

Basghetti Spaghetti

By Susanne Vettiger



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Oscar, a little crab, has a problem. Whenever he is excited or nervous, his tongue gets all twisted and he jumbles up his words. When his classmates ridicule his incomprehensible jabbering one day, Oscar runs away--right into the many arms of a kind octopus. The octopus has a plan to help Oscar with a series of challenges and games. Before long, Oscar's proven successes have boosted his confidence and he is able to describe his exciting adventures to his classmates without jumbling a single word! Here is a comical but reassuring story that offers an undersea look at a common childhood problem.



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 2—Oscar the crab becomes tongue-twisted whenever he is excited or nervous. He can't even sing about spaghetti, his favorite food, without messing up the words. One day, after his classmates make fun of him, he runs away. He finds Doctor Octopus, a speech fixer, on a sunken pirate ship. The doctor leads Oscar through a number of exercises such as making scary faces into a mirror and shouting out the names of objects drawn on a chalkboard. As the young crab's confidence grows, so does his ability to speak clearly, and all is well when he returns to school. The undersea setting is very dark and shadowy on some pages but bright and white on others, changing the focus and mood accordingly. This story is an adequate resource for sharing one-on-one with a child with a similar issue. Consider it an additional purchase for larger collections.—*Linda M. Kenton, San Rafael Public Library, CA*

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About the Author

Susanne Vettiger was born in Basel, Switzerland, where she currently lives and works. A former photographer, she has, in recent years, focused on writing children's books and working in radio. She also wrote Basghetti Spaghetti for North-South.

Users Review

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