

The Owl Who Asks Why

Written by Michelle Garcia Andersen
 Illustrated by Ayesha L. Rubio
 Published by Page Street Kids

Activity Guide

The pages in this activity guide are a fun way for students to practice asking and answering questions and demonstrate their understanding of key details in a text. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K,1,2.

Michelle Garcia Andersen was a teacher for several years and loved teaching kids to read. Now she spends her days writing books for kids to read. Michelle is passionate about children's literacy and writes for children of all ages. She lives in southern Oregon with her husband and has three grown kids. Michelle loves spending time outdoors observing nature and listening to the many ways animals communicate. She got the idea for this story while sitting in her studio, and she heard a little owl ask WHO.

Ayesha L. Rubio was born in Madrid, Spain, one cold evening in February. Years later, she studied Fine Arts in Spain and England and began to work as an illustrator, collaborating with national and international publishers. At present, she has three books of her own, translated into various languages. Lately, she has made some incursions in the animation world.

Little Owl and Little Wolf have so many questions for their parents. "Why can't we move our eyes?" "When will I no longer be a pup?" But owls don't ask "Why?" They ask "Whooo?" And wolves don't ask "When?" They ask "Hooooow?" Mom and Dad say it's silly to even consider asking those sorts of questions.

Feeling teased and misunderstood, Little Owl and Little Wolf decide to run away from home for good. After straying too far from the path, the pair discovers that they're lost in the forest and begin to wonder if they've made the right decision by leaving the pack. Little Owl and Little Wolf realize that the only way to make it back to their families is to not be afraid to ask the right questions, their own way.

This heartwarming tale of friendship from author Michelle Garcia Andersen and artist Ayesha Rubio will remind young readers that by staying true to yourself and embracing what makes you unique, good things come to you.

All the forest creatures laugh when Little Owl asks “WHY?” and Little Wolf asks, “WHEN?” Everyone knows owls ask “WHO?” and wolves ask “HOW?”
... But WHY?

Little Owl and Little Wolf love to ask questions. There are six types of questions:
WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY? HOW?

1

WHO?

Describes a person or character.

2

WHAT?

Describes a thing or an action.

3

WHEN?

Describes a time, date, or season.

4

WHERE?

Describes a place.

5

WHY?

Describes the reason something happened.

6

HOW?

Describes the way which something happened.

Think about the story you just read. Ask a friend a WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, or HOW question about this book?



WHO is the book about?

Draw your favorite character.



WHAT happens in this story?

Draw or write your response.



First ...

Then ...

Next ...

Finally ...



WHEN did this story take place?

Was it mostly during the day or at night?

Animals that sleep during the day and stay awake at night are called nocturnal animals. Draw a nocturnal animal.

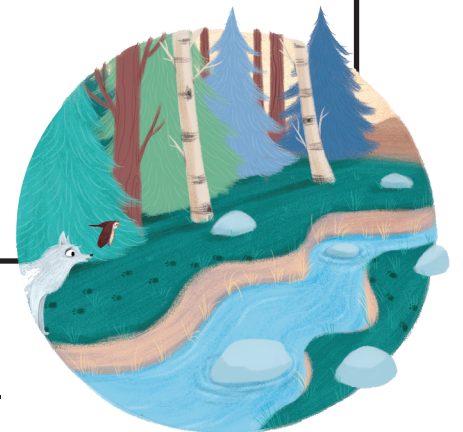
Write three things about the animal you chose.

My Nocturnal Animal

A large, empty rounded rectangle with a black border, intended for drawing a nocturnal animal.Three horizontal lines for writing about the animal.

WHERE did this story take place?

Did the story take place inside or outside? Was the story in the city or in the woods?
Have you ever been to the woods? Draw a picture of something you would see in
the woods. Label your drawing.



WHY did Little Owl and Little Wolf leave their home?

Circle the image that describes how they felt.



Draw a picture about a time when you felt this way.

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a black border, intended for a child to draw a picture of a time they felt a certain way.

HOW did Little Owl and Little Wolf find their way home?

Discuss your answer with your neighbor.

At the end of the book, all the forest creatures begin asking all types of questions.

Together with your partner, roll a die and see which number you get. Find the number on the question card that matches your die. If you land on one, you have to ask your friend a WHO question. It can be about anything you want. Have fun!

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