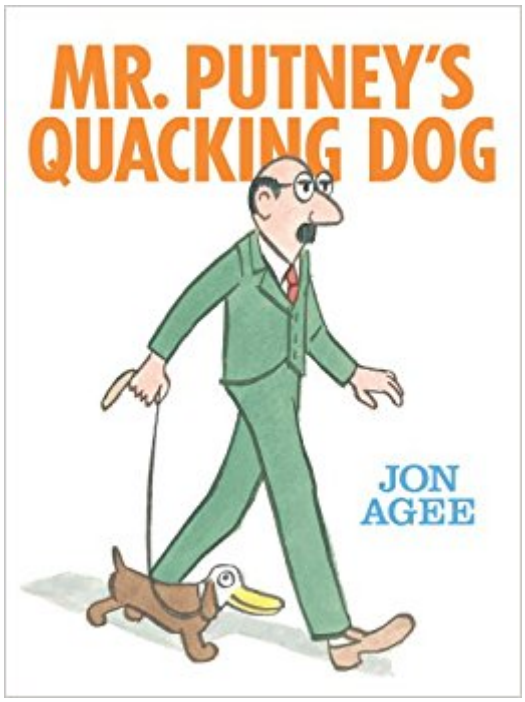
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Mr. Putney's Quacking Dog



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Synopsis

From Jon Agee ("a comic master," SLJ), a hilarious book of animal riddles

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 410L (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Michael di Capua Books; First Edition edition (August 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545162033

ISBN-13: 978-0545162036

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 7.9 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #755,560 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #155 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Puns & Wordplay #244 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Humor > Jokes & Riddles #2902 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Animals > Dogs

Age Range: 4 and up

Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

Mr. Putney has the bald pate, brushy mustache, and unsmiling stare of a stereotypical schoolteacher--the better to cast deadpan expressions at his oddball collection of animals, from an industrious "boa constructor" to a "clangaroo" that wears cymbals on its hands and feet. Agee (The Retired Kid) arranges this word game so that readers get a question and visual clues, then can identify the creature with a turn of the page. Following an image of a scaly brown critter on a nightstand ("Who wakes Mr. Putney up in the morning?"), Agee introduces the alarmadillo. When a red shellfish splashes Mr. Putney with green soup ("What do you call Mr. Putney’s messy lunch companion?"), he presents the slobster. Even wordplay amateurs stand a chance of naming the title’s quacking dog (a duckschund who barks--or is that buacks?--"Quarf!"). The visual contrast between the fussy-looking Mr. Putney and the various animal mutants is played up by the juxtaposition of the creatures’ irreverent exclamations ("Yo!" shouts the alarmadillo) with Mr. Putney’s dry delivery--"Comfy?" he asks the cramel that’s shoved into his backpack. All ages.

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PreSchool-Grade 4 Mr. Putney’s unusual animal friends become the platform for a guessing game that will nudge children’s creative thinking while giving them plenty to laugh about along the way. The opening spread poses the question, Who wakes Mr. Putney in the morning? The accompanying illustration depicts an armadillo staring at an alarm clock as the man dozes on. When the page is turned, the creature shouts, YO! awakening him and hence fitting the label: An Alarmodillo. A bevy of other quirky pairings introduces the man’s other friends: Who is snooping on Mr. Putney? a Spyena, and Who is Mr. Putney trying to put on a diet? an Oranguton. Clue-packed pictures add to the fun. Agee fills out the spreads with thick-lined, soft-colored, comedic pictures. A great choice for fans of punnery and where other of Agee’s books are popular. Barbara Elleman, Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Funny book. The kids love to try to guess the animal based on the picture provided.

My 4 year old loved these wonderfully illustrated funny animals. The idea resembles Behold the Bold Umbrellaphant by Jack Prelutsky, but this is written with a more concise question/answer format that gets young kids thinking about the strange combinations of words. If you like funny books that play with words and sounds, you’ll like this.

Mr. Putney’s Quacking Dog is one of my son’s favorite books! He loves to read it over and over. He’s learned from this book how to tell jokes!! He loves the animals and the puns. Although he needed some explanation, he has learned words like "faint" and "slob" and animals like aardvark and orangutan. The boys in his Kindergarten class read this together and laugh out loud. This one is worth the investment!

Excellent book for writing prompt. It also works for younger grades (2-3) for critical and creative thinking.

My grandchildren LOVE this book. We read it over and over and over. Now they can recite it by heart. I never get tired of reading it to them. It provides great interaction and lots of laughter.

Mr. Putney has a number of unusual animal friends, from his quacking "duckshund" to his messy "slobster". Each page is told in riddle format where the right-hand side of one page asks the

question and the left-hand side of the following page reveals the visually and verbally punny answer. Roughly 40 pages are filled up in this manner, and that constitutes the whole of the "plot".We stumbled onto this at the library, which is where I recommend that you find it. It’s amusing enough the first time through for adults, but parents are going to find it gets rather old rather quickly. Older kids will likewise get a chuckle out of it once or twice, but will probably not return to it over and over.I believe this book appeals to a pretty narrow age range. The child must be old enough to understand word play humor, which my four and a half year old is just starting to get. She loves the "socktopus", but is rather baffled by the "anteloop" ("How does he twist around like that, Mommy?"). Yet, as I mentioned, I think older kids will probably get bored with it pretty quickly, or even find it corny to begin with. The book probably works best as an addition to a kindergarten, elementary school or public library collection.

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