



2018

### Bridge to the Wild

Phyllis Rosen

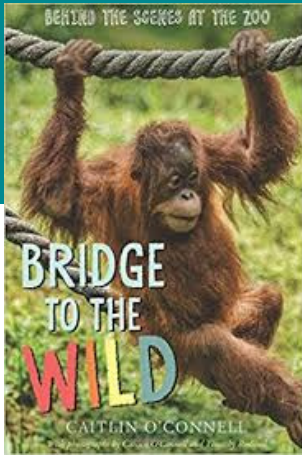
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## Book Review

# Bridge to the Wild

### Author

Caitlin O'Connell

### Illustrator

Caitlin O'Connell and

### Reviewer

Phyllis Rosen

### Rating

Significant Shortcom-

### Level

Young Adult

### Pages

202

### Year

2016

### Publisher

Houghton Mifflin Har-

### ISBN

9780544277397

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.