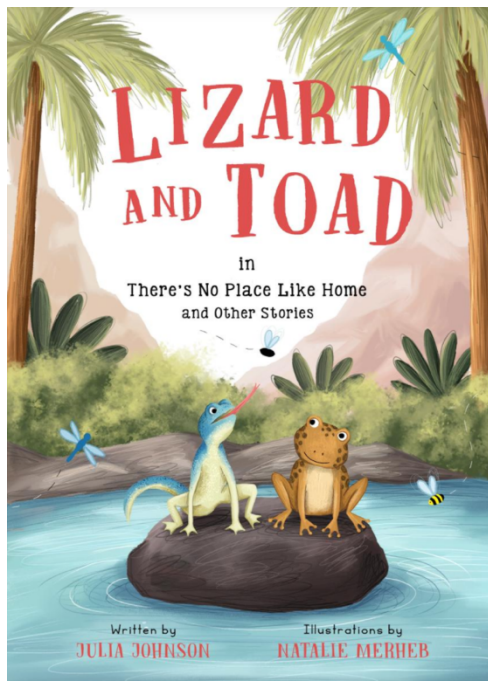


STORIES OF LIZARD AND TOAD

By Julia Johnson

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!



Book One:

There's No Place Like Home

Toad's Painting

Toad Takes a Ride

The Discovery

There's No Place Like Home

- What happens to Lizard and Toad's home, how is it spoiled?
- Where does Toad disappear?
- Where do Lizard and Toad go?

- What are they looking for?
- Who makes things better?
- What do they do?
- What does the sign say?

Toad's Painting

- What is the man painting?
- Why does Toad jump into the paint box?
- What happens when the man wakes up?
- What does he think when he looks at his picture?
- How does Lizard rescue his friend?

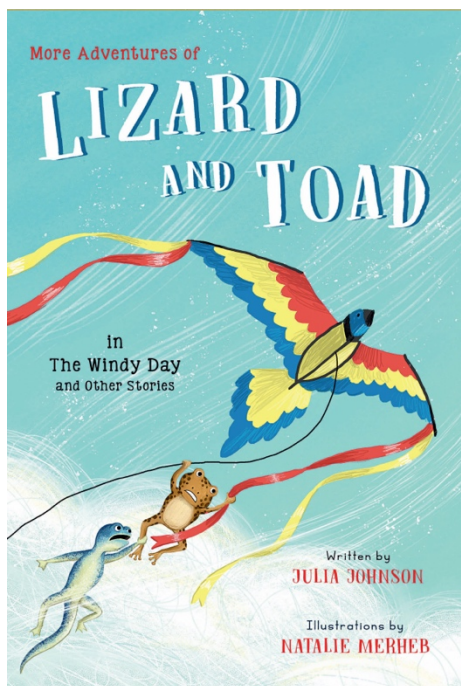
Toad Takes A Ride

- When Toad sees the remote-control helicopter what does he want to do?
- Why doesn't he enjoy his ride?
- What do the boys do?
- Who comes along and separates them?
- What do the boys think when Toad is lifted out of the helicopter?

The Discovery

- When Toad sees the fallen rocks what does he think?
- There is a big hole in the mountainside. Lizard is feeling brave and wants to explore, but what does Toad say?
- What do they find in the cave?

- Why do they hide?
- What do the two young men think about their discovery? What do they decide to do?
- Why will they be surprised when they see the photos in the newspaper?



Book Two:

The Windy Day

Toad Makes a Splash

Whose Egg?

The Party

The Windy Day

- Why is Toad afraid of the kite, what does he think it is?
- Who is learning to fly the kite?
- What happens to Toad when he takes hold of the line?
- How does the little girl's father try to get the kite out of the tree?
- Who comes to the rescue?

Toad Makes a Splash

- How does Toad show off?
- Who is he trying to impress?
- His triple somersault gets everyone's attention. What do the grown-ups do?
- Why do the children get bored and wander away to find something else to play with?
- Which creatures does Lizard ask to help?
- How do they cause a commotion?
- Do you think Toad learns a lesson as a result of his adventure?

Whose Egg?

- What has Lizard found after the storm?
- Does the egg belong to any of the creatures which live in the wadi?
- Try to describe the creature which hatches out of the egg. Which bird knows what it is?
- A family arrives with a dog. What does it do?
- How does Toad escape?
- How does the family look after the turtle hatchling?

The Party

- Why is Toad excited, what has been put up in the wadi?
- How are the villagers celebrating Eid?
- Toad wants a closer look, so what does he do?

- Toad almost gets eaten by a woman. How does Lizard distract her?
- What does she think the date is when it croaks?
- Why does Toad feel ashamed as he goes to bed?
- How does he try to say sorry to Lizard?

Which was your favourite story?

- Perhaps you could re-tell the story as if you are either Lizard or Toad.
- I'm sure there are lots more stories to tell about Lizard and Toad. Try making up a new adventure about them.

More Ideas

Lizard is a reptile.

- Can you think of any other creatures which belong to the reptile family?
- What is special about reptiles?
- For instance, they are cold-blooded.
- Can you find out what this means?

Perhaps you could try writing a rhyme about Lizards.

Here's one of mine:

We are LIZARDS, dry and scaly

Spread your fingers, bob your heads and roll your eyes.

We are LIZARDS on the lookout

For some big fat juicy bugs and tasty flies!

We are LIZARDS, flick your tails

We can dart, we can scurry, we can run

We are LIZARDS and we'd rather

Sit right here and just do nothing in the sun!

Toad is an amphibian.

- Do you know what the word means?
- Which other creatures are amphibians?
- What is special about them?

For instance, most amphibians have an egg-larva-adult life cycle.

Perhaps you could try writing a rhyme about Toads.

Here's one of mine:

We are TOADS, C'roak, c'roak !

We can swim, we can crawl and we can hop

We are TOADS, and rather clever

Watch us dive into the water with a plop!

We are TOADS, C'roak, c'roak!

We've lovely warty skin and bulgy eyes

We are TOADS, we're jolly handsome

And really rather good at catching flies!

- Half the class could be Lizards and the other half Toads.
- You could put actions to the rhymes.
- Perhaps you could even make up a tune and turn the rhymes into a song!

Friendship

- The stories are about two friends.
- What do you think it means to be a good friend to someone?
- What sort of things does Lizard do to show he's a good friend to Toad?
- Does he ever get fed up with Toad?
- What would you say to Toad if you were Lizard?

Recall

- Do remember where Lizard and Toad live?
- Think of some words you would use to describe Lizard?
- And some you would use to describe Toad?
- Make a list of things you've found out about lizards and toads in the stories, e.g. what do they like to eat?
- Which other creatures did you meet?

Wadi Colouring

- Try to describe **a wadi** in words.
- Then draw a picture of one.
- You could include: rocks, grasses, water, birds, date-palm trees.
- Don't forget to colour the Wadi in your books!

Make Paper Bag Puppets!

Half the class make Lizards, the other half Toads.

Take a brown paper bag.

Cut out eyes, legs and tongue.

Glue them onto the bag.

Add warts for Toad and scales for Lizard.

Now you can let your characters talk to each other.

You could enact one of the stories or make up a new one!

