Finders Keepers

**AUTHOR:** Keiko Kasza  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Keiko Kasza  
**PUBLISHER:** G.P. Putnam’s Sons  
**COPYRIGHT DATE:** 2015  
**ART MEDIUM:** Graphite and colored pencil, gouache, and oil pastels on three-ply Bristol illustration paper  
**GENRE:** Animal fiction, humor

**BOOK SUMMARY:** A squirrel finds a red hat and uses it to cover the spot where he hid his acorn, but a gust of wind blows the hat away. Throughout the book other animals find the hat and discover ways to use it until they, too, lose the hat. But who has the red hat in the end?

**BOOK TALK:** Did you ever find something interesting or valuable that wasn’t yours, but you wanted to keep it? *Finders Keepers* is a story about a squirrel who keeps and uses a red hat he has found. The hat is the perfect way to mark the spot where his acorn is hidden. However, after the squirrel leaves the wind blows the hat away. What happens to the little red hat?

**CHALLENGING WORDS:** None

**AUTHOR BIO:** Keiko Kasza was born and raised in Japan where her worst subject was art! She came to the United States to study graphic art at California State University. She enjoys writing more than illustrating and finds it easier to write if she pretends to be the character. Keiko now lives in Bloomington, Indiana with her husband. They have two sons.

**ILLUSTRATOR BIO:** See AUTHOR BIO

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**
1. What does finders keepers mean? Is it fair or not?
2. Have you ever lost something but later found it?
3. How would it feel to see someone wearing something that was yours?
4. Which animal do you think the hat liked best?
The squirrel’s hat was used by many different animals in the story. See if you match them to how they used the hat!

BONUS: What did the snake use for a hat at the end of the story?

Write your sentence in this box.
Pick one hat and write an adventure about your hat. Remember to use describing words and lots of details.
Finders Keepers

This hat was found by several animals. Pick one animal and continue the story using only that animal and the hat to write a new story.

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W.3.1, W.3.2, W.3.3