



Carlsen's bestselling series: The School of Magical Animals 6 million copies sold

- Talking animals as your best friends
- Fanciful and adorable story
- For boys and girls
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- An action-packed story full of magic
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**All titles: by Margit Auer | Age 8+ | 224 pages
includes 2c illustrations by Nina Dulleck**



„A fantastically-charming adventure.“
- KLECKS



*„This imaginative story even peeks the interest
of beginners for burying themselves in a book.“*
- BUCHJOURNAL - ZWEI.2014

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE

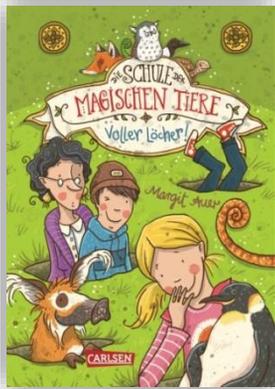
**This school has a secret. If you are lucky you'll find the best friend ever:
a magical animal that can talk –
but only to you!**



Vol. 1: The School of Magical Animals

When Mortimer Morrison joins the class of Miss Cornfield all the students hold their breath in anticipation because he is the owner of the magical pet shop! A creepy little corner shop which adults always avoid as if it didn't exist.

Who will get a magical animal today as everyone would love a talking animal! A story a fellow who assists in one the most daring adventures, and who is also the kind of friend you could only wish for.



Vol. 2: Full of Holes

Every morning the school lawn is full of holes, no matter how often the caretaker fills them up again. What is merely happening there? The headmaster is in a rage.

The children of the Winterstein school have other things to worry about: Shy Anna-Lena wants, with the help of her chameleon Caspar, to get the leading part at the school play of "Robin Hood". And Schoki is in an ongoing conflict with his grandpa – until brush-eared-pig Peperoni comes along.

And what about those holes? Schokis grandpa and his old-age friends are behind it, looking for a very special medal ...

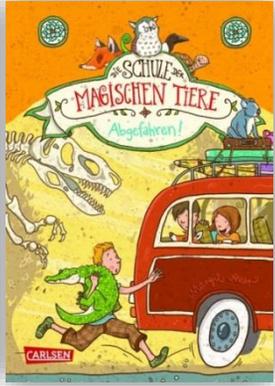


Vol. 3: Lights Out!

When clumsy Eddie gets the funny bat Eugenia, everybody in the class would like to be in his place. Almost everybody. Bitchy Helene doesn't want to have a magical animal. That's bad luck! From her teacher Ms Cornfield and Mr Morrison, owner of the magical pet shop, Helene gets the talking tomcat Karajan. A real Frenchman with airs and graces! Between those two sparks fly ...

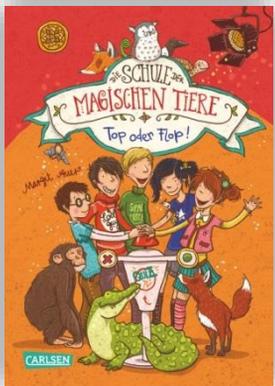
Then the Big Reading Night is due. But for some children the evening takes a dangerous twist: They find themselves in the spooky "basement of horror" – captured deeply underneath the school. Can the magical animals help them?

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



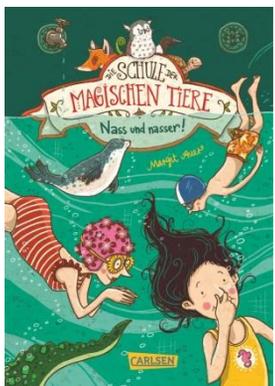
Vol. 4: Departed!

There's trouble in the class of Magical Animals! The teacher Miss Cornfield catches Silas doing something he shouldn't be doing. Will he be kicked out of school? Instead, Silas gets a talking animal - Rick from Florida is a cheeky crocodile with pretty bad breath. Is this a reward or a punishment? And is it really a good idea to take along a crocodile on a school trip?



Vol. 5: All or Nothing!

In this fifth part, the school is in a tizzy! Miss Cornfield's class will be on TV, they have qualified for the TV show "Top or Flop"! Everybody commiserates, of course also the magical animals: Cooper, the cool rat, and Tingo, the cheeky monkey. TV fun can start - can it? Oh no - the opposing team seems to pursue their goal with all means, even if that means danger for the magical animals!!

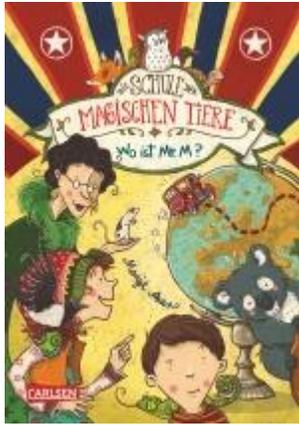


Vol. 6: Wet and Wetter Summer, Sun and Swimming Pool!

Miss Cornfield's class and their magical animals are splashing in the water - only Hatice is not taking part! How is she supposed to pass the swimming test?

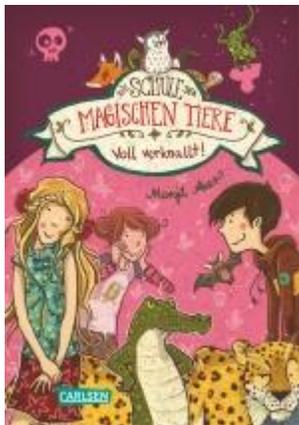
Henry is also not happy, he had a big fight with his parents and runs away from home. Now he has to fight for survival - and gets unexpected help: from a magical leopard!

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



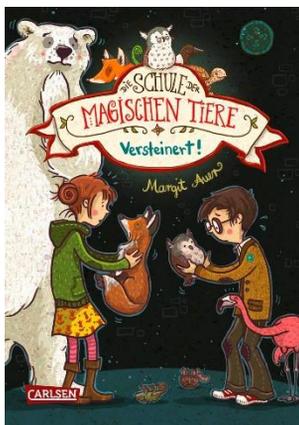
Vol. 7: Where is Mr. M.?

Yippie! A message from Mr. Morrison – Ronja and Lothar are the next pupils to get a magical animal! But then Mr. M. has disappeared. And all of a sudden, also Miss Cornfield has disappeared – and a horrible substitute teacher takes over. What has happened? Rabbat, the fox, declares: they have to do something! Did Mr. M. go to Cambodia? Or is there something fishy going with the circus around the corner?



Vol. 8: In Love!

All lovey-dovey in the Winterstein school: the big school party is coming up! And Sibel wants to dance with Jo, but Jo wants to dance with Luna – and what does Ida want, by the way? The magical animals are flabbergasted! Turtle Henrietta knows „If you are in love, you are a little mad!“ The school ball brings a big surprise – the wedding of the school director! And of course, other things...



Vol. 9: Turned to stone!

Is there something better than magical animals? No! But then something really bad happens: The magical animals in the school turn into plush toy animals (as they usually do when an adult other than Miss Cornfield and Mr. Mortimer are around) – but this time, they are not changing back!! All students are devastated, Miss Cornfield completely at a loss. All hope is placed upon the animals which are still not being given to their companion, and still live – alive and well – in the magical zoo shop. Polar Bear Murphy shows that he has nerves like steel!

die SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



Vol. 10 : Here and there!

Big news for Miss Cornfield's class: one of the pupils will move away! On top of that, a football casting for young talents is keeping the kids busy. Above all, Anthony is extremely ambitious and wants to win the challenge. When he gets a message from Mr. M that he will be the next to have a magical friend, Pamela, the guinea pig, he doesn't seem to be happy. Anthony has no time to care for her as he is so focused on his training. So Pamela has to stay with his sister's guinea pigs and therefore decides not to talk to Anthony any more. Unfortunately, he doesn't recognize her among the other non magical animals...



Vol. 11: Wild wild Woods!

Miss Cornfield's class joins a wildnis camp! The kids built a manger, and bake their own bread! But something just does not feel right! A creepy shadows seems to be looming around them. „Very scary“ says bat Eugenia. All the other animals are worried as well. Leopard Leander calls in a Conference of Magical Animals!



Vol. 12: Chaos all over!

Is the magical pet store in danger?

Readers will find out in November 2021!

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



Snowbound

A special winter edition for those who just can't get enough!

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE

The magical holiday spin-off The School of Magical Animals: Holidays at Last



Vol. 1: Rabbat & Ida



Vol. 2: Silas & Rick



Vol. 3: Henry & Leander



Vol. 4: Helene & Karajan



Vol. 5: Benni & Henrietta



Vol. 4: Hatice & Mette-Maja

All titles: 2c illustrations
224 – 256 pages



First readers spin-off! The School of Magical Animals Investigates!

Even before the main series, children can learn to read in the universe of magical animals. And one thing is certain: with Detective Polar Bear Murphy, kids will soon be reading all by themselves!



Vol. 1:
The School of Magical
Animals Investigate:
The Green Guck Letter



Vol. 2:
The School of Magical
Animals Investigates:
The Slipper Snatcher



Vol. 3:
The School of Magical
Animals Investigate:
The Coconut Theft

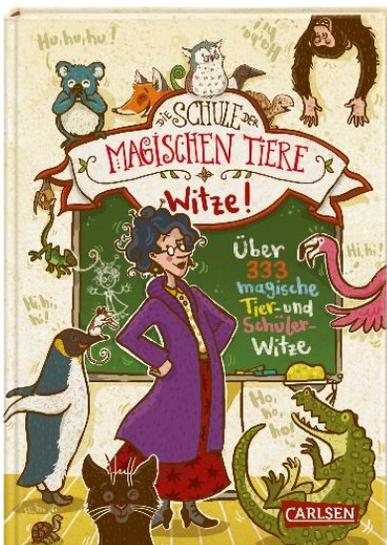
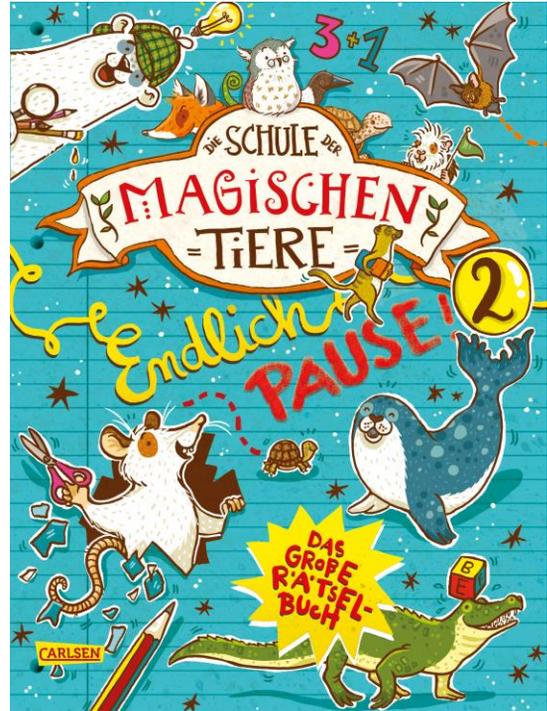
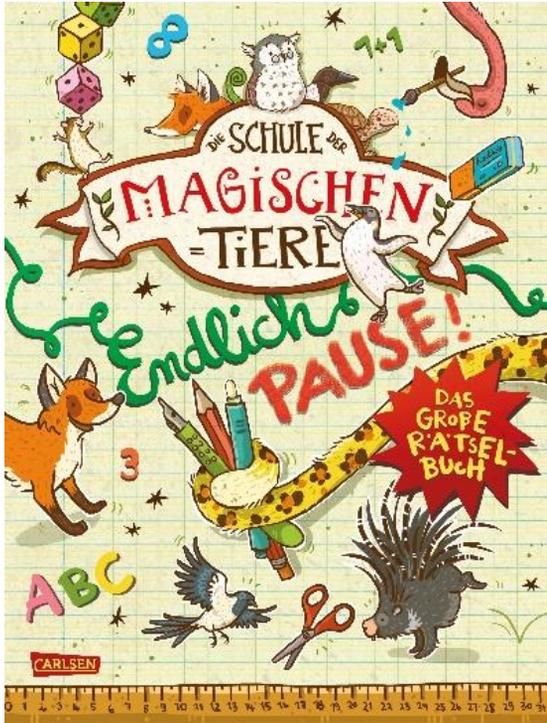
- detective stories transform little readers into big reading heroes
- the perfect start to reading for both girls and boys
- solid concept for the series
- 4th volume in planning and due for publication in May 2022

180.000 copies sold for volume # 1 and 2!!!

**All titles with 4c illustrations!
64 pages each**

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE

More magical animals



School of Magical Animals: The Big Puzzle Book

By Margit Auer, Nikki Busch
Illustrated by Nina Dulleck,
Christiane Hahn
128 pages
8+

School of Magical Animals: Magical Jokes

By Margit Auer
Illustrated by Nina Dulleck
144 pages
8+

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



School of the Magic Animals: Calendar

By Margit Auer

Illustrated by Nina Dulleck

176 pages

8+



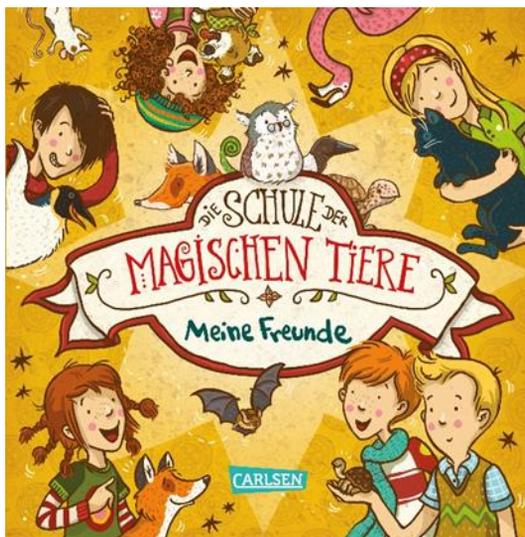
School of the Magic Animals: Blackboard Planner

By Margit Auer

Illustrated by Nina Dulleck

176 pages

8+



School of Magical Animals: Friendship Book

By Margit Auer

Illustrated by Nina Dulleck

128 pages

8+





Introduction: Who's who at the Winterstein School

Winterstone School

A completely normal school. Normal?
Well, nearly. If it wasn't for that one little secret...

Miss Cornfield

Teacher at Winterstone School. Sometimes a bit strict, but she means well with all her pupils. And she knows exactly who needs help and when...

Mister Mortimer Morrison

Owner of the magical pet shop. *The* place to buy magical, talking animals. Mr Morrison has his own animal too: the cheeky magpie Pinkie.

Mr. Morrison's Omnibus

How Mr. Morrison travels around the whole world, collecting magical animals.

Ashanti, the black mamba, and Leonardo, the chipmunk

Just two of the many, many talking animals in the pet shop. All of them wishing for nothing more than to find the one person perfectly suited to them...

Ida and Benni were the first to get magical animals:

Ida and the fox Rabbat

Hard to say which of these two is the cleverest. Ida would probably say it's her, because she's always right, you know...

Benni and the tortoise Henrietta

The adventurous tortoise Henrietta loves night-time escapades. And Benni? He's up for everything!



And that was just the start. In the meantime Miss Cornfield's classroom has practically turned into a little zoo!

These seven children have also found their best friends for ever and ever:

Jo and the penguin Juri

Jo thinks all girls are pretty cute. He takes absolutely *ages* in the bathroom getting ready in the mornings. Only Juri takes longer when he's bathing in the school pond...

Choccy and the brush ear pig Peperoni

Are bosom buddies and share everything. Especially their love of chocolate...

Anna-Lena and the chameleon Caspar

With Caspar at her side, shy Anna-Lena has become a mistress of metamorphosis...

Eddie and the bat Eugenia

The magical bat with the charming speech impediment looks after clumsy Eddie really well. These days he only stumbles over his own feet every now and then...

Helene and the cat Karajan

The meanest girl in the class and the aristocratic cat from Paris – these two quarrel like cat and dog! But when they've finished sharpening their claws on each other, the pair go back to purring as contentedly as a couple of kittens...

Silas and the crocodile Rick

Silas has a big mouth. Just like his friend Rick. Watch out for their bite!

Finja und the koala Sydney

Ever since the gentle Finja has a koala to cuddle, she doesn't feel quite as lonely as before. And she smells wonderfully of eucalyptus cough drops...

Lots of animals, lots of children...

Who will be next to find their best friend?

die SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



Sample Translation: Vol. 1: The School of Magical Animals

Extract of Chapter one: Ida and Benni get magical animals

The weekend was over. On Monday, the class cut bell peppers and celery for a “Healthy Lunchbox” promotion. On Tuesday Miss Cornfield asked how the class had progressed with their assignments. That was the moment when Benni decided to address Ida for the first time. He would like to do an essay about “Famous pirates and their treasures,” or on “The sinking of the Titanic - What really happened on 15 April 1912?” Both were the titles of two books Benni had at home.

But then Benni recalled that Ida didn’t turn up to his birthday party. He thought about how sad he was sitting with his aunt his uncle. And then the stupid incident with that stupid earring! In the meantime Ida decided to work on the essay by herself. She wanted to select a topic from the newspaper. Wind turbines or something like that.

If Miss Cornfield wants them to present the essay together then she would just give Benni the second half for him to read out loud. He should be able to manage that.

On Wednesday at assembly caretaker Wondra Schek ordered the whole class to clean the schoolyard. “Students will keep working until the graffiti in the school toilets has completely vanished.” He said.

On Thursday afternoon Benni was on his way to visit the Magical Pet Store. He tried to remember the route that the bus took. After wandering around for a while, he finally ended up at Tower Lane. On a grey facade an inconspicuous an old-fashioned shop sign appeared: Magic Pet Store.



Benni looked around. On the side of the street people scurry about. Nobody seems to notice the shop. Undecided Benni stopped. Then he took a step backwards and lurched his head back. Rickety, dark red shutters hung askew on their hinges. Behind a window stood a dried green pot plant. Behind another window was a candlestick holder with burnt-out candles. At a third window were closed green and white chequered curtains.

There seemed to be no one there. Actually, this scene didn't look very magical at all? Benni pressed his nose against the dusty window display but couldn't make anything out. When he tried to wipe away the dust he smudged his view even more. Benni turned around and a young woman rushed by without looking up.

Mr. Morrison's words popped into his mind: "People are too inattentive to sense the magic that happens around them." Benni carefully went up the steps to the entrance and pushed the rusty door latch downwards. It clicked gently, but the door was locked. He stayed a while on the sidewalk listening and undecided. Benni mustered all his courage and pressed the brass buzzer. He heard a sharp bell sound, followed by a wild shriek. A shiver ran down Benni's spine for no reason at all.

The next moment everything was again quiet. As if nothing had happened. Benni had no alternative but to go back home. For a total of six days Ida and Benni thought about the message from Mr. Morrison. Both of them couldn't guess who got the second magical animal. How could they? They weren't even talking to each other.

On Friday when Miss Cornfield tasked them their homework, came a loud and powerful knock at the door. Ida and Benni immediately knew who it was. Unsurprisingly Mr. Morrison entered the classroom. With his leather boots he shuffled across on the worn wooden floor, his hand burrowed into the pocket of his grey tunic. On his right shoulder Pinkie was perched. A short introduction,

"Mr. Morrison!" As on his first visit he nodded in the direction of the teacher. Pinkie also lowered her head. She opened her beak and squawked. Everyone in the class giggled. All except Ida and Benni. Benni dared to breathe.

Day and night he had thought about what kind of animal he would like to own. He was hoping for a strong and resilient pet. One that could protect him. A panther maybe? Or a wolf? Benni frowned. There were no cages. Maybe Mr. Morrison had a little mouse in the bag? Perhaps he would even get a goldfish? What to do with a goldfish? No, it was impossible. Then Mr. Morrison would have to have an aquarium with him. Benni took courage. Was his magical beast waiting outside? Of course, it had to be. Maybe the panther waited outside so as not to scare the others?



Ida also held her breath. She also wondered what kind of animal she would like. She had never had a pet. Miriam had a hamster named Wolfgang Amadeus, but there's only so much you can do with a hamster. He really just slept most of the time.

She imagined something small and cuddly. Maybe a cat? Or a small dog? Did such a thing exist in the Magical Pet Store? Finally, Ida decided not to ponder it further. Others had made the selection for her. She could only wait. But now the big moment had come, Ida could hardly stand the tension. She forced herself to breathe otherwise she would have fainted.

Mr. Morrison eyeballed the class. All sat as quiet as mice in their seats. Even Miss Cornfield waited expectantly. She was wearing red corduroy pants and a striped blouse. Her black hair curls were held up together up with two knitting needles. Mr. Morrison cleared his throat. "Two of you will get your magic pets today." A low murmur went through the class. The announcement was made. The children looked at each other curiously. On some faces you could read how disappointed they were. Why hadn't they been selected? Mr. Morrison nodded towards Benni. "The time has come," he said with a strong voice. "Your pet!" He moved across in front of the door.

Benni clinched his thumbs together forcefully under the desk and muttered, "Please, please, let it be a panther." Mr. Morrison came back with a grey shoebox. He handed it to Benni. Benni swallowed. "Thanks." He choked. After all, it was not a goldfish. His dream of owning a panther had burst like a bulging balloon. A panther would not fit into this box. An earthworm perhaps? Or beetles? But never the big strong protector, which he desperately wanted! Tears filled his eyes. While Mr. Morrison shuffled back to the door in his leather boots to retrieve the next animal Benni carefully lifted the lid. In the corner of the box sitting between blades of grass lay a small turtle with short stubby legs. "I am Henrietta." She whispered to Benni.

The entire class gathered around Benni, who was totally confused at the box as his classmates were looking back and forth. Some seemed to be envious, others looked a bit sad, others joked. "Wow, a turtle, now you both can race for a bet!" Scoffed Jo. "You did well." Anna-Lena said softly and so quietly that it no one heard it. "Mmm, turtle soup today!" growled Silas. Ida didn't take any notice of this. She did not move. Her eyes remained trained on the door. Finally Mr. Morrison returned. This time he dragged in a closed cage. Ida did not know what she should do. Should she run to the front and greet her new pet?

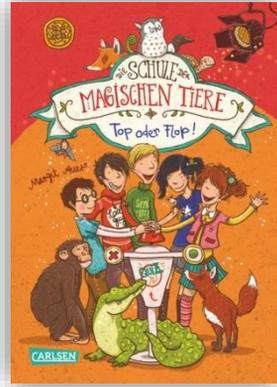


The owner of the Magic Pet Store pulled the cloth aside. The animal was rolled up like a ball, his head hidden in his reddish-brown fur. It could be a dog, an unknown cat breed or a groundhog? Ida sat idly. Only now did she realize what was coming to her. She got a mate! A friend for life! How much she had missed a friend!

Ida looked at the red-brown fur ball and touched it. Suddenly it didn't matter what kind of animal she would get. It could even be skunk or even a possum! Ida also shed a few tears. But not because she was disappointed like Benni, but due to pure happiness. Mr. Morrison put his hand on her shoulder and she pulled back. "Your magic pet." He said and gently and put the cage beside her. "Rabbat, the Fox."

[...]

DIE SCHULE DER MAGISCHEN TIERE



Sample Translation:
Vol. 5: The School of Magical Animals
– Top or Flop!

Chapter 5 – “Morrison at your service!”

Helene wanted to announce the next act just as there was a knock at the door. “Come in!”, she called in unison with Miss Cornfield.

What a surprise! It was Mortimer Morrison, the owner of the magical pet shop. Mr. Morrison, the one who handed over the animals to their future friends! As always the cheeky magpie Pinkie was perched on his shoulder.

Benni placed the camera back onto its stand and pushed the games equipment to the side so that their visitor could make his way through the classroom. Mr. Morrison marched towards the teacher’s desk and bowed: “Mr. Morrison at your service!” Pinkie also bowed, wobbling a little. Everyone waited expectantly. Who had received a message? Who was going to get their companion today? The 15 children who still didn’t have a magical animal raised their heads curiously. Mr. Morrison didn’t have a cage with him... “I want a guinea pig,” somebody sighed.

“I’ve been waiting sooo long for my pony,” complained someone else.

“A bald eagle would be interesting,” said Max.

But Mr. Morrison shook his head: “No, it’s someone else’s turn today.” Miss Cornfield nodded her head with a smile.

Rick and Silas, who were sitting on the floor, suddenly saw a tiny creature crawl out of one of Mr. Morrison’s leather boots.

It blinked curiously. Tiny balls of wool, knotted together, swiftly unfurled from its body and became legs...

“A tarantula?” cried Silas and jumped up.



“Eeee! A spider!” screeched Finja and jumped onto a chair. Sydney climbed up behind her. Anna-Lena and Katinka jumped onto their desk. Eddie, Jo and Ida hopped onto the window sill. Ida pulled her legs up onto the chair and buried her nose in her fox’s soft fur. Jo and Juri pressed themselves together. “Is that a curly-haired or a red-kneed tarantula?” Max crept closer curiously. “How long are its poison fangs?”

The spider scuttled over the floor boards and hid itself behind the pink princess backpack belonging to Helene. Helene screamed and ran into a corner: “Get it out of there!” she cried in horror.

“That is Agent Y”, said Mr. Morrison proudly. “From the Valley of Death in California”, the spider continued. But only Mr. Morrison could hear it.

“Wow!” said Jo impressed. “A spider-agent!”

“Does it bite teachers as well?”, asked Silas innocently, while scratching his crocodile on the head. Miss Cornfield cleared her throat. Rick grinned.

“I picked up Agent Y on my last trip to America,” Mr. Morrison smiled. “Well, actually I suppose she picked herself up.” Agent Y was crawling across the classroom.

While all the other children giggled nervously or hopped away from the spider in fear, Franka stood absolutely still in the back corner. She pressed herself against the wall and didn’t let Agent Y out of sight for a moment. Her heart was beating like a drum in her chest. Hopefully nobody was watching her. No one was meant to know that she was terrified of spiders. She couldn’t even look at the page about spiders that hung on the pin board. Franka had goosebumps all over her body.

“Now that’s enough!” said Miss Cornfield strictly.

Mr. Morrison went over to the spider about and picked her up gently. “There you are, cheeky!” He allowed the animal to disappear up his sleeve. “You’re staying with me, my little friend. At least for the meantime.”

A sigh of relief could be heard throughout the classroom. Franka breathed out again.

“Before Mr. Morrison hands over the next magical animal, you must all swear to keep the secret.” Everyone nodded and waited with baited breath.

Neon-green letters suddenly appeared on the board. The children began to read out loud with one voice:

**“Never, never will we speak
of the magical creatures we meet.
Top-secret is the magical pet store,
And so it shall be for evermore.”**



As the children murmured the oath, they glanced at one another. Most children waited quietly, only Yannik swung his legs back and forth as usual. Ida and Benni exchanged puzzled glances: Who had received a message? Mr. Morrison went to the window and stuck his head out: "Tingo, come in! Yannik can hardly wait to meet you!"

Yannik's eyes shot wide open. What? He was getting a magical animal?

Yannik, who could never keep still, stood absolutely motionless for a moment. Then he breathed in and out, punched a fist in the air, shouted: "Shakka!" and began to dance and jump and shout across the classroom. All his worries disappeared in an instant.

His bad marks? Forgotten.

The basketball basket? Forgotten.

He was getting a magical animal! Unbelievable! He sprang to the window and looked out, searching for his companion.

The pond. Was a water snake waiting for him?

The trees. Was there a parrot sitting in one of them?

The lawn. Was there a kangaroo hopping about out there? Oh, a kangaroo would be brilliant! Suddenly a tree rustled. The branches parted and out swung...a chimpanzee!

He swung back and forth a few times, let go of the branch and landed in the classroom with a bump. Yannik gasped. And the rest of the class broke into cheerful laughter. The chimp was simply too sweet! He scratched his head and grinned from ear to ear.

"Oh, isn't he adorable?" everyone exclaimed.

"Tadaaa! Tingo has arrived!" The chimpanzee jumped from the floor into Yannik's arms.

"I'm so happy to finally be with you!"

Yannik hugged the chimpanzee to his chest. He felt the soft hair of his companion beneath his fingers, and a warm sense of happiness spread through his whole body. He felt his new friend's heart beating excitedly in unison with his own and suddenly he knew that everything was going to be fine. The class applauded.

Mr. Morrison gave a last friendly wave and made his way to the door. Pinkie flapped along behind him: "Bye-di-bye!" she trilled.

"Excuse me, Mr. Morrison!" called Anna-Lena after him. "Didn't you come in the omnibus today then?" She hadn't heard any clattering. Mr. Morrison smiled. "Oh the old thing is back in the workshop. Every two years I get her checked over. But don't worry – she's in excellent nick. More magical animals will soon be on their way! See you soon!"

The chimpanzee sprang from table to table.

"Oh, a chameleon!" He bent over Caspar.

"How lovely – a penguin!" Juri was flattered and smiled.

Tingo stroked Peperoni and stumbled over Rick the crocodile. He greeted Henrietta with the words: "Hello, old thing."



He waved at Eugenia and Sydney, introduced himself to Karajan and Rabbat. He pulled at the professor's tie and peered over Franka's shoulder: "Exciting book!" Yannik realised with amazement that he was in fact the only one of the children who could understand Tingo's words. His new friend continued to jump about. The class watched him with glee.

When Miss Cornfield gave a strict shake of her head, the chimpanzee sprang back into Yannik's arms. "And what's the camera for then?", he asked curiously. "Is it for me?" Yannik grinned: "Not quite, the camera's..."

"The camera!", cried Benni. "It's still recording!" In a rush, he pressed the 'off' button. On no! The handover, the oath, Tingo's greeting – the camera had filmed everything! The class looked at Miss Cornfield in horror.

But Max waved away their panic with a flick of his hand: "No problem – we're going to edit the film on the computer anyway. We'll just leave out the parts with Mr. Morrison. That's what they call post-production in the film industry."

The class had lost lots of time as a result of Mr. Morrison's visit. If they wanted to finish the film they'd better hurry! Miss Cornfield clapped her hands together.

"Everyone back to your places. That includes you, Tingo!" The chimpanzee was in the middle of doing a cartwheel in front of Yannik's desk. Now he grabbed a banana out of Finja's schoolbag and sat down on Yannik's lap.

"School finishes at 1 o'clock," their teacher called out. "All the recordings must be finished by then! The clock's ticking!"

The girls hula-hooped while Yannik juggled in the background – together with Tingo. They were so cheerful and happy throwing balls back and forth to each other that Miss Cornfield couldn't bring herself to stop them. Suddenly the school intercom crackled into life: "Miss Cornfield to my office please." It was the headteacher, Mr. Siegmann.

"It would have to be now!" sighed Miss Cornfield and turned to the door. "Don't get up to any nonsense, class", she warned.

She was barely out of the door before the class erupted into chaos. Yannik and Tingo fetched a softball and kicked it back and forth. Jo and Silas soon joined them. Then Katinka joined in too and suddenly all the other girls were playing too. The board became the goal, Henry was the goalkeeper. Rabbat tackled the ball off Tingo and kicked it to Ida. Ida passed the ball on to Anna-Lena, who passed it to Katinka. When Helene shot a goal, Yannik threw his hands in the air and shouted: "1:0 to the ladies!" Next, Yannik gave Tingo a tennis racket and showed him how to play Ping-Pong on a school desk. "Those pencil cases are the net. Go!" The chimpanzee could swing the racket like a pro. Eugenia was the umpire. "4:2 to Tingolingo!" called the bat from her perch on the ceiling lamp. Benni and Choccy filmed everything on the camera. By the time Miss Cornfield returned, they had all the scenes wrapped up. And children and animals were all sitting perfectly well-behaved at their desks.



“Mr. Siegmann wants to see the application video before it goes to the television studio,” she announced and swung herself up onto her desk. “He will be in his office until 5pm this afternoon. Take the video to him, he’ll look at it and then send it by email to the TV station. And now, everyone get out your German exercise books.”

The class groaned.

There were only 15 minutes until the end of school. Their teacher used them for a dictation. “The famous voyager Christopher Columbus was born in Geneva in Italy in 1451...” read out Miss Cornfield. Everyone moaned. [...]