

ADVENTURES IN CARTOONING: CHARACTERS IN ACTION READING GROUP GUIDE



About the Book:

The famous director Otto Airs is making a movie, and he's invited everyone in the kingdom to audition! It's your chance to dream up boatloads of wacky characters to star in the film. Discover how body language and expression are used to tell a story, dress a wizard to the nines, and choose the perfect rogue robot. After following the heroes on their cartooning adventure, you'll be ready to create characters to star in your own comic book!

For Discussion:

Adventures in Cartooning: Characters in Action offers great advice and instructions on creating your own cartoon characters. What did you learn about creating your own characters?

At the beginning of the graphic novel we are presented with several versions of evil villains, kings, beggars, and knights. What made them different from one another? Which version of the characters was your favorite?

What do you think makes a knight a knight, a princess a princess, a monster a monster, and on? What is the most important aspect in creating a character on paper? Are the clothes, colors, facial expressions, dialogue, or some other aspect the most important?

If you had the mad scientist's Mash-o-matic, what things would you combine together? What were your favorite mash-ups in the book?

Adventures in Cartooning: Characters in Action provides instructions on creating cartoon characters through a fun story about creating a movie. What other ways could a graphic novel provide instructions on how to draw, what other story lines could you use?

What would you rather face: an evil witch, an evil king, a giant robot, or a crazy director? What strategy would you use to defeat your foe?

Which adventure was your favorite in the graphic novel? What events did you find most surprising or creative?

The knight becomes sad when his horse, Edward, is mashed up with broccoli. What mash-up of a person, animal, or item would make you sad to see?

What is your favorite part of drawing? What things do you like to draw?

If you were to create your own cartoon adventure what characters would you include? What would your adventure be about?