

Discussion Questions for The Whingdingdilly by Bill Peet

BIOGRAPHY:

Bill Peet was born in Indiana. He loved to draw as a boy. It sometimes got him into trouble because he drew in his textbooks. In high school he was failing every class except P.E. Then he took art classes and he did well, which gave him the confidence to do well in other classes. Before he started writing and illustrating his own books, he worked at Disney Studios in Los Angeles. He did some of the drawings for Peter Pan, Dumbo, Cinderella, Alice in Wonderland and other Disney films. He died in 2002.

Why is Scamp so dreary and sad at the beginning of the book? (Tired of being a dog)

Scamp feels that if he were a horse like Palomar, he would be happy. Give 2 reasons Scamp wants to be this horse.

Orvie calls Scamp a “silly ole dog” which hurts his feelings and he runs away. What happens next? (witch in the forest turns him into a magical creature)

Retell your favorite part of the story. Why is it so special to you? Be specific.

Scamp thought that being something other than a dog would be great. However, as soon as he becomes the whingdingdilly, he starts to have problems. Name 2 of the problems Scamp experiences when he becomes this creature.

What is the author’s message?

How are farm animals and jungle animals different?

Scamp the farm dog was given the body parts of six different kinds of animals. Do you know where these six kinds of animals live on earth?

Identify four different locations -- The Great Barrier Reef, The Amazon Rainforest, The Savanna and Tropical Grassland, and the Arctic Circle. Point out to the students where these areas are located on earth and what type of animals live in these areas.

Scamp the farm dog wanted to be a great Percheron horse, but he became a Whingdingdilly instead. Have you ever wondered what you might look like as a Whingdingdilly?

ACTIVITY:

Recreate yourself as a Whingdingdilly. Start by drawing your face or pasting a picture of yourself on a piece of paper. Next add animal parts

that you draw yourself or cut and paste from magazine pictures. Don't forget to name your new self.

Draw your own whingdingdilly.

Materials: poster board, colored pencils or markers, imagination

Steps: 1. Pick 5 animals.
2. Find a way to combine them in black & white
3. Add color.

Make your own whingdingdilly with household items and junk