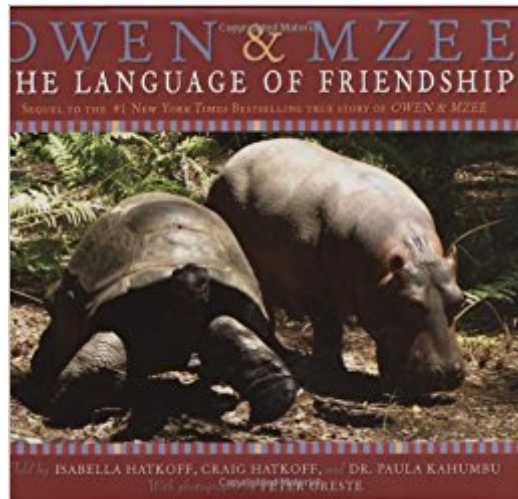




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Owen & Mzee: Language Of Friendship



Synopsis

The in-demand follow-up to the New York Times bestseller, OWEN & MZEE, the friendship that has touched millions around the world. In this exciting follow-up to OWEN & MZEE, the New York Times bestselling story about an orphaned baby hippo named Owen and the 130-year-old giant turtle, Mzee, Craig Hatkoff explores the language of love, friendship, and nurturance that these two incredible creatures share with one another. This book traces their first year together, including their adorable playful ways and the unique "language" that they have developed.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 980L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press; First Edition edition (January 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439899591

ISBN-13: 978-0439899598

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #98,207 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #79 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians](#) #142 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals](#) #1911 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 4 [Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship](#) (Scholastic, 2006) chronicled the fascinating story of a baby hippo who was orphaned by the December 2004 tsunami and the bond he formed with Mzee, a 130-year-old Alhambra tortoise at a wildlife sanctuary in Kenya. This sequel updates readers on the status of that friendship a year and a half later, particularly with regard to the way this unusual duo has learned to communicate with one another. They apparently call back and forth, making sounds that hippos and tortoises do not usually make. The authors honestly discuss the issues that will face these two friends in the future, as their caretakers become increasingly concerned that Owen could become a danger to

Mzee as he continues to grow. Other problems and possible solutions are discussed. The text is clearly written and accompanied by numerous high-quality, full-color photos of this unique pair. Children captivated by the first book will be thrilled to discover this one, and enough background information is provided so that readers coming to the story for the first time will be comfortable. A first purchase for most libraries. —â •Grace Oliff, Ann Blanche Smith School, Hillsdale, NJ
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Starred Review For somewhat older readers than Marion Dane Bauer's *A Mama for Owen* (2007), this book updates children on its famous subjects through crisp, immediate photos taken at the Kenyan refuge they call home. The same complicated supporting cast is featured in this book, including a father-daughter team; a naturalist from the refuge; and photojournalist Greste, whose photos here are more varied, abundant, and consistent in quality than before. Along with assuring children that the bond between Owen and Mzee is "stronger than ever," the authors chronicle the animals' system of communication, involving nudges, nips, and even a special kind of call. Libraries that own the first title will certainly want to add this title; those that don't may wish to purchase just this one, which gives the necessary context and duplicates some elements from the earlier book, while extending the information--through references to naturalists' concerns about Owen's need to interact with other hippos, and about Mzee's safety as his companion grows to his 7,000-pound size--in a way that moves beyond the pat, heartwarming aspects of the incident to ask fascinating questions about animal behavior. Jennifer Mattson
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Nonfiction account of Owen and Mzee. Great to accompany *A Mama For Owen*, which is also nonfiction but told more like a story. I read *A Mama for Owen* to Head Start classrooms. Children from 2 1/2 to 5 along with the teachers loved it. I took this book back the next week too show the pictures of Owen and Mzee and the caretakers. I hoped to reinforce that *A Mama for Owen* is a true story. It helped. Owen and Mzee's story is also a feature on a video about strange animal friendships.

I am continually amazed and enlightened by the ongoing story of these two animals. The story of their friendship should inspire all of us to bridge the gap between ourselves and other people about whom we have prejudiced preconceptions. We certainly do not think of Tortoises as having the capacity to nurture another animal or to form the kind of bond that Mzee has with Owen This on

going story so well reported and documented with pictures and factual information about each species opens our eyes to a hitherto unknown world of unusual animal behavior. I believe it provides a wonderful teaching tool as well as simply a fascinating story. I am grateful for the work it took to produce this book and its predecessor. Judy Koltun

This is a special book with the real story of Owen and Mzee! Great pictures! I suggest this book is great for children age 5 and up. It is an Information Book instead of a story book.

having been to Tanzania three times and participating in a group paying for 40 girls to attend primary & secondary school there, & teaching ESL at home, this is a great resource to introduce those less involved & less open to immigrants a gentle nudge in considering the possibilities.

The friendship between these two animals is wonderful. The theological reflection is remarkable. Without ever invoking God, we're presented with a story of caring for the one in front of us who needs to be loved, and the gift that that can be.

This is a beautiful and amazing book. The pictures are wonderful. The text is simple but informative. This book is for any audience. It arrived in great condition and on time. Thanks.

We purchased this book for our four-year-old avid book lover. While the book gives way to much info to keep a four-year-old's attention (unless they really love books), the photos are amazing and it is easy to shorten the relatable information until the child is old enough to appreciate it. Great book for reading/looking through just before going to a zoo.

My 6 year old daughter loves this story and the series. The photographs are fantastic and it makes you think about how it doesn't matter what you look like, but anyone can be a good friend

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