

EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

FRANKIE SPARKS, THIRD-GRADE INVENTOR

Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!

Meet the author



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is an award-winning author for children and young adults. Megan's books have been honored with inclusion on state lists, as Junior Library Guild selections, and as best books from Kirkus, Bank Street College, and Amazon. Megan lives in Maine with her husband, children, two cats, a leopard gecko, and (sometimes) a hive of bees.

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Read the entire Frankie Sparks collection:



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LET'S BEGIN! BEFORE READING THE BOOK

Use the Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) questions below to orient readers, and to help guide a group discussion. Begin by taking a quiet moment to look closely at the book jacket, allowing time for observation and contemplation of the images.

- *What is going on in this picture?*
- *What do you see that makes you say that? (provide evidence)*
- *What more can we find?*

Watch this [VIDEO](#) for a quick VTS demo

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact Alison Johnson at Island Readers & Writers, 207-460-6828 or ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org.

LET'S TALK!

Discussion Questions

- + Were you ever disappointed by a friend that did not want to do the same thing you did? How did you solve this problem? Did it change your friendship?
- + Have you ever had a great idea that you felt no one was listening to? How did you get people to listen?
- + Frankie wanted a rat and Maya wanted a fish, using Ms. Cupid's "parameters," what class pet would you choose and why?



STANDARDS

Covered throughout this Explore More Book Guide:

SL.1. Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.

SL.2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

SL.3. Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.

R.4. Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts.

R.5. Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text.

R.6. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

R.8. Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole.

R.9. Assess how perspective or purpose shapes the content and style of various texts.

R.10. Evaluate the argument and specific claims in various texts.

LET'S CREATE! Book-Inspired Art

Using the Design Process in the back of the book (problem, identification, brainstorm ideas, design, test/retest and share) create a **PROTOTYPE** solving a problem in your own life. Think of something you need to fix or something that helps you do a task more efficiently. This could be an item to help in the kitchen with cooking or something to help hold a pencil or, like Frankie, something to help feed a pet when you are away.

Use your imagination!

What are your three favorite animals? Using parts (such as ears of a dog, head of a gecko and tail of a monkey) from all three of your animals, design and draw a picture of your new, made up animal. Be creative!

PUN

a joke that makes a play on words. Makes use of words that have more than one meaning, or words that sound similar but have different meanings, to humorous effect.

Frankie's dad makes a **PUN** about his work as a gardener, "When I'm feeling frustrated, I dig into my work." See if you can write a pun or two about the mismatched animal you made-up from the question above.

Examples:

The pigs were a squeal.

A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.

A boiled egg every morning is hard to beat.

Always trust a glue salesman. They tend to stick to their word.

A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.

I went to a seafood disco last week... and pulled a mussel.

Watch this [VIDEO](#) on how to craft an aquarium out of a jar or clear plastic container. Just add clay, felt or paper fish and fill line with gravel and shells.



Frankie Sparks is the world's greatest third-grade inventor. She solves her everyday problems by inventing new solutions. Now it's your turn to invent along with her! This [VIDEO](#) will guide you on how to make sure your favorite animal can be a class pet.

PROTOTYPE

a first, typical or preliminary model of something, especially a machine, from which other forms are developed or copied.

LET'S DIVE DEEPER! Explore More

Did you know that Kid Inventor's Day is January 17th?

Check out these amazing [KID INVENTORS](#)

Pick one to research and answer these questions;

What is their name?

Where did they live?

How old were they when they made their invention? What year did they invent it?

Describe their invention?

Is this invention something we still use today?

[VIDEO](#)- What is it like to own a rat?

A [GUIDE](#) to keeping and caring for pet rats.

READ MORE! Text to Text Connections

