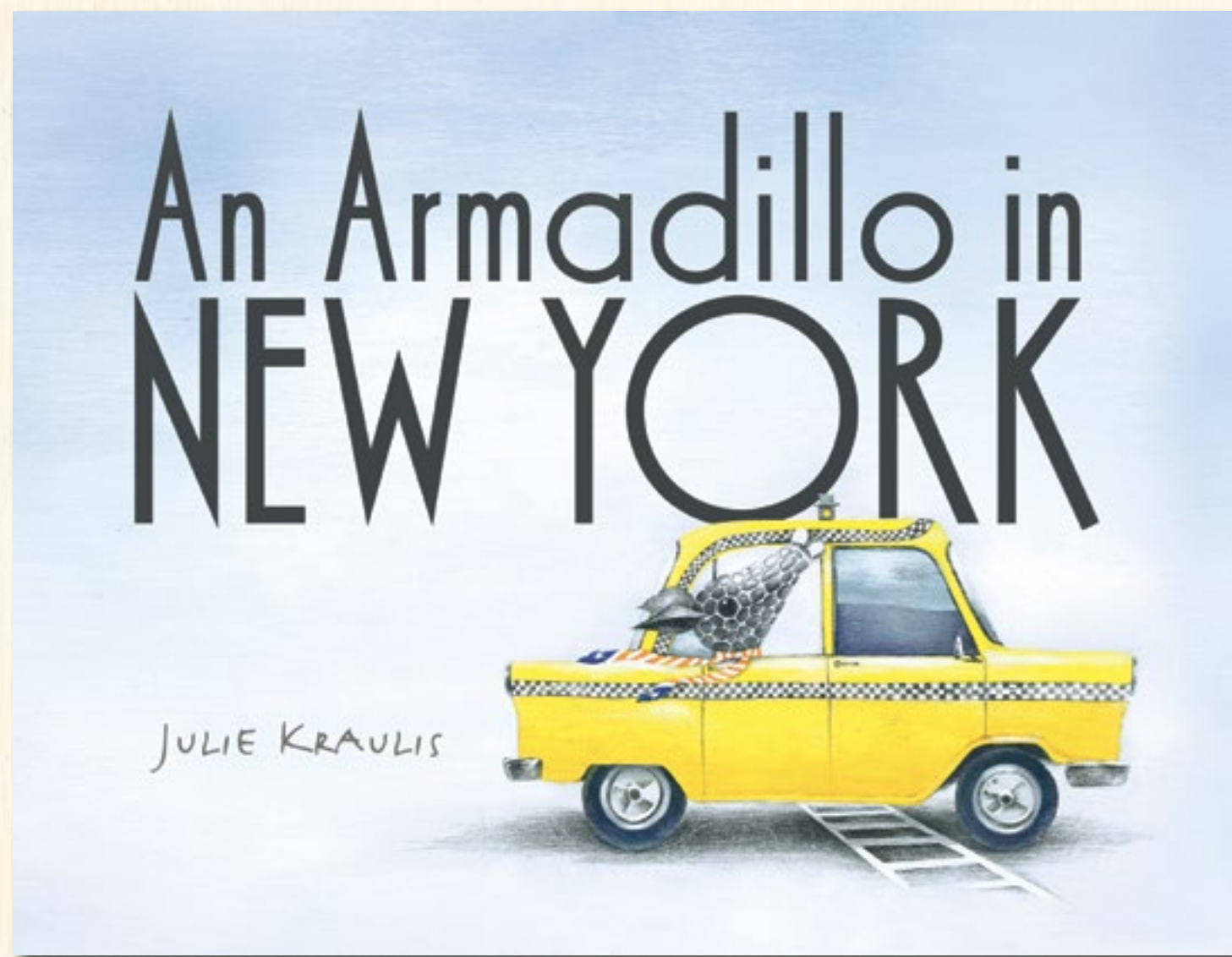




# An Armadillo in NEW YORK

JULIE KRAULIS





## EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

### PRE-READING DISCUSSION / ACTIVITIES

- Reveal the cover and ask for predictions about the story's plot, characters and setting.
  - Who is in the story?
  - What is the problem that needs to be solved?
  - Where does the story take place?
  - What kind of a story do you think this will be?
- Talk about the title of the story.
  - Has anybody been to New York before?
  - In what part of the world is New York located?
  - What do you know about New York?
  - Is there anything unusual about the title?
- Find out what students know about armadillos.
  - What do you know about armadillos?
  - In what part of the world can they be found?
  - Do you think armadillos can be found naturally in New York? How do you know?
- Discuss why people travel and allow students to share their personal travel experiences.
  - Why do people travel?
  - What can you learn about when you travel?
  - What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of visiting a city or town in a different country?

SL

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Vocabulary to introduce/review: "nine-banded tribe," architecture, "vibrant culture," patience, fortitude, regal, marquees, seafarers, cameos, legendary, marvel.
 

R
- "Arlo feels it. The twitch in his left claw. The twitch that only stops when adventure begins ..."
- There are two different voices involved in the telling of the story.
  - Who are the two voices?
  - How might the story have been different if Augustin's journal was not included? How does the journal develop the curiosity of the reader?

R
- "Curiosity has run in their nine-banded family for as long as anyone can remember." Armadillos are known not only for their unusual appearance, but also for their reputation as curious creatures.
  - What does it mean to be curious? How does being curious connect to somebody wanting to travel to different parts of the world?

- The author could have chosen to reveal that Arlo was looking for the Statue of Liberty right at the beginning but instead chose to have him travel around the city, picking up clues along the way. Why do you think the author chose to tell the story in this way?
  - Were you feeling curious about Lady Liberty's identity as you read?
  - Can you think of any other characters in stories you have read who were curious?
  - Is curiosity a good quality to have? Describe aloud and/or in writing a situation when it is advantageous to be curious and a situation where it may be disadvantageous.
- R W
- Re-read the story aloud a second time and in particular, pay attention to Augustin's journal and the illustrations.
    - Make a list of clues (in your own words) that Augustin gave to Arlo.
    - Circle the clue that, upon reading a second time, is the most obvious clue to Lady Liberty's true identity.
    - Underline the clue that is obvious now that you have read the whole story, but when you read it the first time, was the least obvious.
    - Make a list of all the times Lady Liberty is given the qualities of a human or described as "doing" something. Explain aloud and/or in writing what the author is really referring to now that you know the true identity of Lady Liberty.
    - Augustin writes that he cannot wait for Arlo to discover "the amazing architecture, interesting history and vibrant culture." Locate moments in Arlo's adventure in which he experiences the city's architecture, history and culture. Think of a synonym for each of the following descriptors: **amazing, interesting and vibrant.**

R W

- Map out the location of the places Arlo visits in New York City.
  - Do you think the order in which Arlo visited these places was important? Why or why not?
  - If you had to choose just one of the places Arlo visited, which one would you choose? Why?

R
- Read the facts included at the back of the book about the Statue of Liberty. For each bit of information included, create a question that the information would be an answer to. For example, how many people visit the Statue of Liberty every year?
- Design a postcard for Arlo to send back to his family about his adventure. Select an image to include on the front that connects to Arlo's adventure. Write a short message that tells his family about the trip. Design a special Statue of Liberty themed stamp to include on your postcard.
 

W



### ABOUT THE BOOK

Arlo is an armadillo who is always up for adventure. His grandfather Augustin loved adventure too. When Arlo was born, Augustin wrote special travel journals for him to use when he was old enough to go exploring on his own. When Arlo reads about New York City and the famed Lady Liberty, he decides it's time to visit "the city that never sleeps"! Guided by Augustin's journal, Arlo discovers the joys of New York: gazing at the vast skyline, visiting the Guggenheim, walking across the Brooklyn Bridge and, of course, meeting Lady Liberty ... but who is she? Arlo has to read the journal carefully to figure it out! Join this adorable little friend for an exciting stroll through New York—a stroll you'll want to take again and again!

This wondrous walk through New York can be used in a number of ways including:

- Exploring themes and concepts such as family, travel, culture, architecture, exploration, adventure, curiosity and identity
- As an engaging read-aloud experience

Discussion prompts and suggested activities have been linked to **Common Core State Standards** where applicable.

### Links

[juliekraulis.com](http://juliekraulis.com)  
[penguinrandomhouse.ca](http://penguinrandomhouse.ca)

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Author-illustrator **JULIE KRAULIS** knew Arlo would love to visit New York City. It is the perfect place for an adventurous armadillo (and adventurous author-illustrators, too)! Julie lives and works in Toronto, but her heart belongs to the world. She developed her wanderlust growing up in a few different places, and her travels always bring new inspiration. Julie is a stop-and-smell-the-roses kind of gal who loves to create. This is her third picture book; she is also the author and illustrator of *Whimsy's Heavy Things* and *An Armadillo in Paris*.



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### APPENDIX:

**Common Core State Standard**  
**Text Type: Literature** (stories)

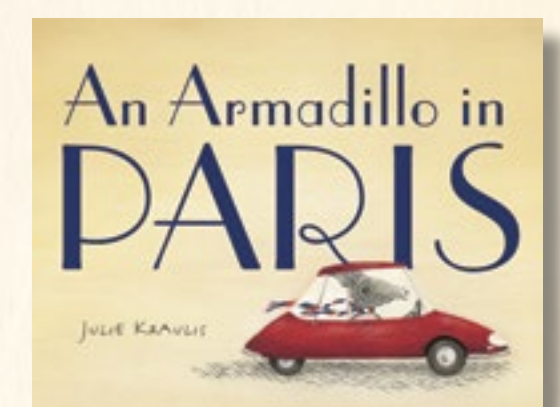
- R Reading
- SL Speaking and Listening
- W Writing

### PRE-READING DISCUSSION / ACTIVITIES

Speaking and Listening 1.1, 2.1, 3.1

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1
- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1
- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1
- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1  
Writing 1.2, 2.2, 3.2
- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1  
Writing 1.2, 2.2, 3.2
- Reading 1.1, 2.1, 3.1
- Writing 1.3, 2.3
- Writing 1.7, 2.7, 3.7
- Writing 1.7, 2.7, 3.7
- Writing 1.2, 2.2, 3.2
- Writing 1.7, 2.7, 3.7
- Writing 1.7, 2.7, 3.7
- Writing 1.3, 2.3



Read **An Armadillo in Paris** and go on another exciting and mysterious adventure with Arlo!