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Alan's Big, Scary Teeth

Carlie Smith

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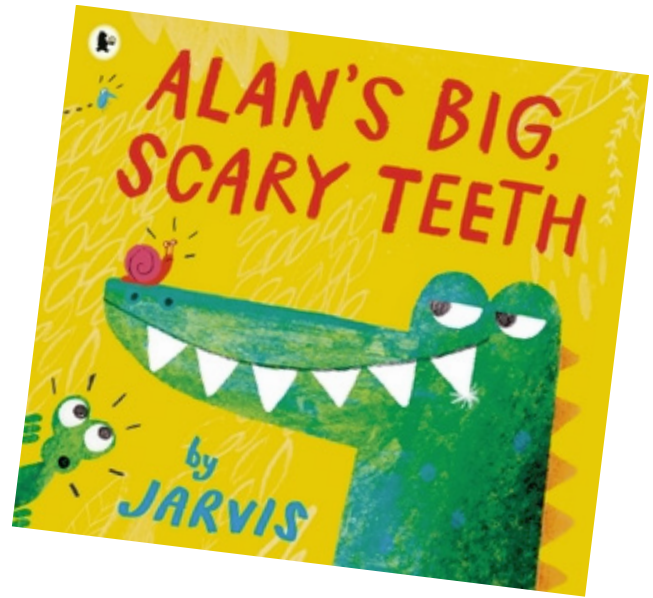
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Book Review

Title: Alan's Big, Scary Teeth
Author: Jarvis
Reviewer: Carlie Smith
Publisher: Candlewick Press
Publication Year: 2016
ISBN: 9780763681203
Number of Pages: 17
Interest Level: Toddler, Preschool
Rating: Excellent



Review

Alan is an alligator who spends hours polishing and brushing his big, scary teeth. He takes pride in continuing the family tradition of spooking the jungle creatures. But Alan has a secret. His teeth are false! He is extremely sad when his teeth are stolen and he is no longer intimidating. The jungle animals agree to return his teeth if he will use them to be helpful. The best part is that he can still be frightening as he tells his new friends scary stories at night.

The bold, bright colors of the book's illustrations and Alan's sneaky, satisfied expressions will help readers quickly root for this alligator even if he wants to scare people. The central plot point of stolen dentures is humorous. The compromise that the jungle animals offer Alan in exchange for giving back his teeth is a good lesson on both accepting people and using strengths to do positive things.