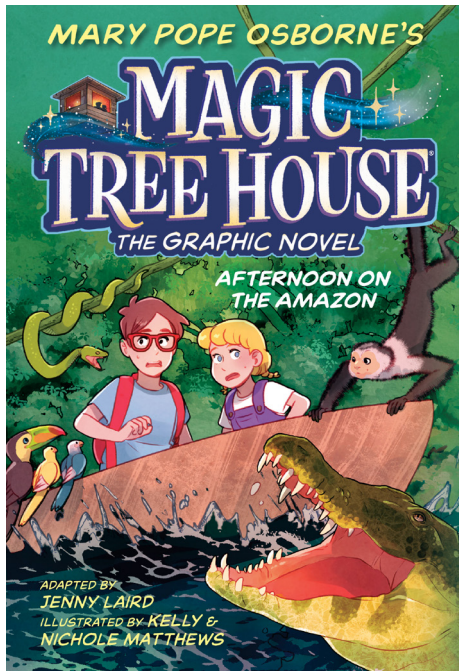




Educators' Guide
MAGIC TREE HOUSE
 THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



ABOUT *Afternoon on the Amazon*

The #1 bestselling chapter book is now a graphic novel!

Watch out for that crocodile! Jack and Annie find themselves in the Amazon rain forest on a dangerous journey. From killer ants to vampire bats, they never know what they'll run into next! Then they get hopelessly lost (and a monkey seems to be stalking them . . . what's that about?). Can they find their way through the jungle before it gets dark?

For the first time in graphic novel form—live the adventure again with new full-color vibrant art that brings the magic to life!

Comparing Media

Your students may have just finished reading *Afternoon on the Amazon*, written in prose, and are now ready to jump into the graphic novel version of the same text, written in panels.

It could be a worthwhile endeavor to have your students compare the ways these two stories are told. Start by focusing on the prologues of both texts.

Some questions to guide your students' thinking could include:

- Why is the text in the text boxes of the graphic novel different from the sentences in the prose version?
- Why are the colors in the prologue different from the rest of the graphic novel?
- What important information is communicated to the reader using text? What is communicated through images?
- Which version of the prologue do you prefer? Why?

Supporting Big Ideas

One of the big ideas of this text is shared by Jack and Annie on page 142 of the graphic novel.



“I wish we could make a plan where everyone leaves the rain forest alone.” –Jack

“Yeah. Don’t cut it down. Don’t ruin it. Just protect it.” –Annie

Ask students to simplify this message. What is the big idea presented here?

Task your students with finding details from the text that support this big idea, asking them to keep in mind the many text features of a graphic novel that they can use as evidence. Use the anchor chart to gather and record evidence.

BIG IDEA	SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Learning About Layers

Jack and Annie experience three of the four layers of the rain forest. Send your readers on a scavenger hunt to collect information from both the text and the art about these three layers of the rain forest.



Layers of the Rain Forest

Layer of the rain forest	What do you learn about this layer through the art and text?
Emergent layer	
Canopy layer	
Understory layer	
Forest Floor layer	

Educators' Guide created by Eric Hand is a teacher, literacy consultant and comic book geek. He brought his knowledge of comics and teaching together in his book, *Graphic Novels: Writing in Pictures and Words*. Eric supports teachers in their literacy instruction through both virtual and on-site consulting. You can find him in his Fourth Grade classroom and on his blog <https://writtenbyhand.org/>

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