

BOOKLIST REVIEW

Porcupine's Picnic: Who Eats What?.

Rosenthal, Betsy R. (Author) , Capizzi, Giusi (Illustrator)

Feb 2017. 32 p. Lerner/Millbrook, library edition, \$19.99. (9781467795197).

It's a beautiful day, and Porcupine just found "the perfect spot for a picnic," where he can enjoy some clover. When Koala wants to join him, Porcupine offers some of his clover, but Koala politely declines and starts eating some eucalyptus leaves. Gradually, more than a dozen animals arrive to share the picnic spot and enjoy their favorite foods, and Rosenthal showcases a variety of animal diets in the process. Most of the creatures are omnivores or herbivores, but things start to look ominous when Weasel shows up craving mice, and the picnic comes to an abrupt halt when Tiger comes on the scene and gazes hungrily at the picnic attendees. Although most of these animals would never meet in the wild, there's plenty of information to be gleaned from these pages, and the cartoonish, anthropomorphized creatures with big eyes and friendly faces will help the smattering of facts (explained further in an author's note) go down easy. Cheerful artwork and a narrative with plenty of repetition make this a great pick for group story time.

— *Annie Greengoss*