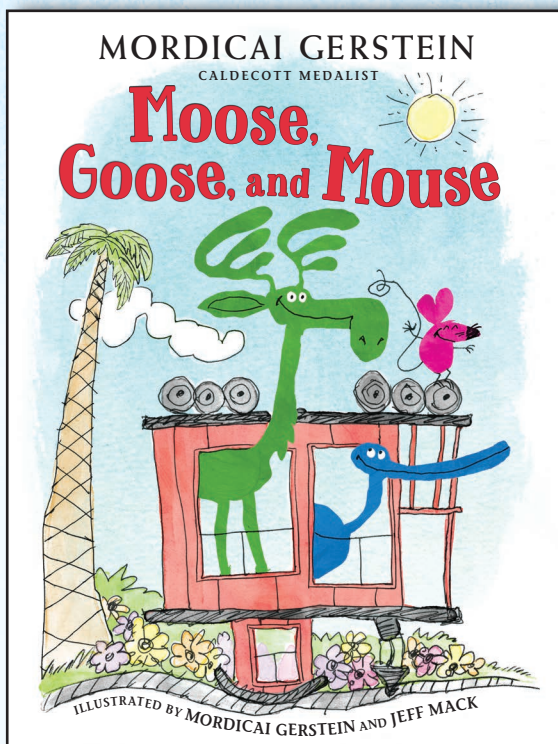


# HOLIDAY HOUSE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



HC: 9780823447602 / E-book: 9780823449033

## ***Moose, Goose, and Mouse***

by Mordicai Gerstein  
illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein  
and Jeff Mack

### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

**This is a roving, rhyming tale about three friends in search of the perfect new home.**

Moose, Goose, and Mouse need a new house, so they set off in search of one. But when their caboose comes loose, they're off on a wild adventure—with a perfect surprise waiting at the end.

The rollicking story is a delight to read aloud, paired with boldly colored, expressive illustrations.

Caldecott Medalist Mordicai Gerstein's *Moose, Goose, and Mouse* is the culmination of the humor, wit, and joy that he brought to all of his books. A heartfelt letter from Jeff Mack, who worked with Gerstein to finish the art, celebrates the legacy of this talented artist.

### **CLASSROOM DISCUSSION**

- A character is who the book is about. Study the front cover of the book. Identify the three main characters. Describe the looks on their faces.
- Take a look at the first double-page spread. Describe the inside of the house where Moose, Goose, and Mouse live. Discuss the problem the rain causes them. How do they attempt to solve the problem? Contrast the look on their faces in this illustration with the way they look on the cover.
- The text of a story tells what happens, and the illustrations show what happens. Mouse says the house is cold. How do the illustrations reveal how cold the animals feel in their house?
- Moose, Goose, and Mouse decide to look for a new house. Explain what each character wants in a house. How do the illustrations show each character's idea of a dream home?





- Describe the outside of the house where Moose, Goose, and Mouse live. Explain the patchwork squares and the crooked windows and door. What are ways they could fix their house?
- What is a caboose? How might a ride in a caboose be more exciting than riding in any other train car? There is a close-up view of the rope that connects the caboose to the engine. How does the rope suggest a new adventure?
- Look closely at the illustration where the caboose is traveling up and down the hill. Which animal has the best seat? Discuss how his seat offers a bigger thrill than riding inside the caboose. How is the ride on the loose caboose similar to a roller coaster?
- The caboose takes the animals on a journey they never expected. At what point is it obvious that the caboose is about to crash? How does their search for a new house end? Discuss how each animal gets what they want in a house.
- The story has many rhyming words. What is only word in the story that rhymes with Mouse? Make columns that list all the rhyming words.

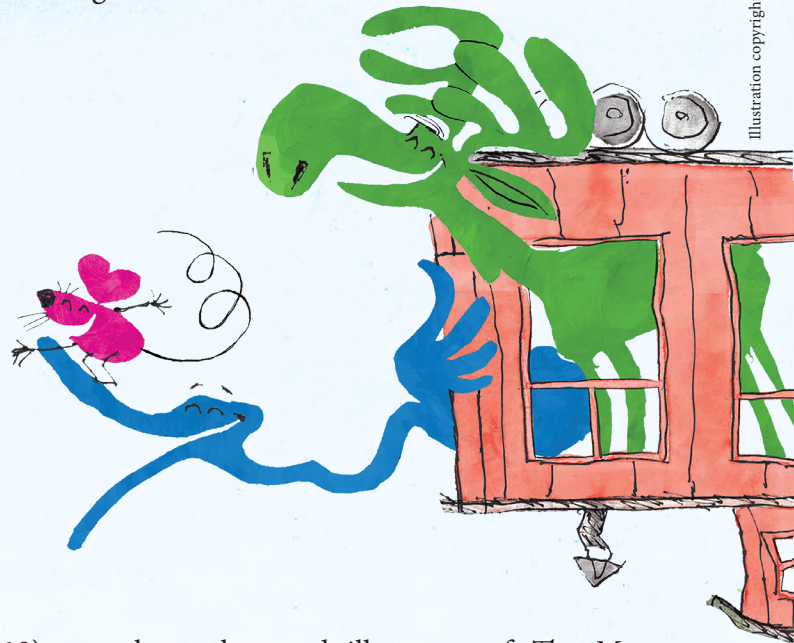


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## ABOUT THE CREATORS

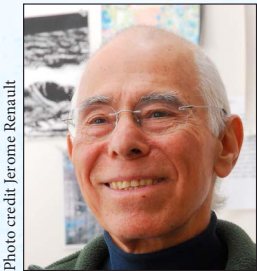


Photo credit Jerome Renault

**Mordicai Gerstein** (1935–2019) was the author and illustrator of *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*, winner of the Caldecott Medal. Four of his books have been named *New York Times* Best Illustrated Books of the Year. As a child, Gerstein was inspired by reproductions of fine art that his mother cut out of *Life* magazine and by children's books from the library: "I looked at Rembrandt and Superman, Matisse and Bugs Bunny, and began to make my own pictures." After attending Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles, he was hired by an animated cartoon studio where he designed characters and thought up ideas for TV commercials.



**Jeff Mack** is the author and illustrator of many books for young readers, including *Just a Story*, among many others. He has also illustrated award-winning picture books and chapter books such as James Howe's *Bunnacula and Friends*. He lives in Western Massachusetts.

