



# Camilla, the foreign iguana

Authors Rocío Antón and Lola Núñez / Illustrations Paz Rodero / 28 pages / Book Series Tales of the Old Oak

## Objectives

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- To enjoy and understand the main idea of the story.
- To teach the concept of being foreign or different.
- To teach values such as friendship, caring for others and willingness to help.
- To teach how to talk about a variety of emotions and feelings.

## Word bank

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### Key vocabulary

**Nouns:** owl, swift, iguana, fly/flies (insects), smile, feathers, straw, solution, basket, beak, heat (of the sun).

**Verbs:** travel (around the world), choose, end, shine, help, die, migrate, carry, fly, bloom.

**Adjectives:** strange, frightened, clever, old, sad, worried, soft, fresh, warm, dry, cold, quiet.

## Tips and ideas

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### Before reading

#### • Habitats

Teach children the concept of "habitat". Explain to them that it is a place that offers animals food, protection and shelter; like a home. Teach them the expression "Home, sweet home." Bring photos of different wild animals to class and ask the students to sort them into the following categories:

Sea/Rivers	Forest	Arctic	Desert

Put one of the photos into a different category, e.g. put a camel in "Arctic". Ask students to predict what would happen. Elicit answers such as: "It would die", "It would get sick", etc.

An extra tip: Let them watch the fun video "**I got a habitat**" by The Bumblemen (find it on youtube.com).

### During reading

#### • Thought marks

Give each student one post-it note and ask them to mark a page that interests them, confuses them, attracts their attention or reminds them of something (e.g. Camilla is catching flies with her tongue). Ask them to explain why they marked that page.

### After reading

#### • Pass the feeling

Put students in a circle. Ask one student to pantomime a recognisable facial expression such as happiness, sadness, feeling sick, tired, etc. He/She sends the expression to his right and each successive player passes the facial expression along. Once the expression has gone around the whole circle, compare the first and last players to see if the expression changed as it circulated.

# Teacher support activities

## Great games: "Letter corners"

This is a fun vocabulary revision game.

- Prepare 3 sets of word cards: one set including only words starting with "B" (e.g. beaver, beak...), one including words starting with "F" (e.g. flies, feathers...) and one including words starting with "S" (e.g. swift, star...).
- Put 3 sheets of paper with the letters "B", "F" and "S" in three corners of the classroom. These are Letter Corners.
- Give each student one word card at random. They shouldn't tell other students the word they have.
- Now, tell them to walk around the classroom and discover other students with the same letter – "B", "F" or "S". They need to ask "Who are you? What are you?" and the other student has to describe who and what he/she is. If the student guesses the word and if it begins with the same letter, they can go to their letter corner.
- The game finishes when there are at least 7 students in one letter corner.

## CLIL Link: Arts & Crafts

### Shoebox habitat (Family project)

- Tell your students to narrate the story about "Camilla, the foreign iguana" to their parents and ask them to create an ideal home for Camilla. They can use a simple shoebox, any type of paint, coloured paper, plastic animals, etc. Remind them that iguanas like tropical rainforests with a lot of green. When they finish the project, organise a shoebox habitat exhibition in the classroom. If possible, invite the parents to see it.

## English theatre: "Home sweet home!"

Characters: animals, owl, swift, squirrel, Camilla (miming)

### SCENE 1

**Owl:** Who are you? Where are you from?

*(Camilla doesn't talk; she just looks at the owl.)*

**Animals:** We'll ask the old swift!  
We'll ask the old swift!

**Swift:** She is an iguana.

**Animals:** An iguana in our forest!

**Swift:** She never talks. She likes the Sun.

### SCENE 2

**Animals:** Camilla is sick! She is very sick!

**Swift:** It's winter. She is cold.

**Animals:** Let's build a house!

*(The animals pretend to build a house.)*

**Swift:** Stop! She needs the Sun, not a house.

*(The animals seem to be very worried.)*

### SCENE 3

**Animals:** Swift will take her to the Sun.

**Squirrel:** I have an idea! Let's build a basket!

**Snowy:** Animals: Yes, Camilla can sit in a basket.

**Squirrel:** And Swift will carry her!

**Animals:** What a fantastic idea!

