Young Hoosier Book Award
Picture Book Evaluation Form
Submitted by Elaine Loftus, Karen Pippenger

Dragon and Captain

AUTHOR: P.R. Allabach
ILLUSTRATOR: Lucas Turnbloom
PUBLISHER: Flashlight Press
COPYRIGHT DATE: 2015
ART MEDIUM: Graphite, inks, and digital paint
GENRE: Fiction

BOOK SUMMARY: Two boys, one dressed in a dragon robe and one wearing a captain’s hat, discover each other and go on an adventure in the backyard to locate a missing ship. Their imaginations take over and they become Dragon and Captain. They explore a forest, a scary cliff, and the huge ocean - all in the backyard. They save the ship and still make it home for lunch!

BOOK TALK: What would you do if you had a compass, a telescope, and a map? Go on an adventure of course! You could find a missing ship - in your own backyard! Let’s follow Dragon and Captain as they bravely encounter a dark forest, a scary cliff, and a band of pirates to locate the missing ship.

AUTHOR BIO: Gerrie Hurlbut, known as writer P.R. Allabach, lives with his family in Durham, North Carolina. He works as a network engineer and tames dragons on the side. He writes under the name P.R. Allabach in memory of his grandfather. Dragon and Captain is P.R. Allabach’s first picture book.
Website: http://prallabach.blogspot.com/

ILLUSTRATOR BIO: Dragon and Captain is Lucas Turnbloom’s first picture book. He is an award winning cartoonist, illustrator, graphic novelist and art director. He writes and illustrates a daily comic strip called “Imagine This.” Turnbloom lives in San Diego, California with his family.
Website: https://twitter.com/lucasturnbloom

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. Who is Dragon, and who is Captain?
2. How do the author and illustrator show the boys’ imaginations?
3. As the reader, how do you know who is speaking? What parts of the story are read by the narrator?
4. What objects do the boys have that start their imaginative adventure?
5. What is the problem in the story? How is it solved?
6. How do the illustrations show the difference between real and imaginary?
7. How do the boys work together? Is one of them the leader?

CHALLENGING WORDS:
- snout
- investigate
- By George
gigantic
- blubering bubblegum
- thundering thumbtacks
- board
- genius
- swaggered
- anchored
- inspect
- anchors aweigh
- high seas
- huzzah
Dragon and Captain: Draw what you would like to be!