

Maggie: Alaska's Last Elephant by Jennifer Keats Curtis illustrated by Phyllis Saroff

Release Date: February 10, 2018
Interest Age: 4-9 · Narrative Nonfiction
32 pages · Trim size: 8.5 x 10

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Meet the Author ...



Award-winning nature author Jennifer Keats Curtis is frequently found among students and teachers, talking about literacy and conservation. Jennifer has written *The Lizard Lady, After A While Crocodile, The Lucky Litter,* the *Animal Helpers* series, *Baby Owl's Rescue, Kali's Story* (Children's Choice Book Award 2015), *Salamander Season, Primate School,* and *Turtles In My Sandbox* for Arbordale. She lives in Maryland with her family and a wide variety of pets. Visit her website at www.jenniferkeatscurtis.com.

"Kids often ask me why I write books about animals and I wanted to give them a better answer than just I love them!"

"I spent a lot of time researching and decided to start explaining ethology, the science of animals' emotions, feelings, and beliefs. I tell them animals matter to me, in part, because I believe--and science proves--that they can think and feel and that they have emotions, perhaps not like ours, but they do just the same."

Meet the Illustrator...

Since childhood, Phyllis Saroff has brought together her loves of science and art. In addition to Maggie: Alaska's Last Elephant, Vivian and the Legend of the Hoodoos, Tuktuk: Tundra Tale and Sounds of the Savanna for Arbordale, Phyllis has illustrated nonfiction books about the natural world such as Teeth and Mary Anning: Fossil Hunter. She also illustrates for children's magazines, way-side signs and other educational material. Phyllis works digitally and with oil paint. Phyllis lives in Maryland with her husband, two sons, and two dogs. Visit her website at saroffillustration.com.



"I think this story is so important. If children can internalize that animals other than us have emotional and physical needs we will all benefit. This story made me think of similar situations from pet dogs that get locked in a house all day to killer whales in a tank at Sea World. I have enjoyed illustrating this book and I look forward to more."