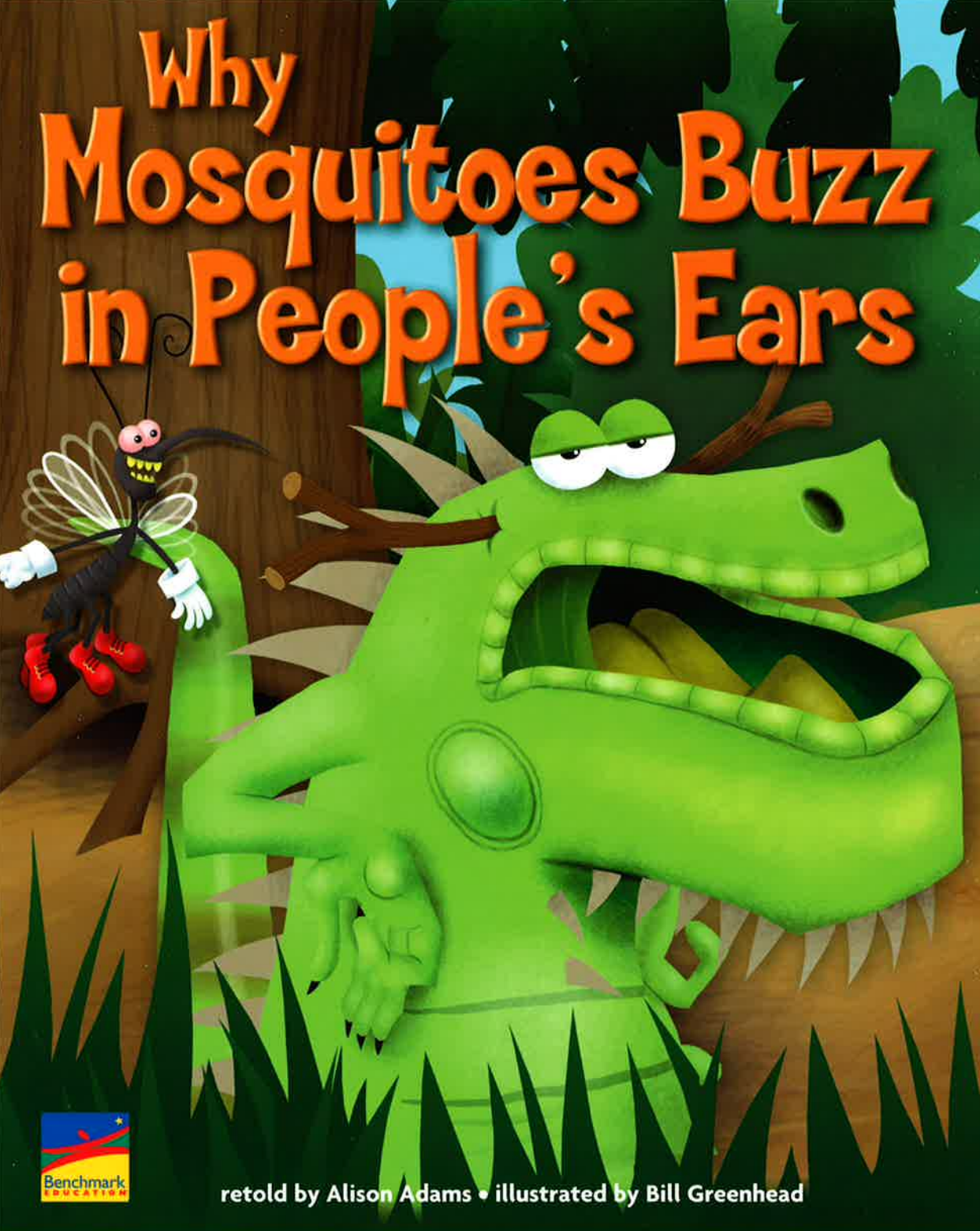

Why
Mosquitoes Buzz
in People's Ears
Benchmark
EDUCATION
retold by Alison Adams • illustrated by Bill Greenhead

Visualize



For teachers' inspection ONLY

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Early one evening, Mosquito was flying around in the jungle when he saw his friend Iguana. "Iguana!" said Mosquito. "I just saw some yams that were as big as dinosaurs!"

"Oh please, Mosquito. No yams are that big," said Iguana.

"Oh yes they were," said Mosquito. "Come to think of it, those yams were as big as two dinosaurs! Maybe even three dinosaurs!"



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"Please don't say any more, Mosquito," said Iguana. "I don't believe you. I never do. Look, I'm putting sticks in my ears so that I can't hear what you say."

"But, wait—" said Mosquito.

"I can't hear you. You should talk to someone else," said Iguana.

"Oh fine," said Mosquito. He flew away.



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"Hi, Iguana," said Python to his friend.

". . . such a pest," said Iguana. Iguana still had sticks in his ears and was talking to himself about Mosquito.

"What? Am I a pest?" asked Python. Python's feelings were hurt when Iguana didn't answer. He slithered along in the grass until he saw Rabbit. "Rabbit!" he called.



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But Rabbit wasn't happy to see Python. *Why is Python calling me?* Rabbit asked himself. *He must want to eat me!* He hopped away from Python as fast as he could.

When Crow saw Rabbit hopping quickly through the jungle, he thought that something was wrong. "Danger!" cried Crow. "There's danger in the jungle!"



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When Monkey heard Crow's cry, he swung through the trees as fast as he could. He wanted to tell Owl about the danger so that she would be careful.

"Oh no!" said Owl. "Monkey, look what you've done! You've knocked Baby Owl out of my nest!"



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"It was so dark out that I couldn't see where I was going," said Monkey.

"Well, I won't be able to hoot again until we find my baby. I'm just too sad. And the sun won't rise until I hoot, Monkey," said Owl.

"Don't worry. I'll find her for you," said Monkey. "Oh, here she is, Owl!"



What happened in this pourquoi tale?

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Evaluate Author's Purpose

Why do you think the author wrote this story?