

Duck! Rabbit!

Author: Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Illustrator: Tom Lichtenheld

- **Summary:** Two characters argue whether a visual illusion is of a duck or a rabbit. Along the way, they run into even more visual illusions that they just can't seem to agree on.
- **Awards received:**
 - Time Magazine Top Ten Children's Book of 2009, #1
 - American Library Association Notable Children's Book of 2010
 - Publishers Weekly Best Children's Books of the Year, 2009
 - Barnes & Noble Best Kid's Books of 2009
 - 2009 iParenting Media Award Winner – Book Category
 - National Parenting Publications Awards 2009 – Gold Award
 - IndieBound Summer 2009 Top-10 Indie Next Kids' Pick
 - Oppenheim Toy Portfolio, 2009 Best Book Award – Gold
 - Booklist 2009 Editors' Choice
 - Goodreads.com Best Picture Book of 2009 Nominee
 - About.com's Best Illustrated Children's Books of 2009
- **Reviews:** From *School Library Journal*: Two unseen characters debate the identity of the creature at the center of this clever book - is it a duck or a rabbit? Readers will join in the discussion, because the creature could, in fact, be either. Just as each of the debaters begins to see the other's perspective, the duck/rabbit runs away and they see an anteater. Or is it a brachiosaurus? Text and illustrations are intimately wedded in this fun, interactive read-aloud. The bold lines and bright colors in Lichtenheld's illustrations are a visually pleasing match for the bantering text. With a strong, well-executed concept, this book provides an excellent starting point for discussing how points of view can differ and still be right.-*Kathleen Kelly MacMillan, Carroll County Public Library, MD*
- **Author Information:** Amy Krouse Rosenthal - <http://www.whoisamy.com/>
- **Illustrator Information:** Tom Lichtenheld - <http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/>
- **Discussion Questions:**
 - Why do you think that some people see a duck and some people see a rabbit?
 - What do you see first?
 - Why are you so sure of what you saw?
- **Curricular Activities**
 - Reading/oral language – Vocabulary Cards – Have your students think of all the words associated with ducks and rabbits. They should have an index card, and on one side they will write duck words and on the other side they will write rabbit words. They can keep these on their desk and write more as they think of them.

- Writing – Have students write down what convinced them of what kind of animal is pictured.
 - Science – Five Senses – Talk to the students about how the characters in the book used their senses to figure out what the animal was. Have them discuss what other senses they could have used. This may lead into a lesson about the senses or physical properties.
 - Art –
 - Scribble Art – Students scribble a line with a thick marker and then try to create a picture using the line.
 - Look at other Optical Illusions
 - Cooking/food – bring in some foods that rabbits eat and some that ducks eat. Have students decide which animal eats which food and then taste them (if edible for humans)
- **Related Books:**
 - A Little Giant Book: Optical Illusions by Keith Kay
 - How to Really Fool Yourself: Illusions For All Your Senses by Vicki Cobb (author), Jessica Wolk-Stanley (Illustrator)
 - **Other titles by Rosenthal:**
 - *Little Pea*
 - *Little Hoot*
 - *Little Oink*
 - *The Ok Book*
 - *Spoon*
 - *Yes Day!*
 - *One Of Those Days*
 - *It's Not Fair!*
 - **Other titles by illustrated by Lichtenheld:**
 - *Clouette*
 - *Shark vs. Train*
 - *The Ok Book*
 - *Yes Day!*
 - *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site*
 - *It's Not Fair!*
 - **Websites for further study or enrichment:**
 - The illustrator's website which has activity guides for his books, including *Duck! Rabbit!* - <http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/>
 - This website has a Duck! Rabbit! Quiz and currently includes an Easter postcard. The quiz determines if you're a "Duckperson" or a "Rabbit person."
<http://www.chroniclebooks.com/duckrabbit/index.html>
 - Classroom activities for this book in pdf file that you can print off - http://www.titlewave.com/intro/pdfs/pubs/fall10_elem/duckrabbit_teacherguide.pdf

- YouTube video of two people reading the book - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPCoe-6RRks>
- Teacher activities from the Washington State children's choice book award - <http://childrenschoiceaward.wikispaces.com/Duck!+Rabbit!>
- Activity on perception, it explains what you see and why - <http://www.wisc-online.com/objects/ViewObject.aspx?ID=I2P902>
- 3rd graders responses to the question "What does this picture mean to you?" (of the duck/rabbit) - <http://blogs.falmouth.k12.ma.us/simplysuzy/2009/10/29/duck-rabbit-which-are-you/>
- Original illusion which inspired the book - <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Rabbit-DuckIllusion.html>
- Yo Gabba Gabba's DJ Lance reads "Duck! Rabbit!" by Amy Krouse Rosenthal - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0iPWdYIWN4U>