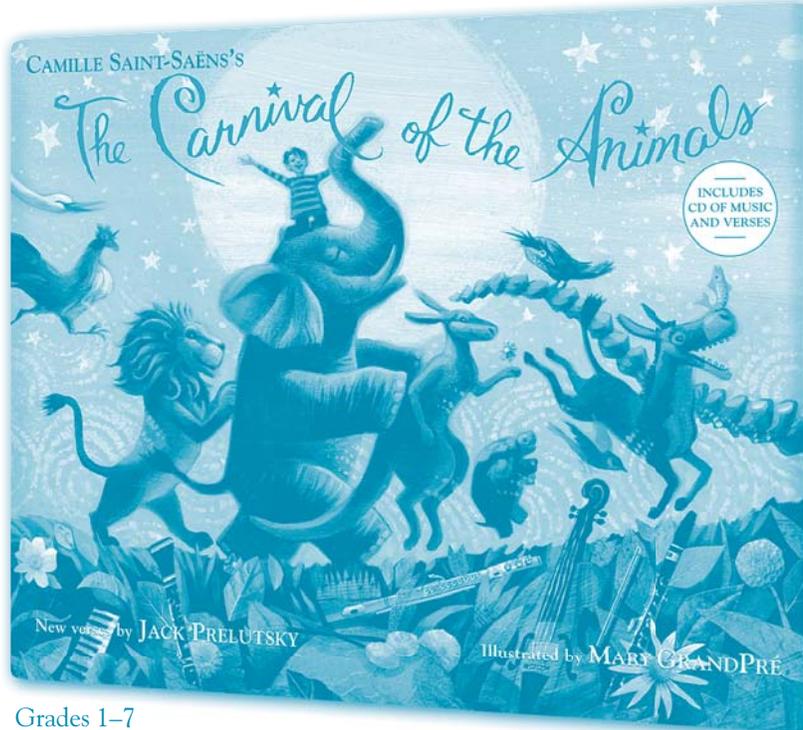


Celebrate the worlds of w



Grades 1–7

Alfred A. Knopf HC with CD: 978-0-375-86458-2

GLB with CD: 978-0-375-96458-9

ABOUT THE BOOK

Classical music is given a fresh, new voice and look. Children's poet laureate Jack Prelutsky was inspired by French composer Camille Saint-Saëns to create his own interpretation of Saint-Saëns's animal-inspired music. Prelutsky's animal poems are a mix of the funny and sublime, yet all are evocative. Mary GrandPré's rich mixed-media illustrations are certain to captivate your students as well. The included CD features Prelutsky's reading accompanied by the world renowned Württemberg Chamber Orchestra. Your students will be ready to get out of their seats and start their own carnival!

As a perfect introduction to classical music, the combination book and CD package is one that is certain to be read and listened to over and over again.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jack Prelutsky has introduced generations of children to the wonderful world of poetry. Jack has published more than 50 books and compiled 10 poetry anthologies. Jack lives in Washington State. Visit him at JackPrelutsky.com.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Mary GrandPré has illustrated several children's books, but she perhaps best known for her cover art and illustrations in the Harry Potter books. Mary lives in Florida. Visit her at MaryGrandPre.com.

ords, music, and animals!

Classroom Connections

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

For Younger Readers:

Show the book's cover to the class. Discuss with the class the parade of animals featured. What attributes do they ascribe to each animal? What do they expect the author-poet Jack Prelutsky will say about each? Ask the class: Which animal will be proud? Graceful? Silly?

For Older Readers:

Discuss the musical instruments depicted in the lower section of the cover. How many can they identify? To ensure all are familiar with the sounds of each instrument, coordinate efforts with the music teacher to play sound samples. Include other instruments the students may hear in an orchestra (e.g., a harp) or in another musical grouping (e.g., a guitar).

MUSIC AND DRAMA

For Younger Readers:

Jack Prelutsky's poetry reading is complimented by an orchestra. Lead the class in an array of movements mimicking the various animals portrayed in the music . . . they can march around the classroom like proud lions, blow kisses like slowly swimming fish, and lumber on all fours like cautious tortoises.

For Older Readers:

Have the class dress to represent their designated animal (e.g., all gray for an elephant, all white with a black-and-orange collar for a swan). Students should memorize their assigned poem and present it, reflecting the personality of their animal. The elephant presenter can stomp on stage and speak in a low deep tone; the kangaroo one can continuously hop while presenting his poem. Don't forget to ask for volunteers to present the "Introduction" and "Finale" poems in this class production.

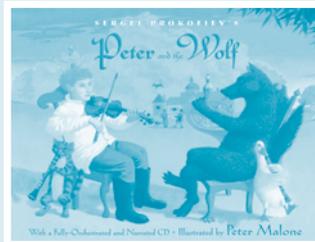
ART

Everyone can be an artist! Have the students create their own mixed-media animal artwork after studying Mary GrandPré's illustrations for inspiration. Encourage their creativity by allowing them to use any two or three mediums of their choice—including pencil; ink; watercolor, acrylic, or oil paints; and collage.

CREATIVE WRITING

Everyone can be a writer! Each student picks a favorite animal (one that is not included in the book). After sharing some tips on poetry writing, encourage them to write their own verse or two. Tips can include thinking of their animal in terms of their everyday activity—what they eat, how they play, how they move (jump, glide, run, wiggle). Students can use the two reproducible activity sheets to help organize their animal facts and create a handy rhyming-word list.

Composer Camille Saint-Saëns wrote *The Carnival of the Animals* in 1886 to express in music some of the silly habits his friends shared with animals. Lead a class discussion about humor and parody. Then have students think of their own friend's silly habits and find an animal who could represent that friend. Encourage them to develop their parody via a poem, song, dance, cartoon strip, or any other creative means.

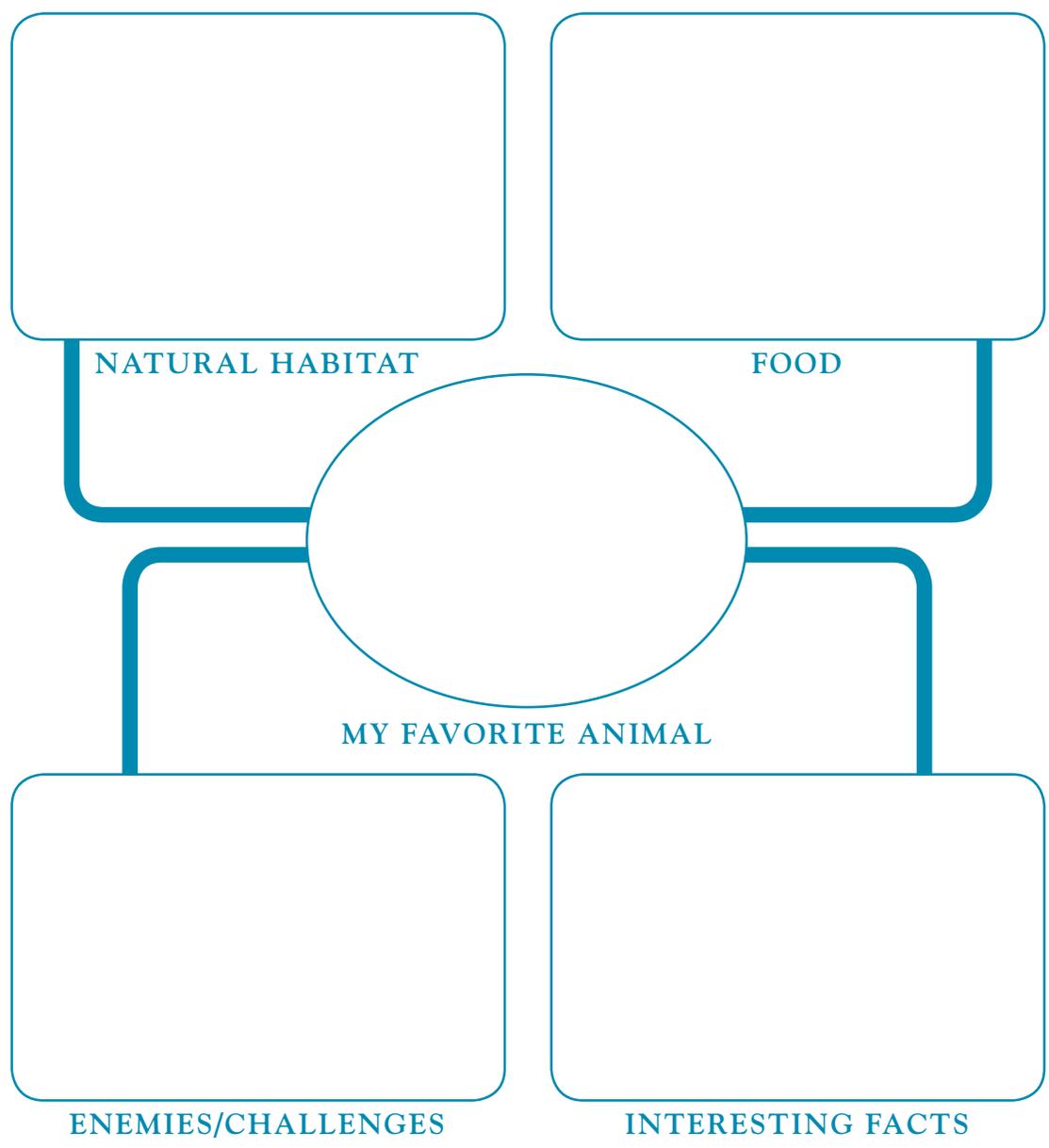


Also Available:
*Sergei Prokofiev's
Peter and the Wolf*
Alfred A. Knopf
HC with CD:
978-0-375-82430-2

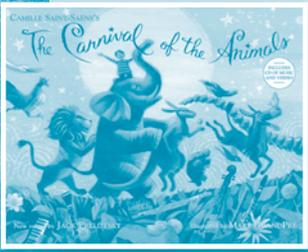
Name _____

Animal Facts

How much do you know about your favorite animal?



Use the information above to write an original poem.



Name _____

Poetry Helper

Create a rhyming list based on your favorite animal. We started a list for you, but there's room to add more words. These words will help your poem flow!

wing

sing

roar

soar

swim

brim

jump

bump

Reproducible
Activity

