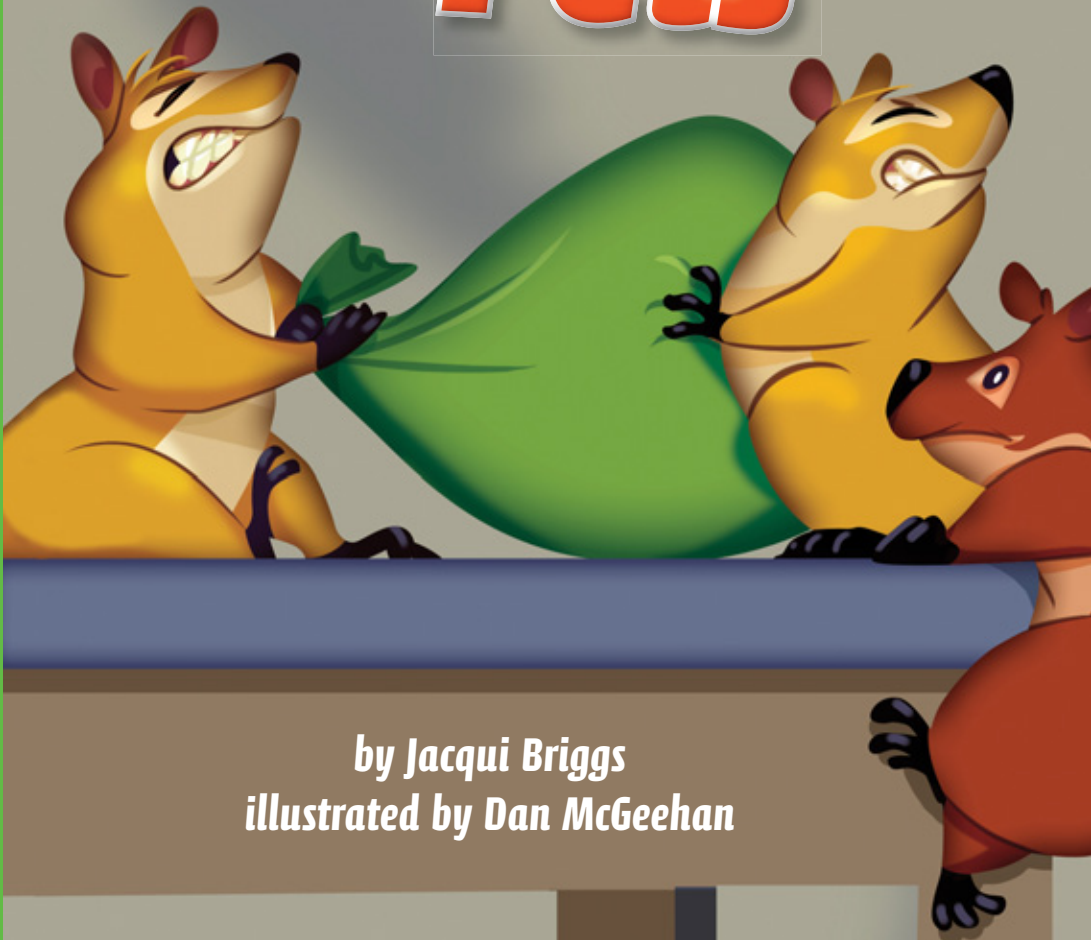


Fantasy

Class Pets



by Jacqui Briggs
illustrated by Dan McGeehan

Mc
Graw
Hill

PAIRED
READ

Poetry

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Visualize

Skill: Key Details

Vocabulary

actions, afraid, depend,
nervously, peered,
perfectly, rescue, secret

Phonics

Short *a*; short *i*

Vocabulary Strategy

Inflectional Endings

Word count: 794



Education

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A



Essential Question

How do friends depend on each other?



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READ**

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The Adventure

One evening long after school was out, Raisin said, “Wow, it’s quiet, isn’t it?”

“Yes, it is quiet. Let’s do something exciting. I’m bored,” yawned Rocky.

“Did you hear the kids saying today that Zip is not feeling well?” asked Moe.

“Let’s go visit Zip!” said Rocky.

“But—but Zip lives way down the hall in the science classroom,” Moe said nervously.

“Come on! It will be fun!” said Rocky.





"Be careful, Rocky," said Moe.

"Oh," said Rocky, "you know I'm a great climber. Relax, Moe, you worry way too much."

"Will you be able to reach the cage door to unlatch it?" asked Raisin.

"Of course. I've got everything perfectly under control, guys," Rocky boasted.



The hamsters got out of the cage and slid down the table leg. They scurried across the classroom.

Rocky was the first to reach the door. He peered down the long, dark hallway.

“Now what?” asked Moe.

“We have to get moving, but we have to be quiet. Our actions must be slow and careful,” Rocky said bravely.

Visitors

As the hamsters entered the science classroom, Harry the guinea pig yelled, "Hey! What are you hamsters doing in here?" His voice was loud and angry.

"We've come to see Zip," said Raisin nervously.

"Well, Zip is sick. Go back to your room where you belong!" grumbled Harry.

Grumpy old Harry didn't frighten Rocky. "We're just visiting to see if we can help Zip," Rocky said calmly.





Rocky reached Zip's cage while Raisin and Moe were still struggling up the table leg.

"Come on, Raisin. Hurry up, Moe," urged Rocky.

"Can you see Zip, Rocky? Is he okay?" puffed Moe.

"I think he's asleep," Raisin whispered.

"Should we leave?" asked Moe.

"After we came all this way?" Rocky said loudly. He saw Zip's tail curl closer to his body. "Hey, look, he's awake!" Rocky cheered.



Zip's Cure

All the hamsters said hello, and Zip gave a weak smile. "Hi," he replied.

"Are you okay?" asked Raisin.

"I have a tummy ache. The kids brought me some delicious strawberries today, and I ate too many of them," said Zip.

"What can we do to help?" asked Rocky.

"There are some super greens in Ms. Jana's refrigerator. Eating some of those might help," said Zip. "The refrigerator is under Ms. Jana's desk."

"We'll get them for you, Zip," said Rocky. "Let's go!"



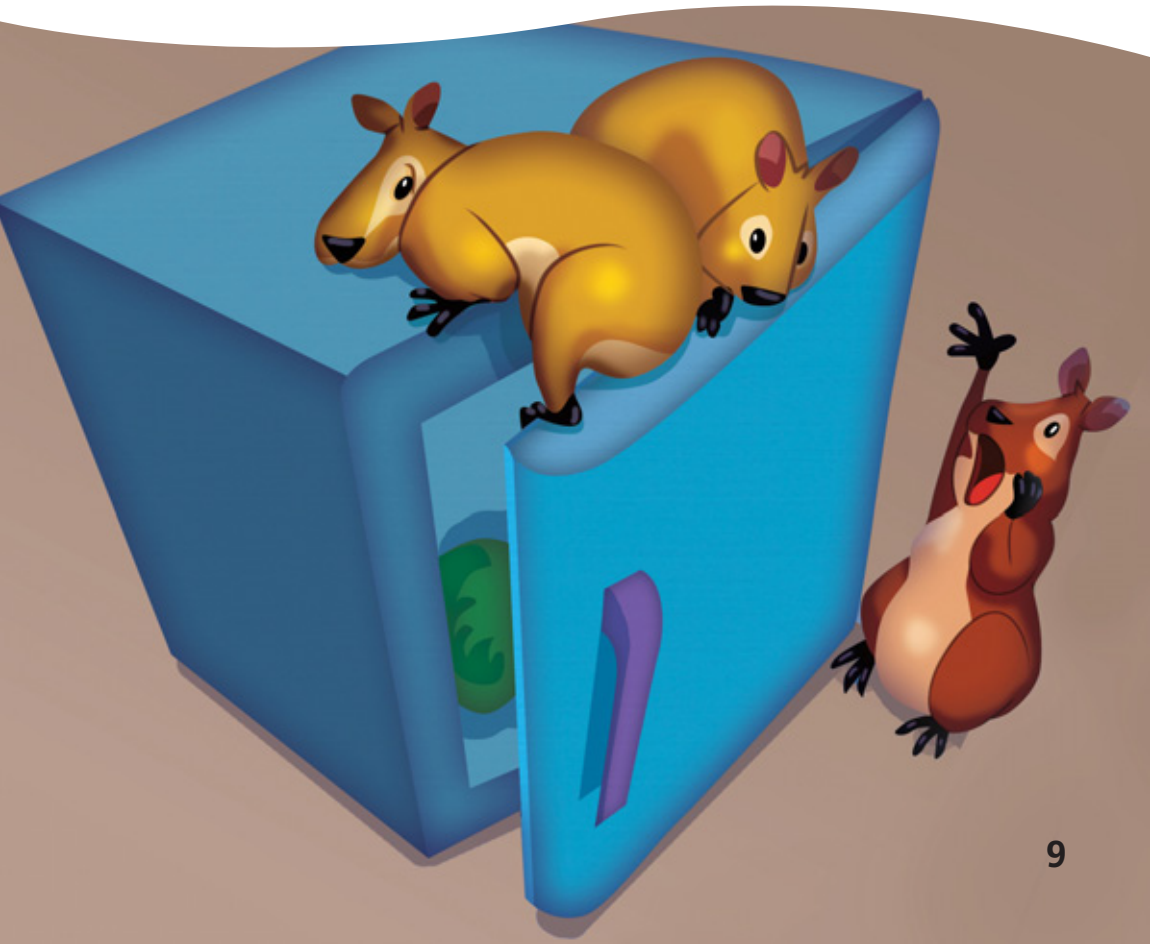
Moe and Raisin climbed to the top of the little refrigerator. Rocky stood below, calling out instructions.

“Push on the count of three, guys,” said Rocky. “One, two, three!”

The refrigerator didn’t budge.

“Harder! Push harder!” yelled Rocky.

The refrigerator door swung open.





The hamsters struggled with the bag of greens, but they finally got it up to Zip's cage. "Super greens, just for you, Zip," said Raisin.

"Perfect," said Zip. "These will make me feel better."

A Close Call

"These look delicious," Zip said. "Thanks for your help, guys."

Just then, a loud noise startled the hamsters. "What was that?" said Rocky.

"I didn't hear anything," said Zip.

"You were crunching those greens," said Moe, "so you couldn't hear it."

The sound was from the hallway. The janitor's mop had clattered to the floor.



“Shhh! Stop talking and get out of here! Mr. Otis is coming. He’s already turning the doorknob!” Zip said.

The janitor, Mr. Otis, opened the door and turned on the lights.

The three hamsters dropped the bag of greens and scurried down from Zip’s cage to the floor as quickly as they could.





Harry knew the hamsters' visit had to be a secret. So he screamed in a very loud and very high voice, "E-e-e-e-e-e-e! E-e-e-e-e-e! E-e-e-e-e-e!"

"Harry, what's wrong?" asked Mr. Otis. "What are you screaming about?"

Harry kept screaming. Mr. Otis stared at him, trying to figure out what was wrong, and didn't notice the hamsters.

Rocky, Raisin, and Moe ran for it.

“That was a close call,” puffed Raisin.

“We haven’t made it all the way home yet!” worried Moe. “I’m still afraid we’ll be caught.”

The hamsters scrambled into their cage.





“That was a great adventure!” bragged Rocky.

“If it hadn’t been for Harry, Mr. Otis would have caught us. Harry knew what to do to rescue us,” said Raisin.

“Yes, Harry is a hero. I didn’t know we could depend on him!” said Moe.

“Aha! That settles it!” said Rocky. “Our next adventure will be to go say thank you to Harry.”

And right away, Rocky began to make plans for their next adventure.

Respond to Reading

Summarize

Use the Key Details chart to help you summarize *Class Pets*.



Text Evidence

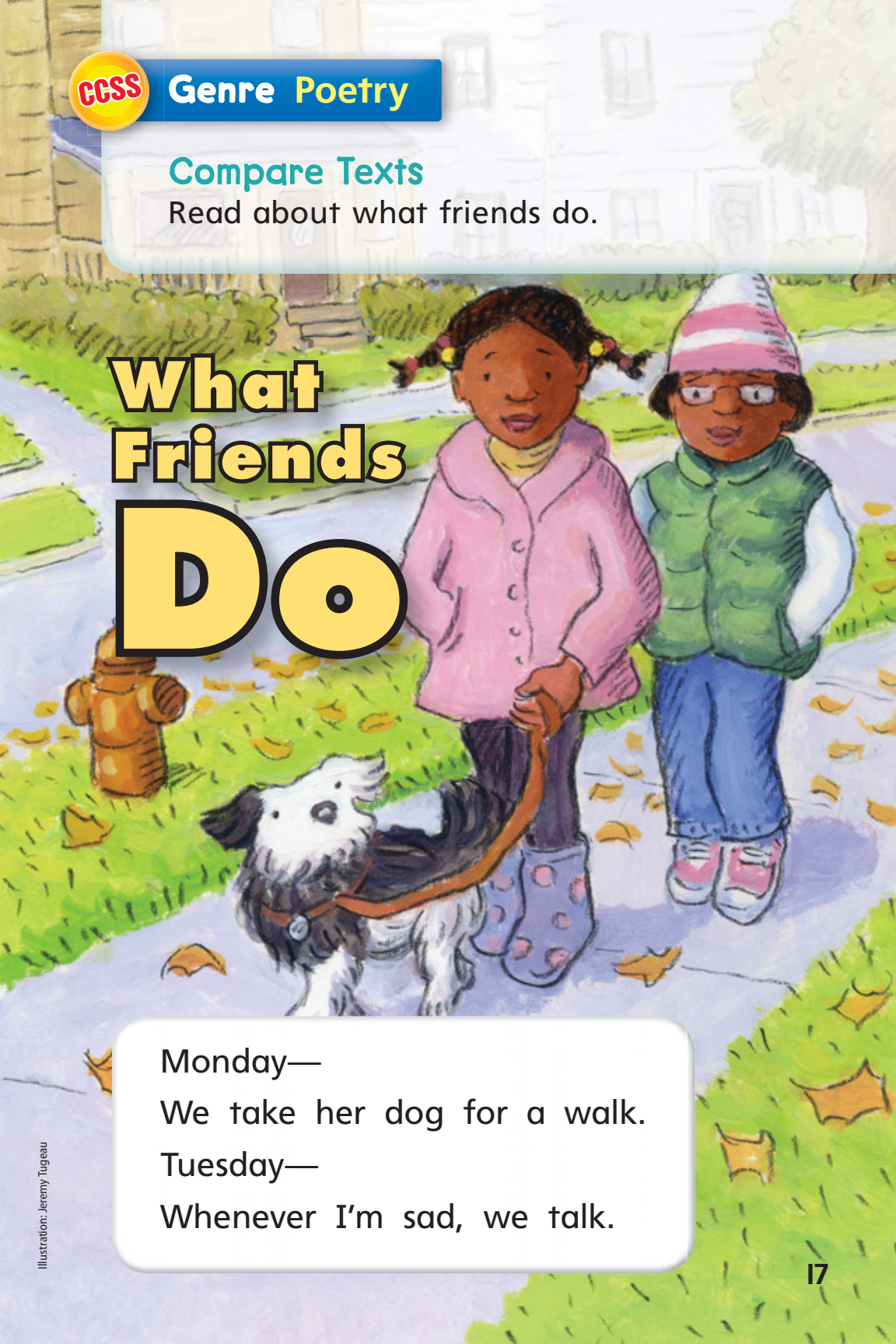
1. Is *Class Pets* fiction or nonfiction? How do you know? **Genre**
2. Read page 11. What noise surprises the hamsters? **Key Details**
3. Read page 12. What three words have the ending *-ing*? **Inflectional Endings**
4. Write about the most exciting part of the hamsters' adventure.

Write About Reading

Compare Texts

Read about what friends do.

What Friends Do

An illustration of two young girls walking a dog on a sidewalk. The girl on the left has dark skin and braided hair, wearing a pink jacket and purple boots with pink polka dots. The girl on the right has light skin, glasses, and a pink and white striped beanie, wearing a green vest over a white shirt and blue pants. A black and white dog is on a leash. The sidewalk is covered with fallen yellow and orange leaves. In the background, there is a brick building and a fire hydrant.

Monday—
We take her dog for a walk.
Tuesday—
Whenever I'm sad, we talk.



Wednesday—

We study math for a test.

Thursday—

If she's cranky, I tell her to rest.

Friday—

We work with Dad in our yard.

Weekend—

For her party, I make her a card.

That's what friends do!



Make Connections

How do the girls depend on each other? [Essential Question](#)

How are they like Rocky, Raisin, and Moe? [Text to Text](#)

Focus on Genre

Fantasy Fantasy is an imagined story that could not happen in real life. The characters in the story might seem real, but they have special powers and could not exist in real life.

What to Look for The characters in *Class Pets* are like real animals, but they can talk and go on adventures. In real life, animals can't do these things.

Your Turn

Create a fantasy story. Think of special powers for your characters. Then have them use their powers to complete a challenge. Write a beginning, a middle, and an end. Draw pictures of your characters.

Thinkmark

Setting

Where does *Class Pets* take place?

Where does *What Friends Do* take place?

Characters

Who are the main characters in *Class Pets*?

Which character is the leader of the team? How can you tell?

Sequence of Events

What happens in *Class Pets*?

What happens at the **beginning**, **middle**, and **end**?

Make Connections

How are you and your friends like the characters in *What Friends Do*?