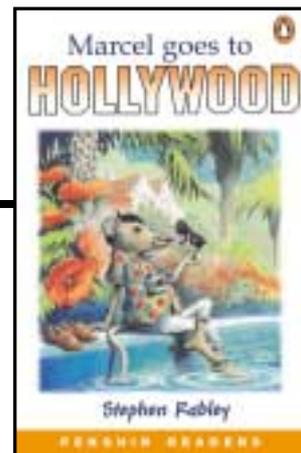


Penguin Readers Factsheets

Teacher's Notes

Marcel goes to Hollywood

by Stephen Rabley



Level 1 – Beginner Marcel goes to Hollywood

Summary

Marcel and his girlfriend, Céline, are French mice. Marcel is a detective and Céline is a painter. When they go to Hollywood on holiday, they become involved in an exciting and dangerous kidnapping. The story is funny and interesting because the mice are much smaller than the people in the story, and nobody knows they are there. Although they are small, they are still able to help rescue young Lois Waldman from her cruel kidnappers.

The mice arrive in Hollywood and find their holiday flat in the Waldmans' home. They go to bed at 10 o'clock, but at 12 o'clock Marcel is woken up by a noise outside. He sees some men taking away the Waldmans' daughter and then he finds a note from the kidnappers. He realizes that it's a dangerous situation and he decides to help the Waldmans.

The next morning, the two mice follow Arnold Waldman to his office and hear his conversation with the kidnappers. They see Mr Waldman take \$1 million out of the bank and give it to one of the kidnappers, Stan. Then they hide in the suitcase with the money and are driven a long way to the kidnappers' hideout. Later in the evening, the kidnappers fall asleep and Marcel and Céline climb out of the suitcase to find Lois. Next, they hide the kidnappers' guns and steal their phone. Marcel calls the police who arrive quickly at the house and rescue Lois. The kidnappers are taken away.

Back at their flat the next morning, Marcel and Céline see Lois return home to her parents. Whilst the family are busy with police and journalists, the two mice relax in the sun in the Waldmans' swimming pool. Now their holiday can really begin!

Marcel goes to Hollywood is one of four books featuring Marcel Mouse in the Penguin Readers series. (The others are *Marcel and the Mona Lisa*, *Marcel and the White Star* and *Marcel and the Shakespeare Letters*.)

Background and themes

Different worlds: Marcel and Céline have their own special mouse holiday flat in Hollywood. It is actually part of the Waldmans' house. The mice share the world of humans, but the humans are completely unaware of the mouse world. The mice are clever and cultured, and have typically human emotions and ideas. This makes the story charming and humorous.

Power and size: Marcel and Céline are tiny creatures with little physical power. In comparison, the kidnappers are strong young men who forcefully take Lois from her home. The kidnappers also have guns. But the mice prove that however small or insignificant

we may seem, we can use knowledge and intelligence to beat the most physically powerful enemy.

Values: The Waldmans value Lois's safety above everything else. Arnold does not hesitate to give \$1 million to the kidnappers for her release. The kidnappers are selfish and value money more than other people's feelings. Marcel and Céline value Lois's safety above their own holiday. The values the characters have influence their actions and shape the plot. This is equally true in real life.



Penguin Readers Factsheets

Communicative activities

ACTIVITIES BEFORE READING THE BOOK

- 1 Ask students to look at the front cover of the book. Who is the mouse? Where is he? Have students read any other books about Marcel? If so, ask them to write a list of things that they know about him. If not, ask students to look at the picture and write what they think about him. What nationality is he? What kind of character is he? What does he want to do on holiday?
- 2 Put students into groups and give them five minutes to choose a famous animal story. Each group should then prepare a few sentences about the story – but without using the name of the story or the names of the key characters. Each group then takes it in turns to read their sentences to the rest of the class. The class guesses the story. Alternatively, ask students to work individually and to write a few sentences about their favourite animal story.

ACTIVITIES AFTER READING THE BOOK

Put students into pairs and ask them to choose one of these numbered panels from the story:

Panel 6 Panel 13 Panel 20 Panel 25

Students then prepare a conversation between the two characters in the picture. They should use their imagination and try to include details which are not in the story. Walk round the class and help the students with their dialogues. Finally, give the students some time to practise before asking some of the most confident pairs to role play their dialogues in front of the class.

EXTRA WORDS

There are twenty extra words, in addition to the 300 headwords used in each Level 1 title. The extra words are tested in question 1 at the back of the reader. They are:

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| avenue | mice |
| bathroom | million |
| detective | note |
| downstairs | painter |
| film director | pool |
| gun | ring (v) |
| kidnapper | ship |
| leave (v) | studio |
| lorry | suitcase |
| map | upstairs |

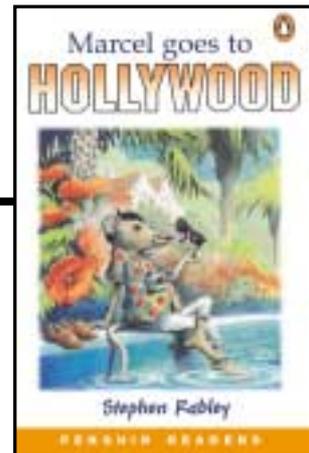


Penguin Readers Factsheets

Student's activities

Marcel goes to Hollywood

by Stephen Rabley



Level 1 – Beginner Marcel goes to Hollywood Photocopiable

Students can do these activities alone or with one or more other students. Pair/group-only activities are marked.

ACTIVITIES BEFORE READING THE BOOK

Look at the front cover of *Marcel goes to Hollywood*. What can you see? Write about the picture. You can start 'There is a mouse in the picture. He is sitting...'

ACTIVITIES WHILE READING THE BOOK

Pages 1–3

- Match the first half of sentences (a–e) with the second half (1–5).
 - Marcel
 - The Waldmans'
 - The Waldmans
 - Lois Waldman
 - Marcel and Céline
 - live in Hollywood, California.
 - like their holiday flat.
 - is a detective from Paris.
 - is fifteen years old.
 - house has a swimming pool.
- How do Marcel and Céline get to their holiday flat from Paris? Write 5 or 6 sentences about it.

Pages 4–7

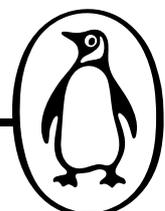
- Put these sentences (a–f) in the right order. Do not look at the book.
 - Marcel reads the kidnappers' note.
 - The kidnappers telephone Arnold Waldman.
 - Marcel and Céline sit in Arnold's car. He drives to his office.
 - Marcel hears a noise in the night.
 - Marcel finds the Queen Mary in his book.
 - Marcel sees two men take Lois away.
- Look at page 5. Who is Alice? Why does Arnold say, 'Later, Alice.'? What is Arnold thinking about in this picture?

Pages 8–10

- Who says these things? Who to? Do not look at the book.
 - Ssshh!
 - Where's my daughter? Is she OK?
 - Go home. Wait near the telephone.
 - Get in here. Quick!
 - How's the girl?
- Answer the questions.
 - How much money is in the suitcase?
 - What is the Queen Mary?
 - What does Stan (the kidnapper) look like?
 - How long does it take to drive from Long Beach to the kidnappers' house?
 - How many kidnappers are there?

Pages 11–13

- True (T) or False (F)?
 - The kidnappers look under the money but they do not find the mice.
 - The kidnappers sleep in bed.
 - Lois cannot see the mice.
 - Lois is upstairs and the kidnappers are downstairs.
 - The guns and the telephone are light.
 - Marcel and Céline take the guns upstairs to the bathroom.
 - They telephone the police from the bathroom.
 - The police come at 12 o'clock.
 - The kidnappers cannot find their guns.
 - A child telephoned the police.
- What questions do the police ask Lois? Write 5 questions and Lois's answers.



Penguin Readers Factsheets

Student's activities

Pages 14–15

- 1 There are 10 wrong words below. Find them and write the right word.

The police come. Then Marcel and Céline walk to a train stop. They wait a short time. But then Marcel sees a lorry and the mice get under it. The bus stops and the mice walk back to their flat. They eat a lot of coffee. Then the kidnappers bring Lois home. There are a lot of radio and newspaper people with them. Marcel and Céline only watch for a short time. Then they swim on the Waldmans' pool. It's hot, the sea is blue, and they are very happy. Now their Hollywood work can really start!

- 2 Look at the picture of the Waldmans on page 15. Where are they? Who is talking? What questions are the TV and newspaper people asking?
- 3 Now look at the picture of Marcel and Céline on page 15. Write three questions and three answers about this picture.

ACTIVITIES AFTER READING THE BOOK

- 1 Write the story of Marcel and Céline, using these words. Do not look at the book.

a noise two men telephone call
\$1 million Queen Mary
suitcase old house guns telephone
police home

- 2 Think about your favourite holiday. Where was it? What did you do? Are holidays important? Why?
- 3 What do you know about Hollywood? Write some sentences about it.



PENGUIN READERS. Marcel goes to Hollywood. Stephen Rabley. Here we are. California, USA! This is going to be a good. holiday, Marcel. 1 Marcel and C line are French mice. (Marcel is a detective and C line is a painter.) One summer they go to Los Angeles on holiday. 2 They take a bus from the airport to Hollywood. Here it is! Maytree Avenue.  6 Marcel opens the door and goes in. Look, C line There s the door to our holiday flat. The photos in Hollywood Holidays were right. Yes, this is Beautiful. 2. 7 At ten o clock Marcel and C line go to bed. But at twelve o clock Marcel opens his eyes again. He can hear a noise. What s that? 8 He goes upstairs to the kitchen. Who are those men? Where are. Marcel goes to Hollywood Level 1 Marcel and his friend Celine are on holiday in Los Angeles. They are staying in the home of Arnold Waldman, a famous film director. But on the first night of. Publication.  Marcel Goes to Hollywood. Published by: wepr (Karma: 22302.08) on 8 September 2013 | Views: 3929. 22. Level 1. Marcel and his friend Celine are on holiday in Los Angeles. They are staying in the home of Arnold Waldman, a famous film director. But on the first night of their holiday, kidnappers take away Arnold's daughter. Here