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### Mogie: The Heart of the House

Melissa Secor

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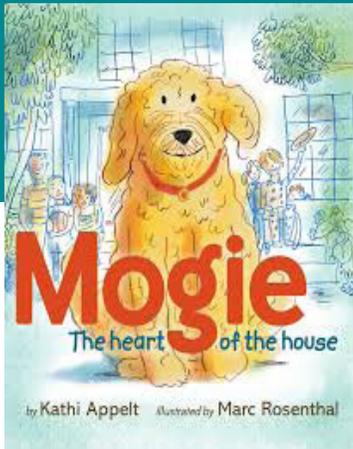
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## Book Review

# Mogie: The Heart of the House

### Author

Kathi Appelt

### Illustrator

Marc Rosenthal

### Reviewer

Melissa Secor

### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Preschool, Primary,  
Intermediate

### Pages

40

### Year

2014

### Publisher

Atheneum Books for

### ISBN

9781250061379

Mogie isn't cut out to be a service dog. He fails at search-and-rescue and he isn't calm enough to be a show dog. But when Mogie wanders into a special house in the middle of the city, he finds exactly what he's meant to do. Mogie has a special talent at finding sick, sad kids and cheering them up by giving them exactly what they need. He makes friends with the sick children in the house, and helps them find their 'mojo.' He chases his ball, runs races, and does backflips- anything to make the children smile. When they don't feel like smiling, Mogie sits next to them, licks their fingers and stares out at the beautiful blue sky.

Mogie: The Heart of the House is a beautiful, heartwarming story about a labradoodle who lives in the Ronald McDonald House in Houston, Texas. This story is light-hearted and touching, and a great way to teach kids about the Ronald McDonald house and the benefit and jobs of service animals. The illustrations are simple and beautiful. They show a beautiful transformation of the Ronald McDonald house, representing it in blues and grays before Mogie arrives, and yellows and oranges after he arrives. This book is based on a true story, and will brighten the day of anyone who reads it. This is a great book for elementary school children, older students, and anyone who loves dogs.