Polly/she Girgus Star



by Amy Helfer illustrated by Judy Stead





Birds That Talk

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Content Standards

Strategy: Visualize

Science

Skill: Key Details: Sequence

Life Science

High-Frequency Words

be, come, good, pull

Phonics

/-blends Word count: 380**

**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



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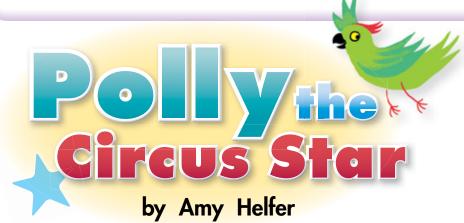
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Genre Fantasy



Essential Question

What makes a pet special?



illustrated by Judy Stead

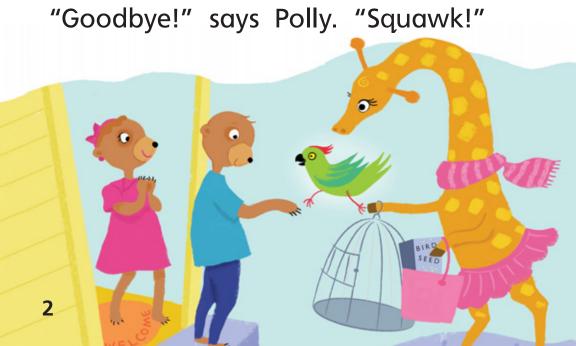
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|--------------------------|
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| Chapter 3 The Show Ends8 |
| Respond to Reading |
| READ Birds That Talk |
| Focus on Science |



Mrs. Ramos is going out. Bev and Ben will take care of Polly.

"Polly had her lunch," says Mrs. Ramos. "She might want a nap."

"Be good, Polly! Goodbye," says Mrs. Ramos.





"Are you sleepy?" asks Ben.
"Do you want to nap in your nice cage?"

"I don't want to nap," says Polly.
"I want to race! Ready, set, go!"

Polly takes off in a flash. Bev and Ben run after her, huffing and puffing.



Bev and Ben reach the end of the hall. The back door is open!

"Where are you, Polly?" calls Bev.

"Here I am!" calls Polly. "Come see what I can do!"



"Look at me!" squawks Polly.
"I'm in the circus!"

"Come down before you get hurt!" calls Ben.

Polly jumps from the rope and zips away. Bev and Ben run after her.

"Look at me!" says Polly. "I'm a clown in the circus!"

"You're going too fast!" says Bev.
"Please stop!"

Polly stops the car with a screech. Then she races away. Ben and Bev run after her.





Now Polly is in the kitchen.

"Look at me!" she says.

"I can juggle six eggs! I'm the circus star!"

"Please put them down, Polly," begs Ben. "This is *not* the circus!"



"Oops!" says Polly as she zips away.

Ben mops up the mess while Bev runs after Polly.



"Jump, Kitty," says Polly.
"You're a circus lion. Jump
through the hoop!"

Kitty doesn't want to be a lion, so Polly flies away.

Polly is worn out! Bev and Ben see Polly pull the cage door shut.

"It looks like Polly has run out of gas," says Ben.





"Goodnight, Polly," says Bev.
"Have a good nap."

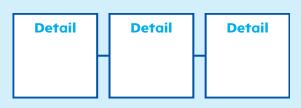
"Have a good nap," squawks Polly.

Ben and Bev laugh. "Oh, we will!" they say.



Retell

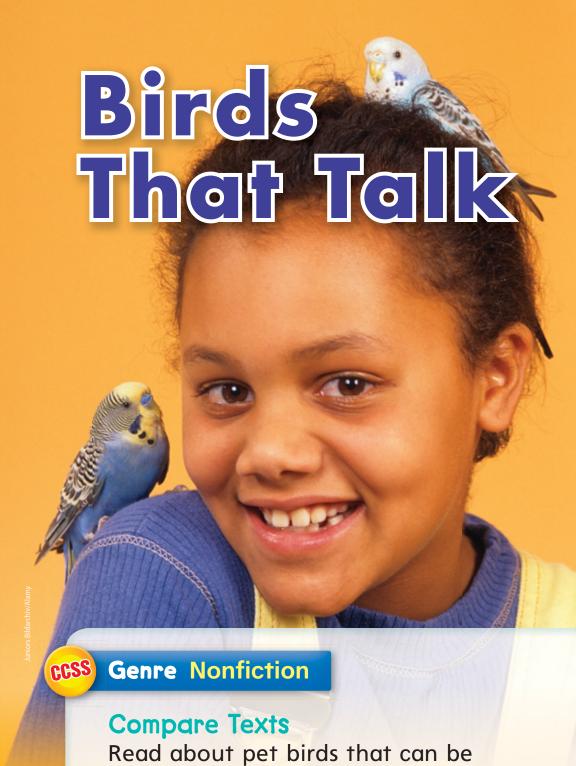
Use your own words to retell



Polly the Circus Star.

Text Evidence

- I. What does Polly do after she goes in the kitchen? Key Details:
 Sequence
- 2. What does Ben do after Polly zips away? Key Details: Sequence
- 3. Could this story happen in real life? Why or why not? Genre



trained to speak.

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Birds are smart pets. Some of them can learn to speak. Do you want to train your pet bird to speak? Start when your bird is young. Say the same words over and over. Speak clearly and slowly. Be patient. Teaching a bird to speak can take time.



What a Pet Bird Needs

- 1. a clean, safe cage with a perch
- 2. fresh water and the right food
- 3. exercise time outside its cage
- 4. to have its nails clipped
- 5. toys
- 6. your time and attention



Make Connections

How are real pet birds different from Polly in *Polly the Circus Star*?

Text to Text



Purpose To find out the kinds of things pets need

What to Do

Step I Choose a pet you have or would like to have.

Step 2 Make a chart like this one.

| My pet is a | |
|--------------|---|
| My pet needs | |
| I | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | _ |
| | |

Fill in the chart with three things the pet needs.

Conclusion Talk about why your pet needs the things you listed.

Literature Circles

Thinkmark

Setting

Where does *Polly the Circus Star* take place? What time of day does the story take place?

Characters

Who is the main character in *Polly the Circus Star*? Who are the other characters?

Sequence of Events

What happened first in this story?
What happened after Polly pretends to be a juggler?
What happened last?