Agent Moose

AUTHOR

MO O'HARA

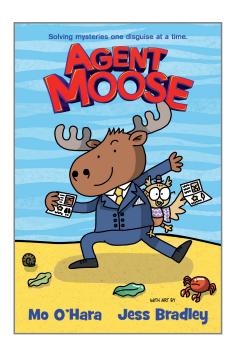
ILLUSTRATOR

JESS BRADLEY

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower to Mid Primary



SYNOPSIS

Something fishy is going on at the South Shore. Folks just disappear and are never seen again. But when Agent Moose learns that a key witness has gone missing, he and Owlfred ride to the rescue. Will they find the missing turtle before time runs out?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mo O'Hara is the author of the My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish series. She grew up in Pennsylvania and now lives in London, where she works as a writer, actor, and storyteller, visiting theatres and schools all across the UK and Ireland. Mo and her brother once brought their own pet goldfish back from the brink of death (true fact).

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jess Bradley is an illustrator of various comics and children's books, including *Agent Moose*. She lives in the United Kingdom with her husband and son.

STUDY NOTES

- Before reading the story, as a class discuss the book cover and title. Some things to include in your discussion could be:
 - What can you see happening on the cover of this book?
 - What genre do you think that this book might be and why?
 - Who do you think the target audience for this book is?
 - What do you think might happen in this book?
 - Who is the main character of this story, and what can you see them doing in the cover artwork?
 - What can you learn about the main character of the story from the cover of the book?
- Look at the personnel files for Agent Anonymoose and Agent Owlfred on pp 2 and 3. Use the format of these as a template to create a Secret Agent personnel file for yourself.
- What is a meteorological event—and is a total lunar eclipse an example of one?
- Research lunar eclipses. How often do they happen, where are they visible from and what causes them?
- Choose three words that you think describe Anonymoose well, and three words that describe Owlfred. As a class, discuss which words everyone chose and then use them to create a master list of descriptive terms for each of the

two characters. Use this list to help you write two short character descriptions, one for each character.

- Find five examples of alliteration within the text. What is alliteration and why do you think the author chose to use it? In what type of texts are you often likely to find alliterative sentences?
 - Write an alliterative headline describing one of the scenes from the story.
- In pairs or small groups, create a tune to go with the song lyrics on p 23.
- Why is Anonymoose so upset at Camo Chameleon having solved 100 cases? What are some things that Anonymoose could have said or done to help himself feel better? As a class discuss how someone else's success can sometimes make us feel, and appropriate ways of behaving when we feel the way Anonymoose does.
- What do you know about barracudas? Why do you think Owlfred was so nervous around Barry? In pairs or small groups research barracudas, and find out where they live, what they eat, and how they behave. Based on what you discovered in your research, write a brief summary of why an Owl might have reason to worry when close to a barracuda.
- Create a crossword puzzle to accompany the book. Use characters' names as the answers, and write descriptions of them and their actions for clues.
- Create a beach themed painting featuring the creatures and places from the story.
- What, in your opinion, is the funniest scene in the story and why? Write a brief description of the scene and at least three reasons you found it amusing. Using the artwork in the book as inspiration, illustrate your answer, highlighting and/or captioning the various amusing aspects.
- Visit a beach or other natural waterway or waterfront environment. In pairs identify and list as many different animals, birds, insects and aquatic creatures as you can. For each creature on your list, write down where you saw it, and what it was doing. Once you return to class, choose one creature to investigate further. Research your chosen creature online and create an informative poster showcasing its habitat, diet and behaviour. Then, present your poster to the class.
 - As a class, discuss the similarities and differences between the waterfront environment you visited, and the one depicted in the book.
- Terrence the turtle said it was getting very smelly in the pelican's pouch. What do you imagine it must have looked like to him when he was in there? Draw a picture of the inside of the pelican's pouch from Terrence's point of view. Use your imagination and include details of the other things that might have been in there based on your knowledge of both real pelicans and the fictional world of Agent Anonymoose.