

A CLASSROOM GUIDE TO THE MEGABAT SERIES



JOIN EVERYONE'S FAVORITE BAT
FOR THESE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
AND CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES!



Penguin
Random House
TUNDRA BOOKS

ABOUT THE BOOKS

Ages 6-10. Grades 2-5. Lexile Reading Level: 660L



Megabat
Hardcover ISBN 9780735262577
Trade Paperback ISBN
9780735266957



Megabat and Fancy Cat
Hardcover ISBN 9780735262591
Trade Paperback ISBN
9780735267114



Megabat Is a Fraidybat
Hardcover ISBN 9780735266025

Daniel's new house has a surprise: a talking bat who lives in the attic! Join Daniel and Megabat on their adventures in this sweet and funny early chapter book series, perfect for fans of Kate DiCamillo's *Mercy Watson* books.

PRAISE FOR THE MEGABAT SERIES

"THE MISCOMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN HUMANS AND A FRUIT BAT ARE RIDICULOUS YET FUNNY . . . A CHARMING TALE." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"THIS TALKING FRUIT BAT CHARMS EVERYONE HE MEETS: A YOUNG BOY NAMED DANIEL, A PIGEON LOVE INTEREST AND DISCERNING YOUNG READERS." —*Quill & Quire*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ANNA HUMPHREY has worked in marketing for a poetry organization, in communications for the Girl Guides of Canada, as an editor for a webzine, as an intern at a decorating magazine and for the government. None of those was quite right, so she started her own freelance writing and editing business on top of writing for kids and teens. She lives in a big, old brick house in Kitchener, Ontario, with her husband and two kids and no bats. Yet.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

KASS REICH was born in Montreal, Quebec. She works as an artist and educator and has spent the majority of the last decade traveling and living abroad. She now finds herself back in Canada, but this time in Toronto. Kass loves illustrating books for all ages, including *Megabat*, *Megabat and Fancy Cat*, *Sergeant Billy*, *Carson Crosses Canada*, *Hamsters Holding Hands* and *Dr. Coe and the Pigeon Protest*.

MEGABAT'S DICTIONARY

- Explain how Megabat makes up his own words.

- Give a list of his words used across the series.

[illegible]

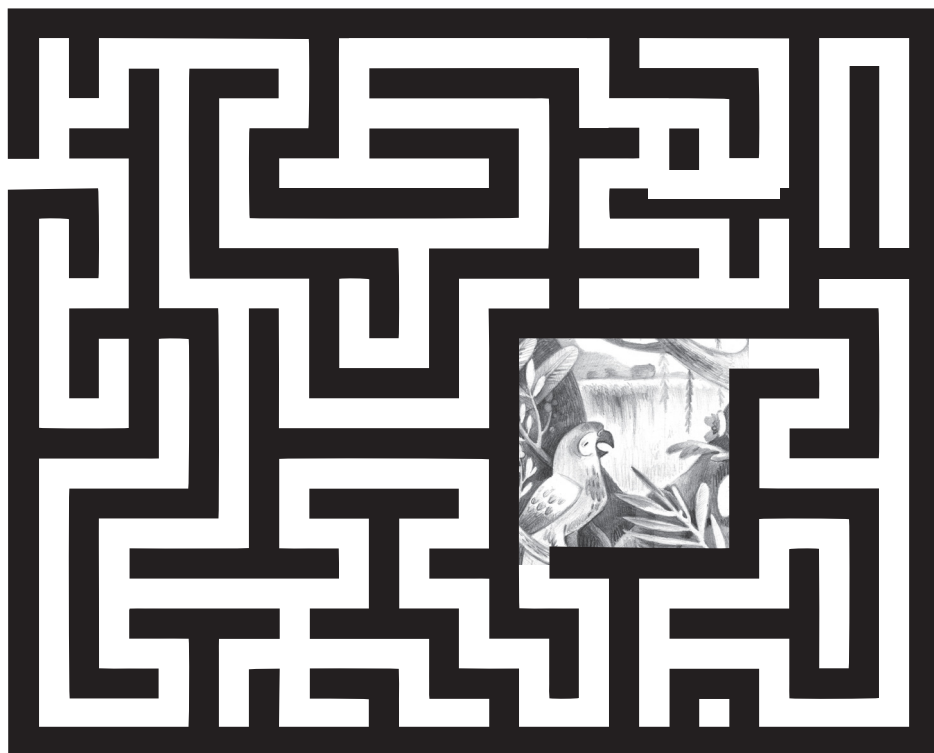
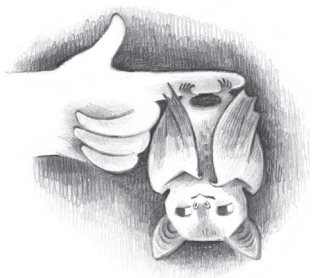
MEGABAT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- At the beginning of the book, Daniel and Megabat are both a long way from their old homes. How are they feeling about that? Why do you think they might feel that way?
- Why do you think Daniel is so nervous to meet Talia and Jamie – the kids next door? Can you remember a time when you were scared to meet someone new? What did you do?
- Sometimes Megabat has a different (and funny) way of talking! On page 39, Megabat tells Daniel about how he got to Canada. He talks about a travelling in a rolling rectangle and then in the belly of a roaring beast. What do you think he means? Can you describe Megabat's journey in your own words?
- Daniel and Talia's first idea is to mail Megabat home to Borneo. What is the most fun or exciting thing you have ever gotten in the mail?
- Do you like the ending of the book? Why or why not?

MAZE ACTIVITY

- Help Megabat find his way back to Borneo!



MEGABAT AND FANCY CAT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- As a surprise, Megabat paints himself with a rainbow and stars, then he paints Priscilla blue. Why did Megabat do this? How was he feeling? Why was Daniel not happy with this surprise?
- Daniel tells Megabat to keep out of trouble. Have you ever been accused of something you did not do? How did that make you feel?
- Megabat puts Priscilla online for sale and creates a stink potion for her. It sounds like Megabat is jealous of this new family member! What are some other ways Megabat could have handled the situation? Have you felt jealous of new friends or family members?
- Priscilla surprises Megabat by knowing how to spell "cat." What are some commonly misspelled words that you have trouble with?
- Priscilla and Megabat's friendship gets off to a rough start. Have you ever made a bad first impression? What happened?

WORD SEARCH

Look carefully to find the following words, when you see them, circle the words.

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|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Birdgirl | A | T | C | A | B | S | O | G | B | X | I | M | E | Y |
| • Borneo | F | C | H | R | I | S | T | M | A | S | H | E | S | A |
| • Christmas | M | I | B | O | R | N | E | O | P | M | D | G | T | R |
| • Daniel | E | N | I | E | D | E | L | L | C | O | A | E | B | J |
| • Megabat | G | E | A | H | G | N | P | R | E | K | N | R | A | H |
| • Present | A | S | Q | U | I | R | R | E | L | S | I | E | T | E |
| • Priscilla | B | D | E | P | R | E | S | E | N | T | E | N | V | I |
| • Squirrels | A | W | G | I | L | K | E | O | H | I | L | O | G | T |
| • Stockings | T | S | P | R | I | S | C | I | L | L | A | I | H | S |

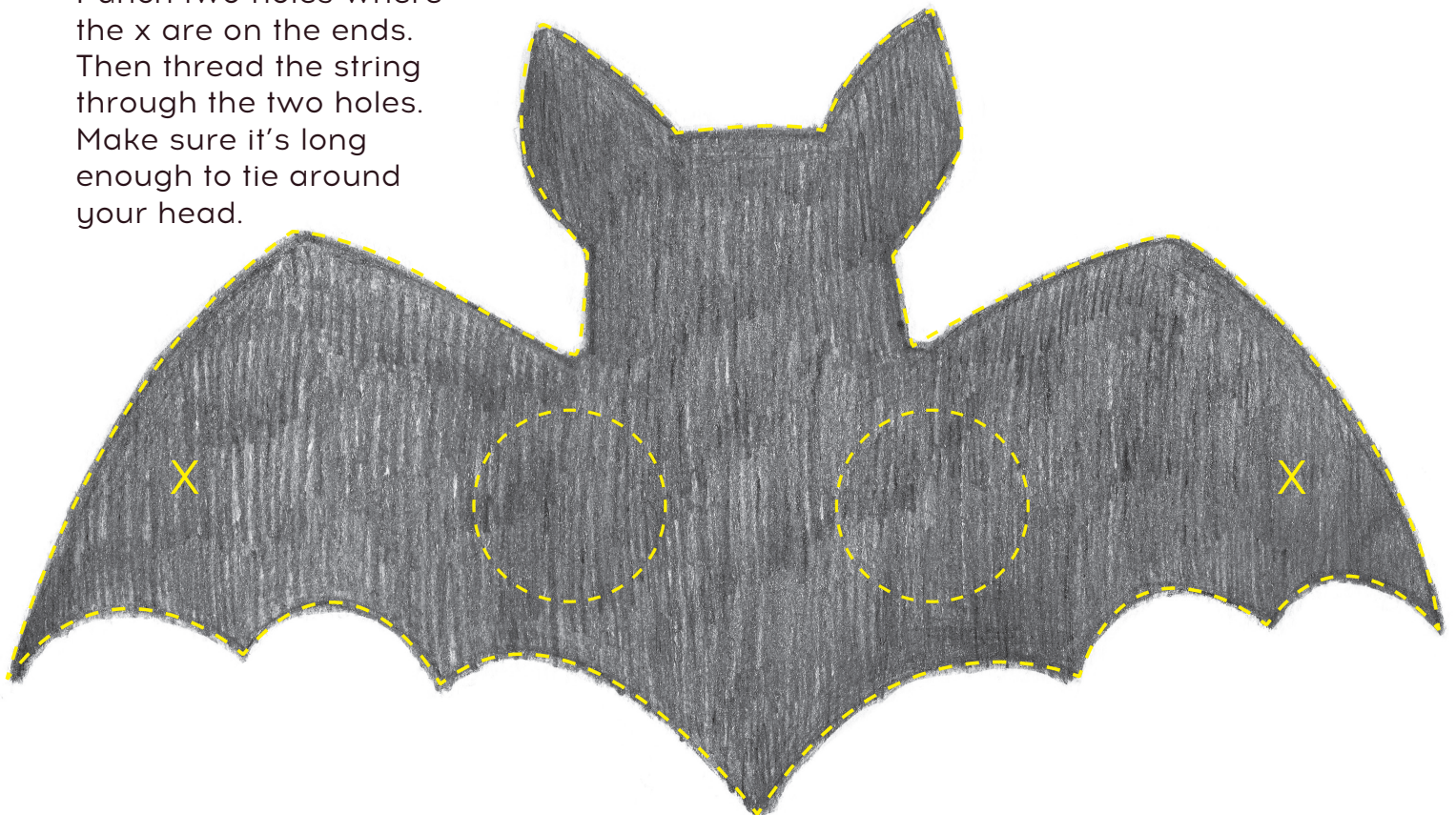
MEGABAT IS A FRAIDY BAT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- In *Megabat Is a Fraidybat*, Daniel and Megabat are going to sleepaway camp for the first time. Have you ever been to camp? Do you think you would like to go?
- Megabat and Daniel do all sorts of activities and crafts at camp, like sailing, basket weaving and making friendship bracelets. Which of those activities or crafts would you like to do? What is your favorite outdoor activity during the summer?
- Daniel is nervous about going to sleepaway camp, and Megabat is nervous about flying to Babybat's cave. What do they do to stop feeling nervous? What would you say to them to help them get over their fears?
- The campers like to tell scary stories around the campfire. What is the scariest campfire story you know?
- On page 179, Daniel tells the bus driver he had "a lot more than ten kinds of fun." Can you list ten fun things Daniel and Megabat did while they were at camp?

SUPERHERO MASK ACTIVITY

You will need **scissors**, **hole puncher**, **string** and the help of an adult to make these superhero masks. Cut along the dashed lines. Carefully cut out the holes for the eyes. Punch two holes where the x are on the ends. Then thread the string through the two holes. Make sure it's long enough to tie around your head.



Megabat wants you to know:

BATSES ARE FRIENDSES

Bats have a bad reputation. Maybe it is their pointy fangs, the stories about them turning into vampires or the fact that they only come out at night. However, the truth is that bats are an important part of our ecosystem. In fact, we can even think of them as friends! Here are five reasons why:

- **VERY FEW BATS DRINK BLOOD.**

There are only three species of vampire bats in the whole world, out of about 1,300, and they don't kill their prey! Instead, they use small sharp teeth that can pierce an animal's skin without them even noticing.

- **MOST BATS HELP TO CONTROL INSECTS.**

Seventy percent of bats (including the kinds that live in North America) eat insects. A single brown bat can catch around 1,200 insects in an hour. Next time you play outside and don't get a mosquito bite, thank a bat!

- **SOME BATS SPREAD SEEDS.**

Bats that eat fruit juice and nectar often live in warm climates. These fruit-eating bats help their environments by eating seeds and pooping them out again, planting new trees wherever they go!

- **BATS CAN LIVE A LONG TIME.**

The average lifespan of a bat varies, but some types of brown bats can live as long as thirty years. Considering other small mammals live only two years or so, that is impressive!

- **BATS NEED OUR HELP!**

Deforestation and pollution have wiped out many bats and their habitats. One way you can help bats is by learning more about them and helping to protect the environments where they live.