

REX

the . . . We-Don't-Know

Written by Heather Macht
Illustrated by Chase Jensen

Pelican Publishing, 2020
Hardcover, 32 Pages, Ages 3 - 8

ISBN 10 - 1455624489

ISBN 13 - 978-1455624485

STUDY GUIDE AND ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS AND LIBRARIANS

ABOUT THE BOOK

When Max and Raven went to the pound to adopt a new animal, they certainly didn't expect to find Rex, a . . . well, no one knows exactly *what* Rex really is. With his fluffy green hair, long curly tail, and a sparkly-white horn on his forehead, they fall in love with him instantly and decided they'd give him a chance. They are soon in for the time of their lives with all of Rex's quirks and oddities. That's OK! Even though he's a bit of trouble at first, this family isn't worried one bit. They're certain they can figure Rex out. After all, how hard can it be to take care of a... We-Don't-Know?

BEFORE YOU READ

- Discuss what kinds of pets your students have at home or what their favorite animal is.
- Ask your students if having a pet is easy or challenging at times and why.
- Have a discussion about all the work that goes into taking care of a pet.
- Is it always easy, or is it hard work?
- Finally, ask your students to imagine up a pet of their very own. What color would it be? What unique features would it have? Would it have any superpowers?
- This conversation is a perfect starter before reading *Rex the...We-Don't-Know*.

WHILE YOU READ

- Suggestion: as you turn the pages, ask your students what they think Rex eats or drinks, or what they think will happen next. I guarantee they won't guess what this unique pet will do.

AFTER YOU READ

- Ask your students if they'd like their very own Rex.
- Ask them what their favorite thing about this book was.
- Lastly, have them draw their very own pet creation! There are no limits to what your students will create.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

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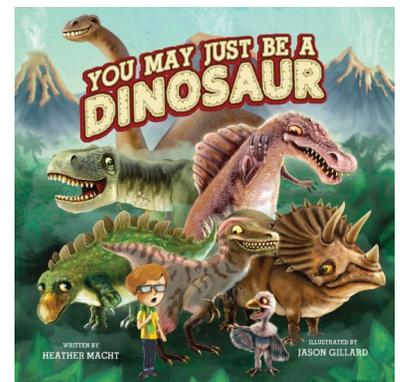
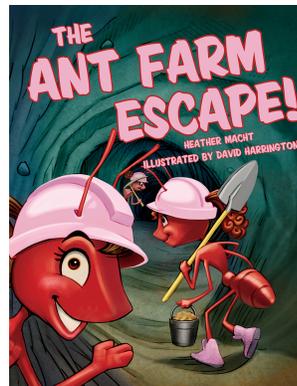
Heather Macht has been creating stories about pets since childhood. She earned her AA in fine arts from Florida State College at Jacksonville and has a career in IT, as well as a career as an author and mom. An active member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Macht lives with her family in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.



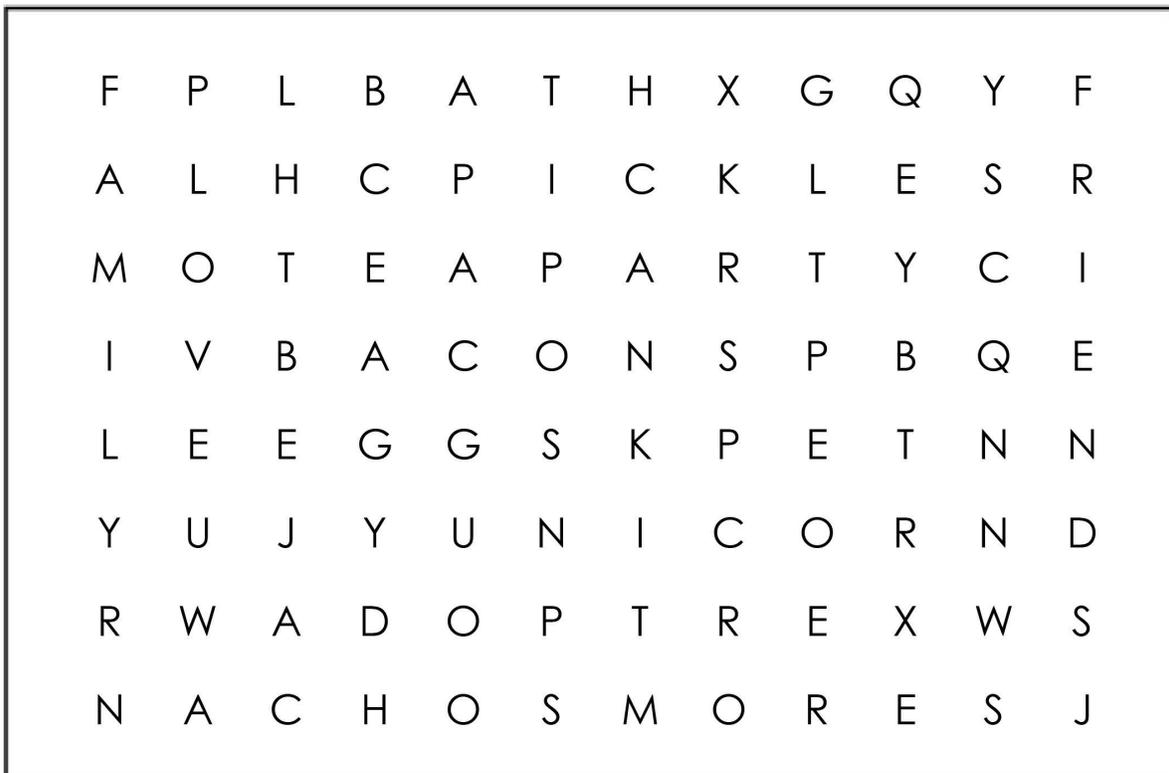
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

A gifted painter and character creator, Chase Jensen holds a BFA in illustration from Brigham Young University. He is a freelance artist who has illustrated three children's books and countless other projects.

OTHER TITLES BY THE AUTHOR



Rex's Word Search



Find the following words in the puzzle.

ADOPT
BACON
BATH
EGGS
FAMILY
REX
SMORES

FRIENDS
LOVE
NACHOS
PET
PICKLES
TEAPARTY
UNICORN



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S'more Time!

Recipe by Heather Macht

Ever since I've been a kid, I've loved S'mores! Nothing's better than sitting around a campfire roasting marshmallows. Rex couldn't agree more. Since Rex is a pro at making S'mores, I thought he could share his favorite recipe with us. 😊

Ingredients/Items needed:

- Marshmallows
- Graham Crackers
- Chocolate Baking Chips (I'm using white chocolate)
- Colored Sprinkles (optional)
- Food Coloring (optional)
- Lollipop Sticks or Popsicle Sticks

Steps:

- Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper.
 - *Optional: I very lightly butter my parchment paper so there is no sticking.*
- Melt the entire bag of Chocolate Baking Chips:
 - *Note: Check the instructions on the back of your Chocolate Baking Chips. The Ghiradelli chips I'm using gives two options for melting. I'm going to go with the double boiler method, but feel free to use the microwave method, too!*
- Once the chips are melted, stir in a few drops of green food dye (or a color of your choosing).



- Stick two marshmallows on the lollipop/popsicle sticks and gently dip them in the melted, colored chocolate until they are covered. Place them on the parchment paper.
 - *Note: Repeat this step until you've used about half of the chocolate.*
- After the marshmallows have slightly cooled (for approx. one minute), sprinkle them with the colored sprinkles of your choosing.
- Place the marshmallows (including the stick) in between two halves of a graham cracker.



- Add blue food coloring (optional) to the remaining chocolate and stir.
- Decorate the top of the graham cracker (optional) by drizzling left over chocolate and sprinkles on top.
- Place the S'more pops in the refrigerator for approximately 20 minutes to cool/harden.
- Remove the S'more pops from the refrigerator and let them sit at room temperature for approximately 10 minutes.

Enjoy with loved ones and with a copy of your favorite quirky-pet book, Rex the...We-Don't-Know!

