

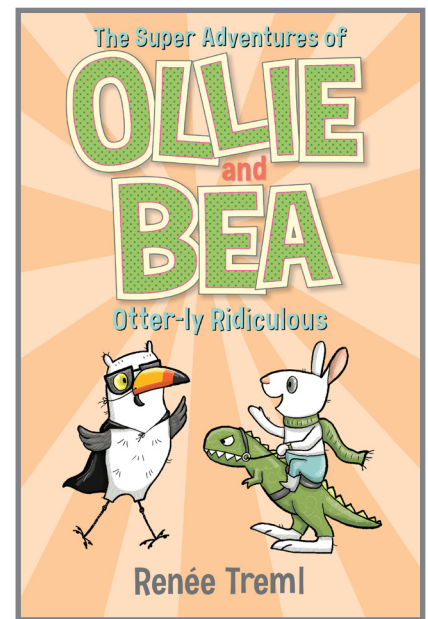
The Super Adventures of Ollie and Bea #6: Otter-ly Ridiculous

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower Primary



SYNOPSIS

Ollie (an owl who wears glasses) and Bea (a bunny with very big feet) will delight young readers in this super sweet and funny full-colour graphic novel series that celebrates friendship and the differences that make us special.

A friendly game of hide-and-SQUEAK leads to a big S'QUARREL. Can Ollie and Bea help their friends settle the argument, or will they OWL-so have hurt feelings?

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Renée Trembl is the author and illustrator of several successful picture books for very young readers, including *Once I Heard a Little Wombat*, *Sleep Tight*, *Platypup*, and *Wombat Big, Puggle Small*. She is also the creator of the highly engaging and funny junior fiction graphic novels *Sherlock Bones and the Natural History Mystery*, *Sherlock Bones and the Sea-Creature Feature* and *Sherlock Bones and the Art and Science Alliance*, as well as the Super Adventures of Ollie and Bea junior graphic novel series. Renée has a degree in environmental science and has a passionate love of natural history.

STUDY NOTES

Please note: If your class is familiar with earlier books in the series you may not need to do the following exercise. If students are not familiar with the earlier books you can introduce them to the series with book six, as the stories are entirely standalone.

- Hold up the cover of book six to show your class and run your finger along the book's title, reading it out loud. Now ask the following questions:
- What kind of animal is Ollie? Owls have particularly good eyesight: can you see anything that might be a little unusual about Ollie?
- What kind of animal would you say Bea is? What things can you tell me about bunnies?
- How can you tell Ollie, the owl, and Bea, the bunny, are good friends?
- Do you think this is going to be a funny or serious story?
- A pun is a joke that plays with words that sound alike or have more than one meaning. Can you find a pun in the story's title?
- You don't always need words to tell you how a character is feeling in a graphic novel. The creator, Renée Trembl, is very good at showing us how Ollie and Bea are feeling when she draws their faces and/or bodies. Find examples of Ollie feeling:

- happy
- friendly
- angry
- disappointed.

Explain what it was in each image that helped you recognise how that character was feeling? Come up with some different feelings—excited, tired, full of energy, etc.—and see if you can capture them in your own drawing.

- A pun is a joke that plays with words that sound alike or have more than one meaning. Many of the puns in *Ollie and Bea* are words that are close to but not the correct word readers might expect. For instance, instead of saying 'Here I come',—Bea, the bunny—says 'Hare I come'. Choose five of your favourite puns in *Otter-ly Ridiculous*, then divide a sheet of paper in two columns: list the puns in one column and in the other column list the word or words you think readers might have expected.
- Ollie and Bea are very good friends but sometimes they need to learn lessons on how to behave as a friend. What qualities do you think make a very good friend? Make a list of words to describe your perfect friend and give examples of things a good friend might do in the school playground.

COMPREHENSION

- Why doesn't Ollie enjoy playing hide-and-SQUEAK with Bea? (pp 6–12)
- Why does Bea want to play hide-and-SQUEAK so much? (pp 6–12)
- Is Bea a very good winner? (p 7)
- Who is the maestro of hiding? (p 15)
- Why is Pedro so good at hiding from Bea? (p 22)
- Why do CeeCee and Pedro begin to argue? (pp 34–35)
- Why do Kimmee and Simon begin to argue? (pp 40–41)
- What do Ollie and Bea do to each other to make them argue? (pp 45–47)
- How does Ollie make the new game of hide-and-SQUEAK more fun for everyone to play? (pp 62–63)
- What lesson about friendship and playing together do you think everyone learned?