



by Andreas H. Schmachtl
Arena Verlag
January 2012 / 131pp
Children's & Young Adults'

This book is outside of the five-year window for guaranteed assistance with English language translation. We suggest getting in touch with the relevant funding body for an informal conversation about the possibility of support. Please refer to our recommendations page for books that are currently covered by our funding guarantee.

Hieronymus Frosch – What the World's Been Waiting for

Hieronymus Frosch – Darauf hat die Welt gewartet

review

Schmachtl has created an enchanting character, whose inquisitiveness and perseverance will engage young children with the wonders of the world around them. He combines humour with beautiful descriptions of nature, plants and animals, alongside small hints about science and what it really means – all accompanied by wonderful illustrations, some watercolour, some in the same green as the main text. Frequent comic-strip sequences break up the chapters and lend themselves particularly well to the comical situations in the book.

Hieronymus the Frog is a gifted inventor, who will work on any problem until he has found a solution, no matter how long it takes him. No day goes by without Hieronymus wondering, questioning and researching, by himself and with the help of his little group of friends, all of whom are equally extraordinary. There is his neighbour Emmy the shrew and her five children, Monti the fire salamander and the mole XT21. And without fail, the breakthrough always comes with a brainwave, 'a scientific sensation' as Hieronymus exclaims every time.

Hieronymus longs to be accepted into the animal scientists' club, but the powers-that-be only regard him as an amateur. By the story's end they will be proved wrong, because Hieronymus does not shy away

from any question that presents itself, and he is comfortable in any scientific field. As an engineer, he designs a semi-automatic postcard maker, an automatic pea-counting machine and a semi-automatic one-person-cooling rain machine; he digs tunnels and lays pipes for secret passageways into his neighbour's garden; and he invents a tin-can telephone. He is a chemist, who produces woodruff extract to make an invisibility sun lotion. He is a meteorologist, who can burst clouds to create rainfall. But more than anything Hieronymus triumphs in aerodynamics as he creates an extraordinary pedal-powered flying machine. With the help of this ingenious invention, Hieronymus is able to complete a study of puffins, which finally gains him recognition by the Royal Society for Enriching Knowledge. All this against the schemes of 'nasty Nick', a mischievous frog who is always working hard to prove Hieronymus a failure.

The themes of science, inventiveness and inquisitiveness, alongside a host of lovable characters, inspire the imagination and make *Hieronymus Frosch* utterly original.

press quotes

'A wonderful children's book that's bursting with ideas.'

– *Buecherkinder.de*

'Wonderful reading for kids, they'll be absolutely won over by Hieronymus the inventor'– Buecherengel

about the author

Andreas H. Schmachtl was born in 1971 and studied fine arts, German literature and English in Oldenburg. He spends a great deal of his time in England, where he finds the ideas for his books. It is no coincidence that they centre on frogs, mice and other small folks that he particularly wants to rescue and protect.

Previous works include:

Tilda Apfelkern series (23 titles since 2007); *Juli Löwenzahn* series (5 titles since 2010)

rights information

Translation rights sold to:

Tilda Appleseed series: China, Hungary, Italy, Russia, Spain, Turkey, German Audio Book Rights.

Juli Dandelion series: China, Norway, German Audio Book Rights.

Translation rights available from:

Arena Verlag GmbH

Foreign Rights

Rottendorferstraße 16

D – 97074 Würzburg

Tel: +49 931 796 44 62

Email: tanja.dziewior@arena-verlag.de

Contact: Tanja Dziewior (Rights Manager)

www.arena-verlag.de

Arena Verlag was founded in 1949 and is one of the most important publishers of books for children and young adults in Germany. They publish a broad range of titles in their fiction and non-fiction lists, including titles for all age groups – from toddlers to young adults. Arena was the first German children's book publisher to start a paperback programme in 1958. Arena books have won numerous awards and been translated into many languages. They are also the German home of such internationally renowned authors as Cassandra Clare, Roderick Gordon and Brian Williams, Tove Jansson, Steve Augarde, Neil Gaiman and Jo Nesbo.