

The Missing Stripes Mystery

3rd Place

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Grades 1& 2

Doesn't everyone just love going to the colossal zoo filled with incredible animals? Zoey the zebra lives in the wildlife zoo. He enjoys watching the people walk by his cage and look at his magnificent black stripes.

One day while Zoey was asleep the friendly zookeeper repainted his filthy white fence. When Zoey awoke he rubbed against the wet fence because his back was itching. He looked at his back and all his stripes had vanished. He was terrified! Where could they have gone?

Zoey went to ask the majestic lion, the enormous horse, and the frolicking monkeys if they had seen his missing stripes. They each replied that they had not seen his disappearing stripes.

Next Zoey went to see the gigantic elephant to ask if he had found his lost stripes. The elephant's long nose began to tingle because he was allergic to paint. Suddenly he began to sneeze. Water shot out of the elephant's trunk like a speeding bullet! As he sneezed and sneezed, Zoey became drenched.

After the elephant had calmed down, he opened his eyes and was astonished! Zoey's stripes had returned.

"Elephant, elephant, my gorgeous stripes are back!" Zoey shouted. He was happier than a chimpanzee in a banana tree! Zoey thanked the elephant for helping him solve the mystery of the missing stripes.