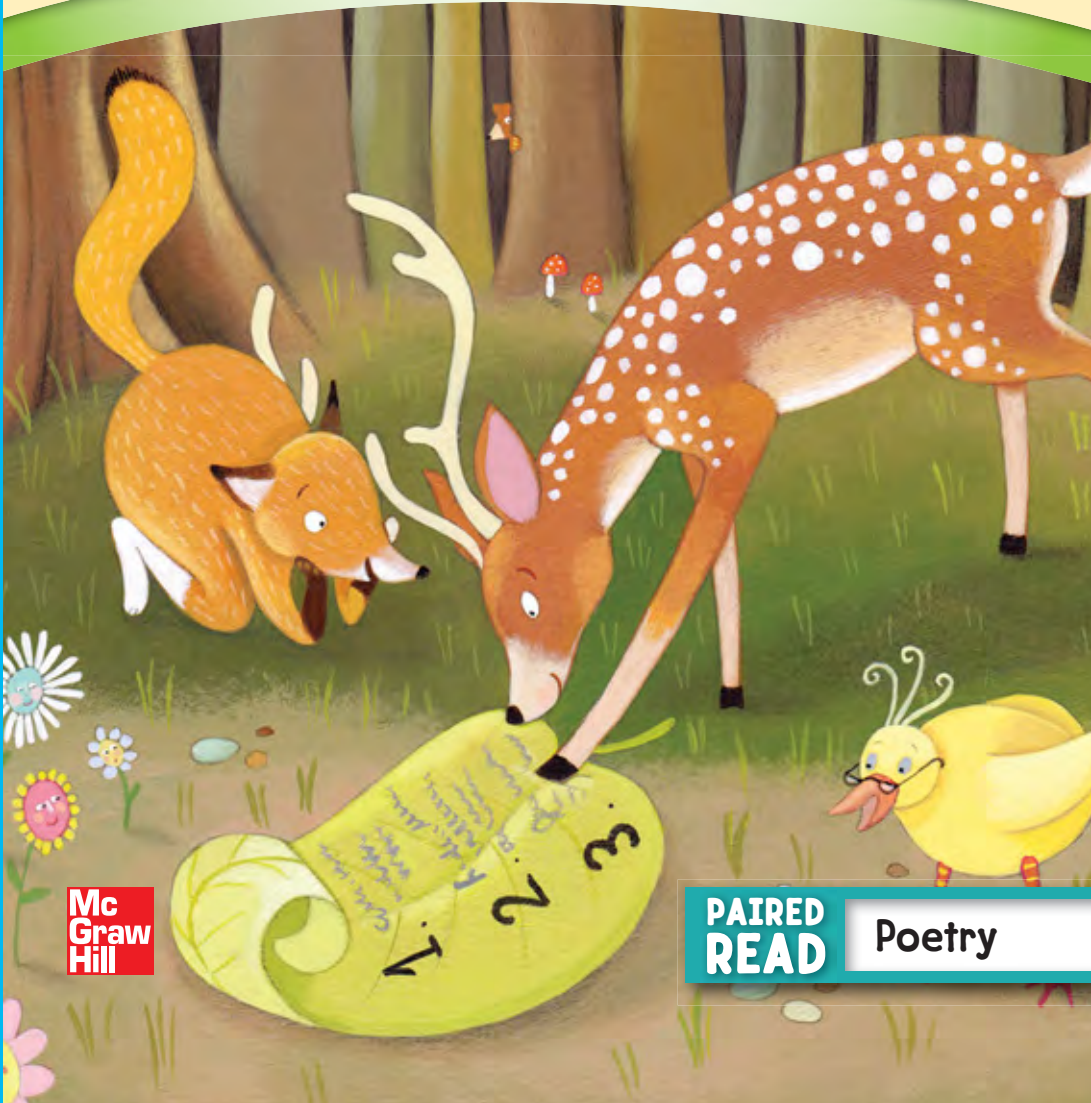


Fantasy

# The Quest

by Jacqui Briggs  
illustrated by Louise A. Ellis



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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: 588



**Education**

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A



**Essential Question**

**How do friends depend on each other?**

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## Chapter 1 **Welcome, Contestants**

“Welcome, welcome,” said Badger.  
“We have a perfectly beautiful day  
for the Quest.”

“Will someone from each team come  
to the stage and pick up a list? The  
list tells the challenges for today’s  
Quest,” he said.





"You go, Fox," said Deer.

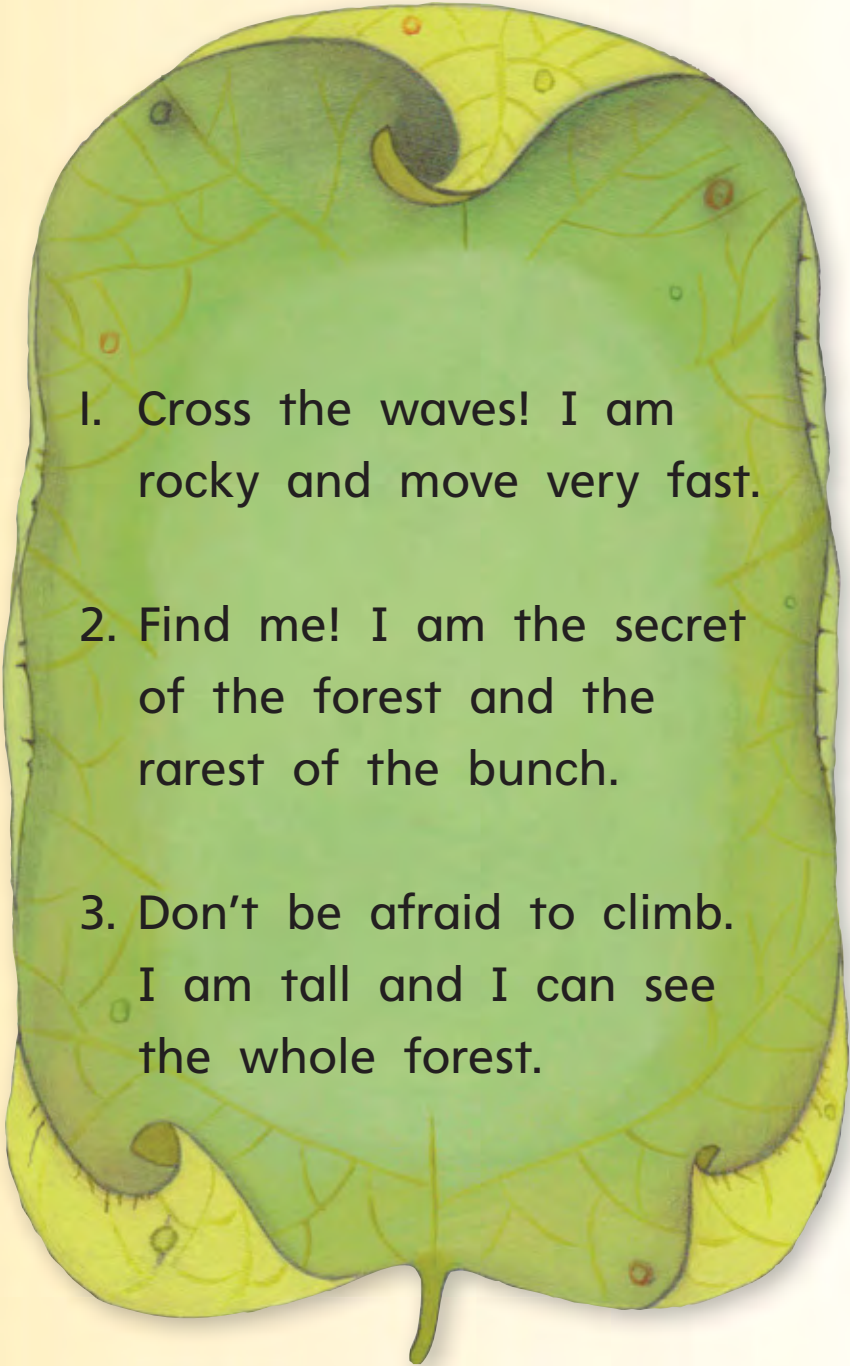
"Oh my," said Fox nervously. "There are too many animals watching." He put on a brave face and slowly climbed the stairs.

Bird, Fox, and Deer peered at the list. They were all excited.

“What does it say?” asked Bird.

“What do we have to do?” asked Fox.





1. Cross the waves! I am rocky and move very fast.
2. Find me! I am the secret of the forest and the rarest of the bunch.
3. Don't be afraid to climb. I am tall and I can see the whole forest.

## Chapter 2 **The Challenges**

The team hurried to the river. "As soon as I read the list, I knew where to go," Deer said proudly.

"How will we cross?" asked Fox.

"I will find us a safe place to cross," said Bird. "Just listen for my whistle." She flew away.







Bird whistled. "Look," she said. "I found an easy place to cross!"

"I don't want to get wet," said Fox.



"I'll carry you, Fox," offered Deer.  
"Hop on my back. Bird can fly and  
follow us across."

Deer read aloud, "Number 2 says, *Find me! I am the secret of the forest and the rarest of the bunch.* Who has an idea about this one?"

"I do," Bird chirped eagerly.

"So do I," said Fox. "You first, Bird."



“I saw beautiful purple flowers by the river,” said Bird.

She flew off. She found the purple flowers, but they were not rare. They were everywhere.





Fox hunted in the woods. "I've found it! It's here!" he cried. "Mom told me about the shy posy. It is beautiful and very hard to find. It hides in old stumps. This is it!"

## Chapter 3 **The Climb**

“This is great! We’ve only got one challenge to go!” said Bird.

Fox asked, “Deer, will you read the next challenge?”

Deer read aloud, “Number 3 says, *Don’t be afraid to climb. I am tall and I can see the whole forest.*”

“Hmm, what’s tall?” the team wondered aloud.





“That’s Mount Sid!” cried Fox. He gulped. “Mean wolves live on Mount Sid. I’m afraid to go up there.”

“Me too,” said Bird. “The birds who live there are huge and scary.”

“Don’t worry, friends! Climb on my back and hold on tight. My long legs are fast. I can rescue you if I have to,” said Deer.

“We’re going to make it! We’re going to make it,” puffed Deer.

“Deer, because of you we will win the Quest!” shouted Bird.







“Because of Bird’s flying we could cross the river,” said Fox.

“Because of Fox’s memory, we found the posy,” said Deer.

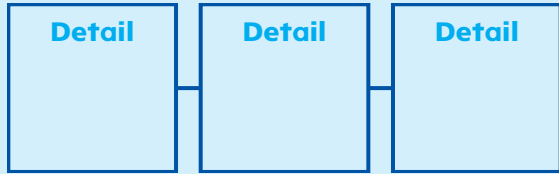
“Because of Deer’s strong legs, we could climb the mountain,” said Bird.

“I am so proud of our team,” said Deer. “We worked together, and our actions helped us win the Quest! We can depend on each other!”

# Respond to Reading

## Summarize

Use the chart to help you summarize *The Quest*.



## Text Evidence

1. Is *The Quest* fiction or nonfiction? How do you know? **Genre**
2. What are the three challenges the team completes? **Key Details**
3. Read page 3. Which word has the ending *-ing*? **Inflectional Endings**
4. Write about which challenge you think was the hardest.

**Write About Reading**

## Compare Texts

Read about boys who depend on each other.

# Together



Cam and Mitch live on the block.  
They work and play around the clock.  
Mitch and Cam roll up their sleeves.  
They fill bags with autumn leaves.



Cam leaps right and throws the ball.  
They run and catch, fumble and fall.  
Cam's in the garden. He plants seeds.  
Soon the boys will pull up weeds.





Mitch, in a flash, is ready to play.  
It's video games they'll play today.  
The boys depend upon each other.  
A best friend can be like a brother.



## Make Connections

How do Mitch and Cam depend on each other? **Essential Question**

How are the boys like Deer, Fox, and Bird? **Text to Text**

# Focus on Genre

**Fantasy** Fantasy is an imagined story that could not happen in real life. Even characters who seem real have special powers.

**What to Look for** The animals in *The Quest* can talk. In real life, animals cannot talk.

## 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.

Fiction

# Thinkmark

## Setting

Where does *The Quest* take place?

Where does *Together* take place?

## Characters

Who are the main characters in *The Quest*?

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

## Sequence of Events

What happens in *The Quest*?

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

## Make Connections

How are you and your friends like the characters in *Together*?