



## “Hello Hello” By Brendan Wenzel

Between 200 and 2,000 species are going extinct each year. Wenzel immortalizes his favorite examples of our planet’s exceptional inhabitants, including us, using a variety of artistic media and tools (cut paper, colored pencil, oils, pastels, markers, etc.) to amazing effect. Dynamic images cavorting, reclining, flying, or dancing across and around stark white pages snag both emotions and imaginations. The spare, rhyming text united by the bridging greeting of “Hello” places all creatures on the same interconnected playing field. In the backmatter, the author identifies all his stars on two double-page spreads in order of appearance and notes their status when applicable: vulnerable to critically endangered. *Kirkus Review*

### Let’s Talk

Before reading do a survey of all the children’s eye, hair and skin color, clothing. Talk about differences and similarities. Compare to all the amazing differences in animals. Have children list all the differences they can think of in animals. See if they named all that are in the book.

Look closely at end papers, cover and under the cover of the book. Talk about why it starts with black and white and ends with color.

Discuss things that can make it hard for animals to survive; habitat loss, poaching or climate change.

### Let’s Move

Teach children how to properly greet someone. Let them practice saying “hello” and shaking hands.

### What the Animals Do (Act out)

We’ll hop, hop, hop like a bunny

And run, run, run like a dog.

We’ll walk, walk, walk like an elephant

And jump, jump, jump like a frog.

We’ll swim, swim, swim like a goldfish

And fly, fly, fly like a bird.

We’ll sit right down and fold our hands

And not say a single word.

### Let’s Create

Make an animal collage from torn paper in colors and some black and white. Have children glue onto animal outlines.

Use the list in the back of the book and find out more information about these animals where they live, what they eat...

### Pair With

“Brown Bear, Brown Bear” by Eric Carle

“National Geographic: The Photo Ark Vanishing, The World’s Most Vulnerable Animals” by Joel Sartore

