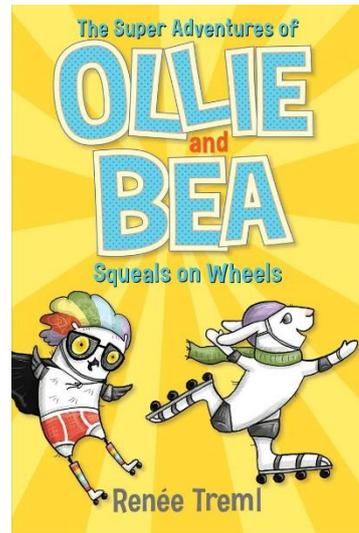
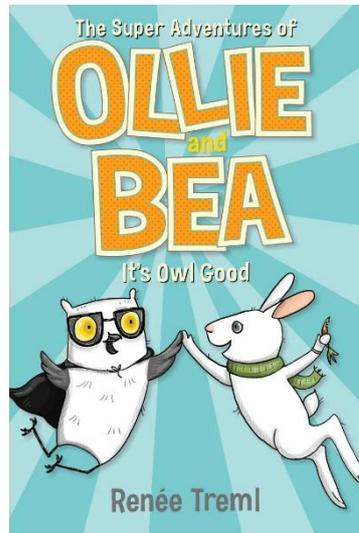


The Super Adventures of **OLLIE** and **BEA**



August 2021

ISBN 9781760526474: Book 1

9781760526481: Book 2

Format: Paperback

Recommended for 4 to 7 year olds

Summary

Ollie and Bea will delight young readers in this super sweet and funny full-colour graphic novel series that celebrates friendship and the differences that make us special.

Book 1: Ollie is an owl who wears glasses. And Bea is a bunny with very big feet. They don't know it yet, but they are about to be best friends. Can they help each other to find their OTTER-LY awesome inner superhero?

Book 2: Ollie is having a HOOT on his rollerskates, but Bea is full of excuses for why she can't join in. Will she realise that sometimes it's okay to look silly, and that real friends don't CARROT all if you have very big feet?

Themes

Friendship, differences and humour in a graphic novel format.



Suggestions for Classroom Discussion and Application

Before reading

Hold up the cover of *It's Owl Good* to show your class and run your finger along the book's title, reading it out loud. Now ask the following questions:

- [Pointing to the owl on the cover] What kind of animal is Ollie? [Once it is established that he is an owl, ask] Owls have particularly good eyesight normally, so can you see anything that might be a little unusual about Ollie?
- [Pointing to the bunny on the cover] What kind of animal would you say Bea is? [Once the class says a bunny or rabbit, ask] What things can you tell me about bunnies?
- How can you tell Ollie, the owl, and Bea, the bunny, will be friends in this story?
- Do you think this is going to be a funny or serious story?
- A PUN is a joke that plays with words that sound alike or have more than one meaning. Can you find a PUN in the story's title? [Read the title slowly again.]

Comprehension questions: *It's Owl Good: The Super Adventures of Ollie and Bea 1*

Chapter 1

- Why is Ollie embarrassed about wearing glasses? (page 5)
- Which superhero does Ollie think is the most famous? (page 6)
- What is the PUN in the joke that the animals tell in front of Ollie? (page 8)
- Why is Ollie sad when he hears the joke? (pages 8–9)?
- Why do you think the chapter is called Oh Deer!? [Look very closely at the animals telling the story and remember what you learned about PUNs earlier.]

Chapter 2

- Ollie mistakes Bea's big feet for a l_____ (page 14) and a s_____ (page 15).
- Look closely at the last image of Ollie on page 17 and describe what he is feeling here? As he doesn't say anything other than 'um', what in the illustration helped you know how he was feeling?
- Why do you think Bea pretends Ollie said 'gummies' instead of 'bunnies' when he is explaining what he eats? (page 20)
- Which colour gummies are Bea's favourite? (page 21)
- Finish Ollie's sentence on page 23.

Chapter 3

- Name three kinds of super glasses that are NOT the sort that Ollie is wearing (page 26):
x-_____, 3-_____ and Sun-b_____
- What other animals have awesome vision, according to Bea? (page 28)
- Ollie loves the name Super-Sees-Like-a-Goat. True or False? (pages 31–32)
- Bea makes Ollie feel better about wearing glasses. True or False?
- Why does Ollie feel better about wearing glasses at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 4

- What animal does Ollie mistake Bea for? (page 35)
- Name three things about Bea that prove she is a bunny? (page 36)
- How does Bea help Ollie after the other animals turn up? (page 44)
- Why doesn't Ollie need night vision glasses? (page 45)
- What is it about the name of this chapter that makes it a PUN?

Chapter 5

- Simon the squirrel mistakes Bea's feet for boats because she is being mean. True or False? (page 49)
- Look at the map of Bea and Simon racing around the trees. How can you tell that Simon ran further and faster than Bea? (page 52)
- What is Cee Cee the otter's superpower? (page 54)
- What is Sera the deer's superpower? (page 54)
- What is Pedro the chameleon's superpower? (page 55)

Chapter 6

- What do you think super-tipo means? (page 57)
- Bea discovers her superpower after being in a good mood. True or False? (page 58)
- Bea's superpower is that she can ___ higher than everyone else (page 61)
- All the animals are super nice to Bea. True or False (page 62)
- Find three PUNS in this chapter.



Squeals on Wheels: The Super Adventures of Ollie and Bea 2

- You don't always need words to tell you how a character is feeling. Bea is sometimes angry and scared in *Squeals on Wheels* but she ends up happy when Ollie encourages her. Can you find images of Bea feeling angry, scared and happy in the story and explain what it was in each image that helped you recognise how she was feeling?
- Words tell us a lot about what happens in a story but the way words are shown on a page can tell us a lot, too. Turn to page 23 of *Squeals on Wheels* and compare the way Ollie's words and Bea's thoughts are shown here. Why are Ollie's words thick, large, dark and all caps but Bea's are thin, small, pale and not all caps? Why are there bubbles coming out of Bea's head but a straight line out of Ollie's mouth? Now turn to page 32 and look at the background of the picture where Ollie is saying, 'I HAVE A SUPER PLAN!' How has the background changed and why do you think Renée Treml changed it here?
- Lines in graphic novels can tell us a lot about movement, too. Turn to page 33 and then page 61 and guess what the lines around the skates in both illustrations mean?
- Is Ollie a good friend to Bea in *Squeals on Wheels*? What does he do to help Bea overcome her fear of learning to skate? What makes a good friend in your opinion?
- Ollie and Bea's friends are an otter, deer, squirrel and chameleon. What's one interesting fact about each of these animals that you can find to share with the class?

About the author and illustrator

Renée Treml is the author and illustrator of several successful picture books for very young readers, including *Once I Heard a Little Wombat*, *Sleep Tight*, *Platypup*, and *Wombat Big, Puggle Small*. She is also the creator of the highly engaging and funny junior fiction graphic novel *Sherlock Bones and the Natural History Mystery* and its sequel, *Sherlock Bones and the Sea-Creature Feature*. Renee has a degree in environmental science and a passionate love of natural history.

In the author's own words

'This story grew from the two main characters, Ollie and Bea, who started out as doodles in my sketchbook. Each character has a minor physical challenge: Ollie has terrible eyesight despite being an owl, and Bea has exceptionally large feet. I was a version of both of these characters as a child. I wore thick glasses with a fogged lens, a patch over one eye and heavy corrective orthopaedic shoes. I wrote their stories so that these characters can learn to overcome the same worries I had by finding friends who help bolster their inner strengths of courage, kindness and compassion.'

- Renée Treml

