2018

Bridge to the Wild

Phyllis Rosen

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation
Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol39/iss5/8

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.
Book Review

Bridge to the Wild

The author gets to visit the zoo and share facts she learns about the different animals she encounters. She accompanies Rebecca Snyder, Curator of Mammals at Zoo Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is allowed to go behind the scenes to learn about various animals and also to find out how the zoo keepers take care of the needs of these animals. She has chapters that include learning about pandas, flamingos, meerkats, orangutans, gorillas, snakes, elephants, birds, Komodo dragons, etc. The reader also gets a glimpse of the routine of the zoo vets. The end of the book discusses endangered species.

This book was not very well written. The dialog in it, even though a small part of the book, sounds contrived and silly. The book adds in odd information that doesn’t really belong, such as telling about the poor treatment of Komodo dragons on the island of Komodo. The book is definitely not for young children. It often reads like a text book, very dry and somewhat boring. And the author spends a lot of time on the mating habits of the various animals. While that is scientific, it’s not really appropriate for younger ages. Parents would spend way too much time explaining the reproductive terms. Unlike most “behind the scenes” books that are anecdotal, with entertaining, this story much more about education, including a section at the end on endangered species and our role in saving the planet.

*Contains lots of information about animal mating including technical terms that would need explaining.

Author
Caitlin O’Connell

Illustrator
Caitlin O’Connell and Phyllis Rosen

Reviewer
Phyllis Rosen

Rating
Significant Shortcomings

Level
Young Adult

Pages
202

Year
2016

Publisher
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

ISBN
9780544277397