



Bagels The Brave

Joan Betty Stuchner

Illustrated by Dave Whamond

ISBN: 978-1-4598-0493-7

About the Book

In this sequel to *Bagels Come Home*, Josh, his younger sister, Becky, their parents and Bagels head off on a three-day trip to Sasquatch Lake. But the vacation gets off to a rocky start. The cabin is a bit more “rustic” than advertised, with a few too many holes in the roof. Then Josh starts catching glimpses of a hairy figure in the woods nearby. When household items begin disappearing, from pickles to pj’s to Becky’s birthday cake, the family heads out to investigate, with Bagels in the lead. Who’s behind the mysterious happenings at Sasquatch Lake? And could Sasquatches be real?

About the Author

Joan Betty Stuchner loved stories. When she wasn’t writing, she worked in a library, taught part-time and acted in community theater. Sadly, Joan lost her battle with cancer on June 7, 2014, but her stories will continue to bring joy to readers for years to come.

About the Writing

The Bagels series is fiction, but the character of Bagels was based on a dog owned by Joan’s mother-in-law. His name was Ajax. Ajax was an escape artist. Turn your back for a second and he was gone. Ajax was also expelled from puppy preschool. He just couldn’t do as he was told. Ajax was a Sheltie. Shelties are usually small, but Ajax was bigger than most. One day Joan saw her mother-in-law taking Ajax for a walk. Ajax saw a squirrel and began to run so fast that it looked as if her mother in law was flying through the air holding onto the leash. Joan began asking other people to tell her their dog stories. That’s how Bagels was born.

Teaching Ideas—Curriculum Connections***Prereading Ideas***

Have you ever gone camping? Did you stay in a tent or in a cabin? What types of activities did you do? Did you see any animals? What are the most important things to bring on a camping trip?

Classroom Discussion Questions

1. Josh and Becky are disappointed by the cabin, which is not as nice as they expected. Have you ever been disappointed on a trip? What happened? Were you able to look on the bright side and have fun anyway?
2. On their trip, the Bernstein family do lots of outdoor activities, like canoeing and hiking. What are your favourite things to do outside? Make a list of outdoor activities that are more fun than watching TV.
3. Josh brings some supplies on the camping trip, which end up coming in handy. What are some of the things Josh packs? How are these items helpful? What would you pack for a camping trip?

Suggested Activities

- Learn about the legendary Sasquatch (aka Bigfoot) as a class. Have students draw a picture or write a short story about a mythical creature of their choice.
- Pretend you are going camping as a class. What would you bring? In pairs or groups, have students make lists and compare.
- Have students act out the scene where the cabin roof starts leaking.
- As a class, make a list of favorite activities to do while camping.
- Talk about camping and outdoor safety, such as what to do if you see a wild animal, how to properly dispose of garbage, use of life jackets on the water, etc.

Websites of Interest

<http://kidshealth.org/kid/watch/out/woods.html>

www.cozi.com/blog/family-camping-checklist-and-a-few-great-tips

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bigfoot>

www.livescience.com/13059-mythical-creatures-beasts-exist.html

Other Books by the Author from Orca Book Publishers

Bagels Come Home (Orca Echoes)

Can Hens Give Milk? (Picture Book)

Awards and Reviews

Bagels Come Home

2014 CCBC Best Books starred selection

“Whimsical and humorous. The crazy adventures that Bagels gets into are close enough to reality that many dog-owning adults will be able to relate to this book as

well...Readers will be left with the feeling of fun and mischief that only owning a dog can bring.” —*CM Magazine*

“This lively, easy to read novel will certainly attract the young reader’s interest. Filled with humourous puppy antics as well as a sly cat in the background, this story is highly entertaining and fun.” —*Resource Links*

“A hilarious story that will greatly amuse young readers.” —*Canadian Children’s Book News*

Can Hens Give Milk?

2012 Chocolate Lily Award nominee

2012 Washington Children’s Choice Award

“The tone of Joan Betty Stuchner’s tale is cheerful, but the delivery is appropriately straight-faced. The effect is gently teasing but never unkind. Joe Weissmann’s expressive illustrations complement this lighthearted style and paint a comic portrait of Schlomo and his family... There will be ample pleasure in predicting the outcome of the family’s antics or just enjoying this simple tale that celebrates silliness.” —*Quill & Quire*