bussolari
- *Machines That Think!* by Don Brown
- *Robotics: Discover the Science & Technology of the Future With 20 Projects* by Kathy Ceceri
- *The Science of Superheroes* by Patricia Hutchison
- *Secret Coders* by Gene Luen Yang & Mike Holmes

Fox & Rabbit



Author: Beth Ferry
Publisher: Amulet Books
Publication Date: April 21, 2020
ISBN: 978-1419740770
Grade Level: 1-4

Description

Easygoing Fox and anxious Rabbit seem like total opposites. But, somehow, they make the perfect pair! Whether searching for hidden treasure or planting a garden in their own backyard, Fox and Rabbit find everyday magic at every turn. On this first adventure, the pair will discover some new favorite things like sunsets, dandelions, and cotton candy. And they'll face new fears like heights, swimming, and (poisonous!) frogs. Thankfully, there's nothing Fox and Rabbit can't do together!

Themes

Adventure, Foxes, Friends, Gardening, Perspective, Rabbits

Author Information

Author Beth Ferry's website https://www.bethferry.com/

Discussion Questions

1. Are foxes and rabbits friends in the wild? Why or why not?
2. Why are this fox and rabbit such good friends?
3. How do fox and rabbit help each other?
4. Do you have someone in your life that supports you when you are afraid?
5. How can you help and support the people around you?

Activities

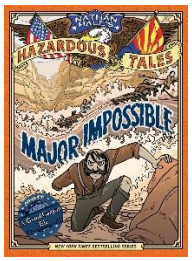
1. **Craft –** Fox & Rabbit finger puppets https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Fox-Rabbit-Finger-Puppets-7433968
2. **Movement Activity –** Go on a treasure hunt like fox and rabbit did to surprise island.
3. **STEM –** Do some gardening activities to study how plants grow https://kidsgardening.org/garden-activities/
4. **Literary Activity –** Write a short story or paragraph about a pair of unlikely friends.
5. **Life Skill –** Try some empathy and support activities https://blog.brookespublishing.com/5-activities-for-building-empathy-in-your-students/

Similar Books

- *Fox & Chick: The Party and Other Stories* by Sergio Ruzzier
- *Peter & Ernesto: A Tale of Two Sloths* by Graham Annable
- *Pizza & Taco: Who's the Best?* By Stephen Shaskan
- *Rabbit & Bear: Rabbit's Bad Habits* by Julian Gough
- *Unicorn & Yeti: Sparkly New Friends* by Heather Ayris Burnell

Related Non-fiction

- *50 Odd Couples* by Gabe Polt
- *Best Friends Forever! And More True Stories of Animal Friendships* by Amy Shields
- *Rabbits, Rabbits & More Rabbits!* by Gail Gibbons
- *Sniffer & Tinni: A True Tale of Amazing Animal Friendship* by Berit Helberg
- *Weird Friends: Unlikely Allies in the Animal Kingdom* by Jose Aruego


HAZARDOUS
TALES
MAJOR IMPOSSIBLE

Major Impossible

Author: Nathan Hale
Publisher: Harry N. Abrams
Publication Date: December 3, 2019
ISBN: 978-1419737084
Grade Level: 3-7

Description

John Wesley Powell always had the spirit of adventure in him. As a young man, he traveled all over the United States exploring. When the Civil War began, Powell went to fight for the Union, and even after he lost most of his right arm, he continued to fight until the war was over. In 1869, he embarked with the Colorado River Exploring Expedition—ten men in four boats—to float through the Grand Canyon. Over the course of three months, the explorers lost their boats and supplies, nearly drowned, and were in peril on multiple occasions. Ten explorers went in, but only six came out. Powell would come to be known as one of the most epic explorers in history!

Themes

Adventure, Boats, Civil War, Colorado River, Danger, Exploration, Grand Canyon, Green River, Maps, Persistence, Starvation, Survival, Veterans

Author Information

Author Nathan Hale's website https://www.nathanhaleauthor.com/

Discussion Questions

1. Why did Major Powell want to float down the Colorado River? Would you have joined his group?
2. After young Wesley quit school he was tutored by a scientist named George Crookham. What do you think of his new schooling?
3. With all the unknowns ahead of them, do you think the group packed wisely? Was the scientific and camera equipment important? What might you have done the same or differently?
4. At one point along the river, the group discovered a small garden patch with squash. Was it ok for them to take the squash? What would you have done?
5. Near the end of the trip several of the men lost faith in Major Powell, and decided to leave the group. What would you have done?

Activities

1. **Craft –** Tin Foil Boats
   https://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/aluminum-foil-boats-float#summary
2. **Movement Activity –** Go on a hike or nature walk.
3. **STEM –** Make a map. It could be of your room, your house, your neighborhood, your school, or somewhere new to you.
   https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/map-skills-elementary-students/
4. **Literary Activity –** Keep a log book for one week.
5. **Life Skill –** Practice some survival skills.
   https://urbansurvivalsite.com/basic-survival-skills-teach-children/

More Resources

- Maps of the Powell Expedition journey
  https://www.usgs.gov/media/galleries/maps-john-wesley-powells-journey
- Documentary about the John Wesley Powell https://youtu.be/ldcSQbeUOiE

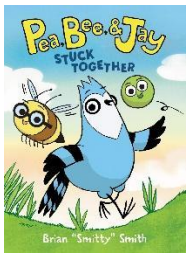
- PBS webpage about the Powell Expedition https://utah.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/arct14.soc.amexlgcjoh/lost-in-the-grand-canyon-john-wesley-powells-first-expedition-down-the-colorado-river/

Similar Books

- *History Smashers: The Mayflower* by Kate Messener
- *The Lewis & Clark Expedition: Join the Corps of Discovery to Explore Uncharted Territory* by Carol A. Johmann
- *Lincoln's Ghost* by K. C. Kelley
- *Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: Alamo All-stars* by Nathan Hale
- *The Wild Mustang: Horses of the American West* by Chris Duffy

Related Fiction

- *Histronauts: A Viking Adventure* by Frances Durkin
- *Mr. Tucket* by Gary Paulsen
- *Secret Smithsonian Adventures: It's Treason, by George!* by Steve Hockensmith & Chris Kientz
- *Some Kind of Courage* by Dan Gemeinhart
- *Trapped in Antarctica! Nicholas Flux and the Shackleton Expedition* by Nel Yomtov



Pea, Bee & Jay: Stuck Together

Author: Brian “Smitty” Smith
Publisher: HarperAlley
Publication Date: September 1, 2020
ISBN: 978-0062981165
Grade Level: 1-5

Description

Like all peas, Pea loves to roll. So when a no-good strawberry dares him to roll all the way off the farm, he swears he can do it—**eazy me-*zee***!

But along the way, a powerful thunderstorm strikes and bounces Pea off course...and right into two unlikely new buds: a bee named Bee who thinks she knows it all, and a bird named Jay who can’t figure out how to fly.

On their own they may not look like much, but if this trio can stick together, they just might help Pea find his way back home!

Themes

Bees, Birds, Dares, Friendship, Garden, Hive, Jays, Peas, Peer Pressure, Quest, Travel, Vegetables

Author Information

Author Brian “Smitty” Smith’s Twitter page https://twitter.com/yourpalsmitty

Discussion Questions

1. Why was Pea so determined to prove he could go further than any other veggie or fruit?
2. Do you think it was a good idea for Pea to leave the farm and go to the red tree?
3. What did you think of Jay when you first met him? Did you think he was going to eat Bee & Pea?
4. Were you surprised to find out who Bee really is? Did it change how you thought about her? Why or why not?
5. In the end, why didn’t Pea care that he lost the red leaf?

Activities

1. **Craft – Pea Portrait Art**
   https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Art-with-split-peas-Pea-Portrait-7434503
2. **Movement Activity –** Pea rolls to get around. Could you do that too? Try rolling to different locations around the room. How does it feel? Is it a reasonable way to get around?
3. **STEM –** Learn about animals in flight with these fun activities
   https://www.birds.cornell.edu/k12/animals-in-flight/
4. **Literary Activity –** Pretend you are a garden food that leaves the garden for a one day adventure. Where would you go? What would you do? Write about it.
5. **Life Skill –** Help kids to ignore others’ opinions about them in order to have good self value
   https://biglifejournal.com/blogs/blog/teach-kids-ignore-other-opinions

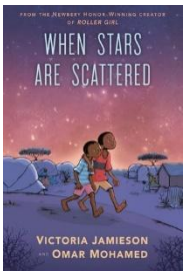
Similar Books

- *Baloney & Friends* by Greg Pizzoli
- *Bird & Squirrel: All or Nothing* by James Burkes
- *Don’t Worry, Bee Happy* by Ross Burach
- *The Great Pet Escape* by Victoria Jamieson

- *Shark & Bot* by Brian Yanish

Related Non-fiction

- *A Bird Watcher's Guide to Blue Jays* by Katherine Ponka
- *Carrots Like Peas: And Other Fun Facts* by Hannah Eliot
- *Give Bees a Chance* by Bethany Barton
- *Honeybees: Letters from the Hive* by Stephen Buchmann
- *Secrets of the Vegetable Garden* by Carron Brown



When Stars Are Scattered

Author: Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed
Publisher: Dial Books
Publication Date: April 14, 2020
ISBN: 978-0525553908
Grade Level: 4-7

Description

Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care Omar knows his nonverbal brother needs. So when Omar has the opportunity to go to school, he knows it might be a chance to change their future . . . but it would also mean leaving his brother, the only family member he has left, every day.

Themes

Disability, Family, Hope, Opportunity, Refugee Camp, Refugees, Resilience, School, Separation, Siblings, War

Author Information

Author Victoria Jamieson's website https://www.victoriajamieson.com/

Author Omar Mohamed's BIO https://www.nationalbook.org/people/omar-mohamed/

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be a refugee? How is it different from being an immigrant?
2. Why was school so important to some of the characters, and not to others?
3. Omar was very protective of Hassan. Did he take on too much responsibility?
4. Why did some people in the camp give up hope? How do you keep hope alive?
5. How was life in the camp different from your life? Can you imagine living in the camp? What would be hard or easy for you?

Activities

1. **Craft –** Draw a comic of one of your own experiences.
2. **Movement Activity –** Omar and Hassan had to walk over 1,000 km or 621 miles from their home in Somalia to the refugee camp in Kenya. Take one step for every mile and see how far it takes you. Can you imagine walking the full distance?
3. **STEM –** One of the boys in camp buys a big jug of drink mix, and sells it to neighbors in the camp to make some money. Set up your own business. Pick something to sell, figure out how much it will cost you to get what you need and how much money you need to make to have a profit. How much do you need to charge to get the profit you want? Will people buy it at that price?
4. **Literary Activity –** Write a letter of hope to someone who needs it.
5. **Life Skill –** Play some games to help build resilience https://www.tomsofmaine.com/good-matters/healthy-feeling/building-resilience-in-children-using-fun-games

More Resources

Author Omar Mohamed's non-profit https://www.refugeestrong.org/

Similar Books

- *Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls are Used in War* by Jessica Dee Humphreys
- *Forced to Flee: Refugee Children Drawing on their Experiences* produced in association with UNHCR
- *A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk* by Jan Coates
- *Outcasts United: The Story of a refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town* by Warren St. John
- *A Refugee's Journey from the Democratic Republic of the Congo* by Ellen Rodger

Related Fiction

- *Brothers in Hope* by Mary Williams
- *Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate
- *Illegal* by Eoin Colfer
- *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park
- *The Red Pencil* by Andrea Davis Pinkney