

Dogku

By: Andrew Clements

Illustrated By: Tim Bowers

Publisher: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers

Copyright: 2007

Art Medium: Oils

Genre: Humorous stories; Poetry

SUMMARY: Told in Haiku, this is a story of a dog searching for a home that thinks he has found a family searching for a dog.

BOOKTALK: Ever feel like there are so, so many words? And how could I ever put some together to make a poem? That's what a haiku is like—like a small vase, a small container. Choosing a small container can help you pick the perfect words and arrange them just right. And that is Andrew Clements has done with this story.

AUTHOR:

Andrew Clements

Andrew Clements is an enormously popular and award winning author. He has been nominated for a large number of state awards, including several Young Hoosier Book Awards, and has won the Christopher Award and an Edgar Award. Mr. Clements taught near Chicago for seven years before moving to the East Coast to begin a career in publishing and, eventually, writing. He currently lives with his wife in Massachusetts and has four grown children.

Other books written by the author include:

Double Trouble in Walla Walla (A YHBA Award winner)

Frindle (A YHBA Award winner)

Lost and Found

Lunch Money

The Janitor's Boy

A Week in the Woods

The Landry News

Room One

ILLUSTRATOR:

Tim Bowers

Tim Bowers began his career as an illustrator working as an artist for Hallmark Cards. In 1986, he illustrated his first picture book, *The Toy Circus* by Jan Wahl. To date, Mr. Bowers has illustrated more than twenty books for children. He currently lives with his family in Granville, Ohio.

Other books illustrated by the illustrator include:

The Bravest of the Brave
Fun Dog, Sun Dog
Sherman Crunchley
Gorgonzola
Matilda's Humdinger
Sometimes I Wonder if Poodles Like Noodles

CHALLENGING WORDS (pronunciation, spelling, defining): mooch, pound

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What would you do if you found a stray dog?
2. Why did the dog dislike the school bus?
3. What did the family name the dog? Why?
4. What would you name a dog?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

Language Arts

- Introduce haiku to your students using the lesson plan and PowerPoint slide show found at <http://eduscapes.com/sessions/sidekicks/tutorial.htm>
- Create a catku

Life Skills: Perseverance, Problem Solving, and Sense of Humor

INTERNET SITES:

Visit the author's web site at:

<http://www.andrewclements.com>

Visit the illustrator's web site at:

<http://www.timbowers.com>

Haiku Picture Books for Kids can be found out:

<http://www.haikubytwo.com/haiku-picture-books-for-kids/>