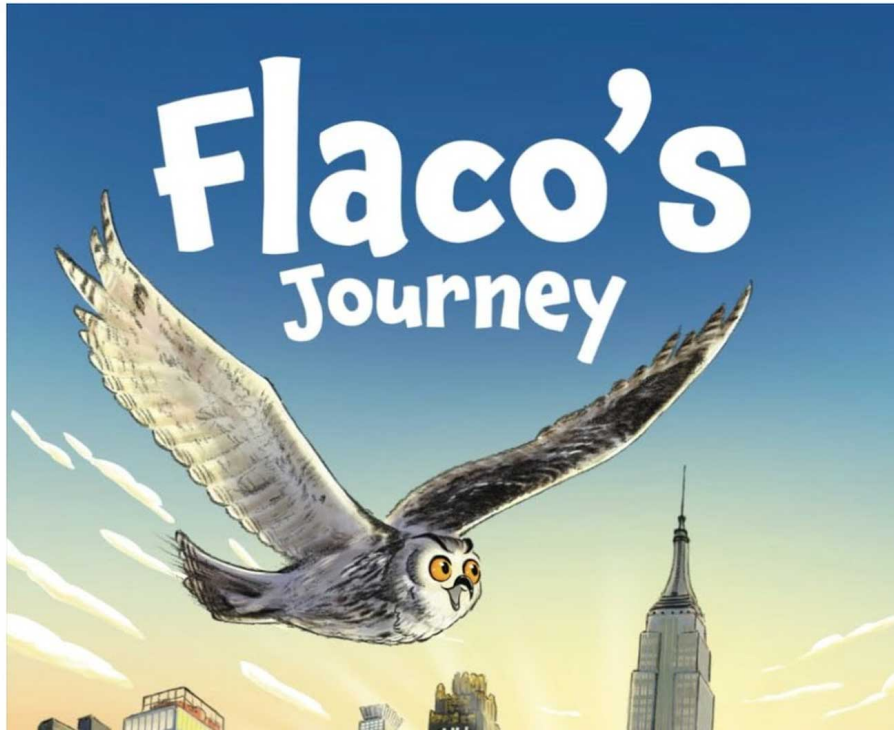


Flaco text



CT.RL.5.1

Adapted Reading Passage

****FLACO'S JOURNEY by Kathleen Conklin****

****PROLOGUE****

High up on a pointy, gray cliff, there was a nest with an egg inside. When the sun came up, the egg started to crack a little. Inside the egg, a baby owl could smell the air and lifted its head to feel the wind.

The little owl didn't know that his life would make millions of people feel excited and happy 13 years later.

When the baby owl opened its eyes, it could see everything around him. There were tall pine trees and sunny, golden fields. The air smelled like pine. Far away, he could see a big, blue body of water.

His mother came back with food and fed him until he was full. Then he snuggled into the nest to sleep. Everything was perfect in the world.

Every day, he got stronger, and his wings got bigger. One day, his mother showed him how to fly. He was so excited! He loved the feeling of the air rushing under his wings. He felt so alive!

Every night, his mother went hunting. She would fly high above the forest and quickly swoop

Summary

- Flaco, a Eurasian Eagle Owl, was taken from his nest and put in the Central Park Zoo.
- Roy and Jenny, two friends who visited Flaco, helped him escape from his cage so he could be free.
- Flaco lived in New York City for 13 months, where he learned to hunt and became a symbol of hope for people around the world.

Key Vocabulary Words

PROLOGUE (noun)

Definition: An introduction or preface, especially to a play, novel, or long poem.

Example: The prologue of the book told about the main character's childhood.

Eurasian Eagle Owl (noun)

Definition: A very large owl with ear tufts, native to Eurasia.

Example: The Eurasian Eagle Owl is known for its powerful hunting skills.

vandals (noun)

Definition: People who deliberately destroy or damage property.

Example: The vandals broke the windows of the school building.

EPILOGUE (noun)

Definition: A section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a conclusion.

Example: The epilogue of the story explained what happened to the characters later in their lives.

perseverance (noun)

Definition: Continuing to do something even when it is difficult.

Example: The student showed perseverance by studying hard every day, even when he felt tired.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What piece of evidence from the text most strongly suggests that Roy felt a connection to Flaco? CT.RL.5.1
 - A) Roy understood that Flaco might have lost his hope to fly, just as Roy felt he couldn't do things since he had gotten sick.
 - B) Roy went to the only place that reminded him of home: Central Park.
 - C) Roy had heard that the eagle owl was at least 13 years old.
 - D) Roy loved watching the bald eagles fly in the wind and swoop down over the river to catch fish for dinner.

2. Which sentence from the text most vividly supports the theme of hope and freedom? CT.RL.5.1
 - A) The people who worked at the zoo called him Flaco (which means 'skinny' in Spanish) because he was the smallest one.
 - B) He was given food, but it wasn't the kind he was used to.
 - C) With every flap of his wings, he found a current of air and rode it with excitement in his heart.
 - D) The two-legged creatures put his cage into a big truck filled with cages of other eagle owls.

3. What can be inferred about the city's reaction to Flaco's escape based on the text? CT.RL.5.1
 - A) The city found his story inspiring and embraced him as a symbol of hope, determination, perseverance, and joy.
 - B) The city was primarily concerned about the potential danger Flaco posed to the public.
 - C) The city was outraged by Flaco's escape, demanding that the zoo recapture him immediately.
 - D) The city was largely indifferent to Flaco's escape, as most residents were preoccupied with their daily lives.

Short Answer Questions

1. What can be inferred about Jenny's motivation for wanting to free Flaco, based on the details provided in the text? CT.RL.5.1

2. Which sentence from the text most vividly supports the idea that Flaco's escape had a positive impact on the people of the city? CT.RL.5.1

3. What conclusion can be drawn about the author's perspective on keeping animals in captivity, based on the evidence in the text? CT.RL.5.1

Open-ended Prompts

1. Flaco dreamed of escaping his cage and flying free. Have you ever felt trapped or wanted to be free from something? What did you do, or what would you do, to feel more free?
2. Roy and Jenny helped Flaco because they felt he deserved to be free. Have you ever helped someone or something because you felt it was the right thing to do? How did it make you feel, and what was the result?
3. Flaco became a symbol of hope and freedom for the people in the city. Is there an animal or person who inspires you? What qualities do they have that you admire, and why do they matter to you?