

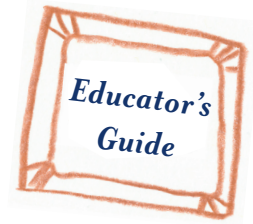
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ROSIE RUNS

MARIKA MAIJALA

TRANSLATED BY MIA SPANGENBERG



About the Book

Is there anything more joyful to witness than a dog sprinting around the field, running with unbridled joy to chase a stick, a ball, or a friend? The way their ears bounce as they lunge gracefully around the park, the wagging of their tails and full-toothed grins when their human friends exclaim, “Good dog!” In *Rosie Runs*, Marika Maijala, with the help of translator Mia Spangenberg, takes all that joy and immortalizes it, encouraging readers to feel Rosie’s infectious excitement as she runs all over town.



Who is Rosie? And what does it mean to be a rescue dog?

Rosie from *Rosie Runs* is inspired by a real-life dog, also named Rosie! Rosie’s owner, Elisa Aaltola, is a friend of the author, Marika Maijala. Although Rosie is no longer around, her spirit will never be forgotten, and it lives on through this beautiful book. Rosie was a rescue dog. A rescue dog is a dog that is given a chance at another life after being abandoned or forgotten about. Elisa wrote that she found Rosie in a back alley, where she had escaped from somewhere that didn’t take very good care of her. She was rescued by Elisa, and was shown the love and care that she so deeply needed. Elisa and Rosie were the best of friends; they loved to hike, swim, and watch sheep together.



Questions for Reflection

1. When do you feel most free? Is there an activity you love that makes you feel comfortable and excited?
2. When the weather gets warm, what kind of games do you like to play outside?
3. Elisa Aaltola said of Rosie: "Rosie always wanted to see, understand, and discover new things." What new things have you discovered recently?
4. "People are hurrying to work, to the subway, wherever they need to go. The city rumbles like a large, wild animal." When you're spending time outside, what sorts of sights and sounds interest you?
5. Do you have a furry friend in your life that means a lot to you?



Questions for Comprehension

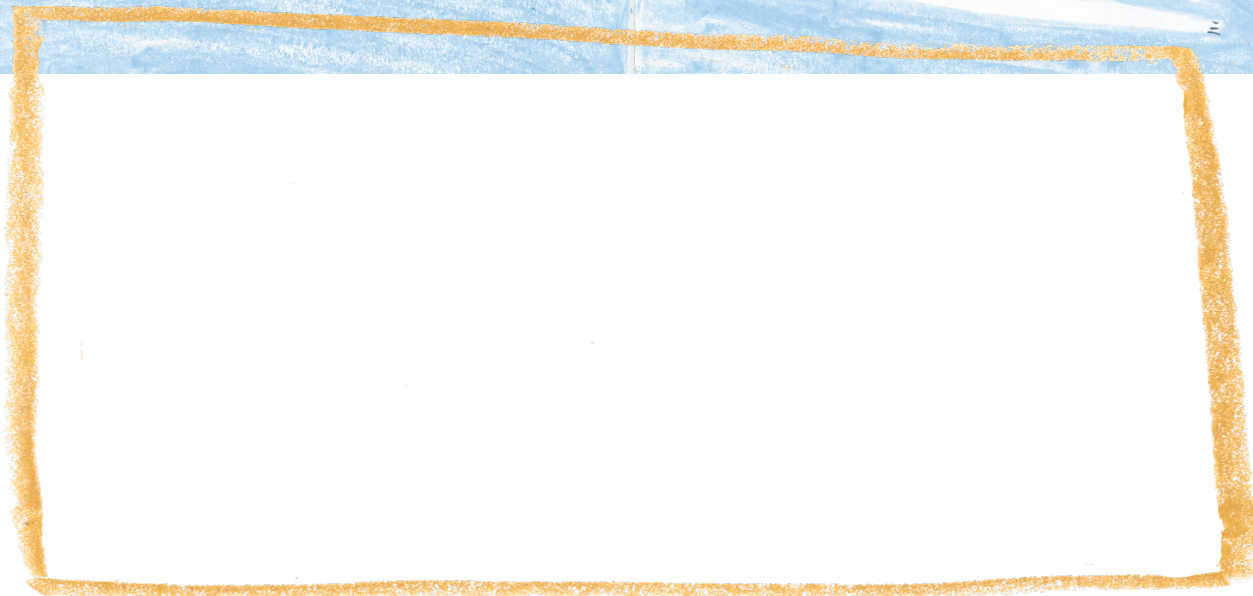
1. How do you think Rosie feels when she meets her new friends? How do you feel when you make a new friend?
2. Do you think Rosie ever felt nervous on her journey? If so, when?
3. What are some of the sounds Rosie noticed on her adventure?
4. How do other characters in the book show kindness towards Rosie? How do you show kindness towards people (and animals!) in your life?
5. What are some ways in which Rosie shows strength and bravery in the story?

Activities



Draw a picture of yourself in the park that Rosie and her friends play in, doing something that makes you feel happy and free

What is Rosie leaping over? Draw a scene underneath her.



Ida, Siri, and Rosie call the park their home.
Draw a picture of you in a place that you consider to be your home.

