Adopt a Zoo Animal

An Event Kit based on the picture book, Quackenstein Hatches a Family

By Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen
Illustrated by Brian T. Jones
Published by Abrams Books for Young Readers

An event kit for a kinetic literacy program using poetry, movement, and animal identification to encourage the support and knowledge of zoo and endangered animals.

This event can be held in classrooms, libraries, bookstores, zoos, children’s or natural history museums, and other spaces where kids can move about pretending to adopt zoo animals.
'Adopt a Zoo Animal' Event Kit

About the Book:

Quackenstein Hatches a Family
By Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen
Illustrated by Brian T. Jones
Published by Abrams Books for Young Readers
Picture Book for Ages 3-8

Crack open this tale of family and fright, as cute as it is creepy. All the animals in the zoo have friends and family to play with and love. All of them, that is, except Quackenstein. Lonely and bitter in his ramshackle corner, he decides to adopt an egg. He cares for it diligently, waiting until the moment when it will hatch a baby duck of his own.

On a dark and stormy night, the egg hatches, Quackenstein cackles, and lightning strikes, but wait—what’s this? That baby’s not a duck! What will he do? Where can he hide? And will Quackenstein ever find someone (or something) to cuddle? Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen’s clever rhyming text is perfectly paired with cute and spooky art from Brian T. Jones.

About the Author & Illustrator:

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen visits schools to share her many picture books, and teaches writing. She lives in New Jersey with her three children and an imaginary pony named Penny. Visit her online at www.sudipta.com.

Brian T. Jones is a graduate of the Otis College of Art and Design whose work has appeared in the New Yorker. He lives in Pasadena, California. Visit him online at www.briantjones.com.
'Adopt a Zoo Animal' Event Kit

About the Event:

The Quackenstein Hatches a Family event kit is designed to create a kinetic literacy program using poetry, movement, and animal identification to encourage the support and knowledge of zoos and endangered species. This event can be held in classrooms, libraries, bookstores, zoos, children or natural history museums, and other spaces where kids can move about pretending to adopt zoo animals. Best for Ages 4-9.

After a reading of Quackenstein Hatches a Family by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen about a duck that unwittingly adopts a platypus, the event leader will talk (with the help of a script) about how babies are born in zoos every day. Zookeepers work very hard to keep those new babies happy and healthy, often stepping in to help parent the new baby and in some cases find a parent from another species--just like Quack the duck raising a baby platypus.

The leader will invite the gathered readers to adopt zoo animals just like Quack did. The leader will hand out Zoo Adoption Papers. The papers will present a riddle that the reader will have to solve to discover what animals needs to be helped through adoption. Children will then to "visit" the animal and collect the animal's photo for their adoption papers. This process will allow the readers to do problem solving using a riddle in poetic form and move throughout the space using their animal identification skills.

The end of the adoption papers list real ways that readers can learn about and support zoos and endangered species.

The Event Kit Includes:

- Event leader instructions & ideas for customization
- Event announcement poster
- Printable "Zoo Adoption Papers"
- Printable "Adoptable Zoo Animal Posters"
- Printable "Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs" for pasting onto the "Zoo Adoption Papers"

From the picture book, Quackenstein Hatches a Family
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www.sudipta.com
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Event Instructions:

Here are some steps you might follow:

Advertise the Event:

___ Order or pull out your copy of Quackenstein Hatches a Family by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and illustrated by Brian T. Jones.
___ If you sell books, you might order multiple copies for your families to purchase.
___ Print the event poster and post it in your community.
___ List the event in your calendars and other marketing.
___ Make a display of Quackenstein Hatches a Family with the event poster.

Prepare for the Event:

___ Choose an event leader
___ Choose a volunteer(s) to maintain event stations
___ Gather 15-30 glue sticks
___ Gather crayons or pencils for each reader
___ Customize the "Zoo Adoption Papers" * (optional)
___ Print and staple "Zoo Adoption Papers" for each reader
___ Print 1 set of "Adoptable Zoo Animal Posters"
___ Print and cut "Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs" enough for each reader
___ Locate and fill 6 containers with "Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs." Each container should have all the same animal.
___ Choose locations for the "Adoptable Zoo Animal Posters" and containers of "Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs" to create event stations. Libraries, bookstores, or classrooms may want to feature books about those animals at the event station. Zoos and museums can locate posters at their animal exhibits!
___ Purchase some prizes for each reader (optional). One option is to download a Quackenstein Hatches a Family 8.5 X 11 poster at www.sudipta.com

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* Customizing Your Zoo Adoption Papers:

Depending on where you are holding this event, feel free to add additional materials to the "Zoo Adoption Papers." For example:

**Book List:** A library, bookstore, or classroom might want to create a booklist for additional reading about zoo and endangered animals. Don't forget to include *Quackenstein Hatches a Family*!

**Zoo Membership or Adoption Materials:** The end of the "Zoo Adoption Papers" offers ideas of how readers can become involved with zoos and endangered animals. You may want to include membership information or animal adoption materials from your zoo or conservation organization.

Additional Animals: If you are holding this event at a zoo and would like to include particular animals in the "Zoo Adoption Papers," contact author Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen at sudipta@sudipta.com. If she has time available, she will write you additional riddles for those animals!

**Day of the Event:**

- **Hang the Adoptable Zoo Animal Posters.**
- **Place the container of Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs near the posters with a handful of glue sticks.**
- **When your group gathers, introduce the book with this optional script:**

"Welcome to the Adopt a Zoo Animal Event. We are going to start the event by reading this picture book, *Quackenstein Hatches a Family* by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and illustrated by Brian T. Jones. After the reading we are going to talk about zoo babies, zoo adoption, AND play a game called Adopt a Zoo Animal. Ready?"

- **Read the book *Quackenstein Hatches a Family*.**
'Adopt a Zoo Animal' Event Kit

___Connect the book with Zoo Adoption with this optional script:

"Now, baby animals like the sweet Platypus in the book are born in zoos every day. Zookeepers work very hard to keep those new babies happy and healthy. Their parents, though, sometimes act differently within a zoo than they would out in the wild. Sometimes that means that the parents have a hard time taking care of their baby.

Zookeepers often step in to help the parent of the new baby. In some cases the zookeepers find a new parent for that baby from another species. Does anyone know what species means?

Species is a word that means simply "different animal." Are Quack and his new son Platypus the same animal? No Quack is a duck and his new son is a Platypus. They are different species.

This is called cross-species adoption. Can you say that? Wow, you guys are really smart. That is a big word. I have heard cross-species adoption stories about a dog raising baby tigers and a turtle raising a baby hippo!"

NOTE: Great books to have on hand to show examples of cross-species adoption would be Tiger Pups by Tom and Allie Harvey with Sarah L. Thomson and Owen & Mzee by Isabella and Craig Hatkoff.

___Introduce the Event with this optional script:

"There is another kind of cross-species adoption. This is when a human (like you or me) helps a zoo or animal organization take care of zoo and endangered animals. How do humans help?

They raise money and they raise awareness. What is awareness? It is reading all about an endangered animal and telling everyone you can how important it is to help that animal."

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'Adopt a Zoo Animal' Event Kit

"Would you like to help some baby zoo animals today? Well, adopting a zoo animal is not easy! Quack from the picture book Quackenstein Hatches a Family taught us that!

You must know a lot of things about your animal and be able to solve problems. You cannot just run away like silly Quack!"

___ Hand out the Zoo Adoption papers and pencils or crayons with this optional script:

"I am handing out some Zoo Adoption Papers. To find out which zoo animals need our help we have to solve riddle or puzzle.

Let's read the first riddle together:

A group of us for all to see
Is sometimes called a memory.
We swing our noses on parade
While trumpeting a serenade.
There's nothing ever we forget –
Can you guess who we are yet?

Can you guess what animal it is? Yes, an elephant.

What you are going to do now is to go see if you can find a elephant. When you find the elephant, you should see a basket with pictures of the elephant. Paste the elephant picture on your Adoption Papers and write down anything you want to remember about that animal.

Then...turn the page, solve the next animal puzzle, and find the next animal. When you are all done, come back to me and I will sign your zoo adoption papers certifying that you are smart, are good with animals, and are ready to help zoo and endangered animals.

Questions? Okay. Go adopt some zoo animals!"
'Adopt a Zoo Animal' Event Kit

___Maintain the Event Stations. You will need volunteers to make sure the poster stays up and the Adoptable Zoo Animal Cut-outs and glue sticks stay in order.

___Sign off on Adoption Papers with this optional script. You might consider giving some sort of additional prize here.

"You did an amazing job helping with the zoo with animal adoption. I am signing your Adoption Papers to say that you were smart and brave and that I think you are ready to help zoo and endangered animals. Here are some ways you and your family can continue to help."

Note:

All the illustrations in this event kit were created by the brilliant artist Brian T. Jones and can only be used in association with this kit. Thanks! www.briantjones.com
Event!

'Adopt a Zoo Animal'
with the picture book,
Quackenstein Hatches a Family

Join us for the hilarious story of Quack and his quest to adopt a fellow animal from the zoo!
And play the Adopt a Zoo Animal game!

When:

Where:

Based on the picture book, **Quackenstein Hatches a Family**
By Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and Illustrated by Brian T. Jones.
Published by Abrams Books for Young Readers
From the picture book, *Quackenstein Hatches a Family*
By Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and Illustrated by Brian T. Jones.
www.sudipta.com

You can help zoo animals by adopting!
Zoo Adoption Papers

Adopting a zoo animal is not easy! Quack from the picture book *Quackenstein Hatches a Family* taught us that!

You must know a lot of things about your animal and be able to solve problems. You cannot just run away like silly Quack!

Think you can help the zoo by adopting an animal? Okay!

- Read the riddle about each animal. Can you guess what animal it is?
- Once you know what animal is talked about in the riddle, go looking for that animal.
- When you find your animal, take the little picture of it and paste it in your Zoo Adoption Papers.
- When you have found all the animals, go back to the Zookeeper and find out how you can help the zoo with these animals!

Good Luck!
1) **Can you solve this animal riddle?**

A group of us for all to see
Is sometimes called a memory.
We swing our noses on parade
While trumpeting a serenade.
There’s nothing ever we forget –
Can you guess who we are yet?

2) **Can you find this animal?**

3) **Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?**

4) **If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!**

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Riddle Hint: They have trunks!

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By Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and Illustrated by Brian T. Jones.

www.sudipta.com
Zoo Adoption Papers

1) **Can you solve this animal riddle?**

Above your heads we always tower
Munching on sweet leaves and flowers.
A tower or a corps’ the word
You’d use to name our towering herds.
Our spots make us a sight to see –
Do you know who we could be?

2) **Can you find this animal?**

3) **Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?**

4) **If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!**

*Riddle Hint:*
They have very long necks!

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Zoo Adoption Papers

1) Can you solve this animal riddle?

With our regal sense of pride
A pride of us are known worldwide.
We sleep, we play, we sleep some more,
We rule our kingdom with a ROAR!
Our boys have manes, our girls look bald –
Do you know what we are called?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint:
Their name begins with a "L."

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Zoo Adoption Papers

1) Can you solve this animal riddle?

We live out by the water’s edge
In groups known as a siege or hedge.
Our feathers fly the whole world through
And, yes, they come in every hue.
You could spy us, near and far –
Do you know just who we are?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint:
Their name begins with a "H."

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Zoo Adoption Papers

1) Can you solve this animal riddle?

When we’re flying in a crowd
You’d see why we are called a cloud
If you spy us in your town
You might see that we’re upside down
It shouldn’t drive you batty, though,
To guess our name – well? Do you know?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint:
They rhyme with "cats."

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1) Can you solve this animal riddle?
We are often seen to cuddle
In a colony or huddle
Waddling, dressed in black and white,
We swim and splash, but don’t take flight.
Our chicks are gray, that’s plain to see –
Can you guess who we could be?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint: Their name starts with a "P."

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1) Can you solve this animal riddle?

We splash through river, sea, or swamp
We make a most endearing romp
We sometimes float out on our backs
With fish to eat or shells to crack.
We always seem to play a game –
Can you guess our cutesy name?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint:
Their name rhymes with "Potter."

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1) Can you solve this animal riddle?
A group of us in one location
(Known as an amalgamation)
Would eat through bushels of bamboo
Though we like fish and honey, too.
We’re black and white and eat all day –
Can you guess our name today?

2) Can you find this animal?

3) Can you draw or paste a picture of this animal onto your paper?

4) If you want to, write down anything you want to remember about this animal!

Riddle Hint:
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Helping Zoo & Endangered Animals

I certify that this young person is smart enough and brave enough to help zoo and endangered animals in the future by doing any of the activities listed below.

Today we have pretended to adopt and help zoo animals. You can help zoo and endangered animals for real by doing any one of the things below.

- Become a member of a zoo and/or join their 'Adopt an Animal' program.

- Watch the Quackenstein Hatches a Family Book Trailer at www.sudipta.com. For every view of the book trailer, the author Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen will make a donation to The Association of Zoos and Aquariums (www.aza.org). Share the Youtube with your friends for more views and more donations!

- Read about zoo and endangered animals. Ask your librarian or bookseller for recommendations.

- Visit educational websites like ZooBorns (www.zooborns.com). ZooBorns features real zoo babies every week!

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www.sudipta.com
Adoptable Zoo
Animal Cut-outs
ADOPT ME!

Thanks for helping me out by playing this game and learning about me and my other zoo and endangered friends!

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ADOPT US!

Thanks for helping us out by playing this game and learning about us and our other zoo and endangered friends!

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ADOPT ME!

Thanks for helping me out by playing this game and learning about me and my other zoo and endangered friends!

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