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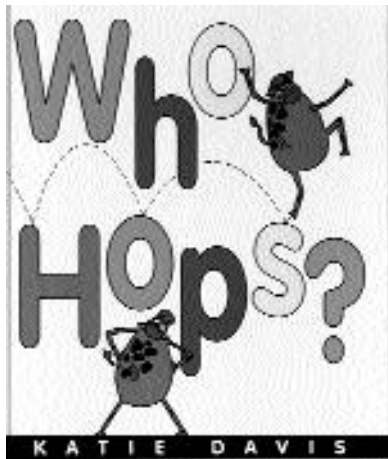


by Karen Antikajian

## For Younger Readers

(Although older students would probably love the ridiculous humor and silly illustrations)

A simple, and simply delightful, book that I've recently discovered is called *Who Hops?* (written and illustrated by Katie Davis). The vivid colors and creative illustrations, especially the facial expressions, really carry this pattern book although the twist in the text surprises and delights. It makes a great model for writing a similar class book.



Example: (p1) Who hops? (p2) Frogs hop. (p3) Rabbits hop. (p4) Kangaroos hop. (p5) Cows hop. (p6) NO THEY DON'T! Cows moo and give milk, but they don't hop! (and the cow says, "It would never work.") The next pages continue in the same manner. Who flies? Birds fly. Bats fly. Flies fly. Rhinos fly.



The book has a wonderful conclusion.

Students could brainstorm other verbs (runs, chomps, floats, digs, jumps, pecks), think of three animals who do that and one who couldn't possibly. Then they need to list two things the last animal can do and think of what that animal might say about not being able to do it. The text could be printed by hand or with a computer and then each child could illustrate a separate page.

## For Older Readers (And Pun Lovers)

I've just read some great books that are literally bursting with puns. There are four in the set: *Give Me Bach My Schubert* (with a musical theme), *Jamaica Sandwich* (a journey through geography), *It Looks a Lot Like Reindeer* (an assortment of animals), and *You Never Sausage Love* (a feast of foods). Here's a taste:

My buddy Bert likes Haydn things—  
he's sometimes hard to Handel.  
I said, "Give me BACH my Schubert,"  
'cause I knew he hid my sandal.

"Jamaica Sandwich?" Grandma asked,  
and I replied I ate  
some CHILE from a China bowl  
and TURKEY from a plate.

I gopher stays at Grandpa's house—  
WOLF fish and YAK till dawn.  
"My fishing isn't bad," he says,  
"but, lord, my herring's gone."

"He spent his youth be cider  
and one thyme said in fun,  
"I don't know why we cantaloupe—  
we're OLIVE twenty-one!"