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Bella Lost and Found

Kaley Durney

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Book Review

Bella Lost and Found

Author

Ryan O'Rourke

Illustrator

Ryan O'Rourke

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Reviewer

Kaley Durney

Rating

Dependable

Level

Preschool, Primary

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Pages

40

Year

2014

Publisher

HarperCollins

ISBN

9780062218612

Bella is a house cat in a lighthouse and longs for adventure on the sea. One day Bella decides to leave the lighthouse and go to the beach where she finds a boat. By accident she is swept to sea, where she meets a friendly whale who tries to help her find her way home. Then Bella meets an octopus who directs her to the beach. Once at the beach, Bella seeks help from the seagulls, but they fly too high and fast for Bella to keep up. Bella starts to become sad because she wants to go home. But when it gets dark, she sees the light from the lighthouse and her friends calling her name. Bella returns home, grateful that she had a fun adventure and grateful that she made it home.

This book is simple and follows a sequence of events with not a lot of meat in the story. It would be great to teach young readers about sequencing, but there is not much to the plot. The author doesn't go into detail about how the cat feels, which makes it hard for readers to understand what the cat is going through. While the sequencing is good, the transitions are subpar. Often in the transitions, there are some major plot holes. However, the illustrations help the reader understand a little more about Bella and her adventures. The illustrations are bright and colorful and keep the reader engaged. Overall, this is a simple story with great illustrations.