Teacher’s Guide
The Story
A new volunteer has joined the Magical Animal Adoption Agency, and Clover's not too happy about it! Oliver Von Hoof is supposed to be an expert on magical animals, but he's barely older than Clover. How can he be an expert on anything? And it doesn't help that Mr. Jams keeps turning to Oliver instead of Clover for help with the animals.

When Mr. Jams is called away from the Agency on a secret mission, Clover and Oliver are put in charge of the Agency once again. But when Picnic the invisible puppy starts turning visible, and the Agency’s green cat, Dipity, begins to look white, Clover and Oliver realize that all of the amazing creatures are becoming ordinary. Even Oliver's trusty magical wands aren't enough to cure them! Will Oliver and Clover learn to work together in time to restore the animals’ magical powers?

Alexandra Boiger’s delightful illustrations shine in the third book of Kallie George’s The Magical Animal Adoption Agency series where an open heart can best the nastiest of spells.

About this Guide
These discussion questions and activities are designed to support the goal of helping students explore the book and their own creativity. Tap into the adventure of this story with language arts lessons in creative writing, character studies, and more.
About the author
Kallie George works as an author and editor in Vancouver, Canada, and she holds a master's degree in children's literature from the University of British Columbia. In addition to writing and editing, Kallie is a speaker and leads workshops for aspiring writers. If she wasn’t an author, she’s be a magical animal vet.

Visit her online at kalliegeorge.com.

About the illustrator
Alexander Boiger grew up in Munich, Germany, where she studied graphic design and then began a career in feature animation, allowing her to work for Warner Bros. UK and DreamWorks. Since transitioning to children’s books, she has illustrated numerous popular titles, including the first book in the Magical Animal Adoption Agency series, Clover’s Luck. Alexandra is also the author-illustrator of her debut, Max and Marla. She lives with her husband and daughter in California.

See more of her work online at alexandraboiger.com.
Book Talk:
Questions for thoughtful discussion

1. How are Oliver and Clover different? Describe. Is there anything they share in common?

2. Clover finds Oliver very annoying. What are some of the things he does that annoy her? Would they annoy you? What is one thing that you find VERY annoying?

3. Sir Walter Windsmith is Mr. Jams’s friend. He is a knight—but not the way you would expect a knight to be. How do you expect a knight to act? How is Sir Walter different? The same goes for the fairies, that come to the Agency later in the book. What are fairies like in most stories? How are these fairies different?

4. Mr. Jams and Sir Walter head off on a mission, without telling Clover and Oliver exactly what it is. What did YOU think it was at the beginning? What does it turn out to be?

5. Throughout the book, the animals are getting sick. What is happening to them?

6. Imagine this same sickness is affecting a dragon (although there are no dragons at the Agency). What would happen to the dragon? What do you think it would transform into? What about a griffin? What would happen to it?

7. Dr. Nettie Nurtch is the magical animal veterinarian. What is her personality? What does the vet think about magic and wands?

8. Clover sneaks into Oliver’s room, even though she shouldn’t. Why does she do this? She knows that it is not right—yet she doesn’t admit to snooping around. What big trouble does this secret cause?

9. Oliver is a magical animal expert, but he isn’t an expert in everything. What do we discover about Oliver at the end? How do Clover’s feelings change toward Oliver? Have you ever had a friend that wasn’t your friend at first? How did you become friends?

10. It turns out that Clover really is mostly jealous of Oliver. Why? Have you ever been jealous of someone, or someone jealous of you? Describe the situation.
Activities
for creative nourishment
Design your own Magical Animal First-Aid Kit

What might be inside? Are there sugar cubes to feed fairy horses? A magi-meter for testing magic levels of animals? Extra horseshoe for a unicorn? Extra dragon scale for a dragon? Maybe it is kit meant for one particular magical animal (like a fairy horse), or maybe it is a kit meant to look after many different kinds of magical animals! Draw what you think would be most useful!
Write a letter to Dr. Nettie Nurtch

Oh-no! You have a magical animal pet, and it is showing some strange sickly symptoms. Write a letter to Dr. Nettie Nurtch asking her advice.

Dr. Nettie Nurtch
Magical Animal Veterinarian,
The Hillside Hospital
Just Before Beyond, The Woods
Create a magical animal entry

Oliver Von Hoof is a magical animal expert that has written three volumes in the Magical Animal Encyclopedia. Clover and Oliver learn about the sun sprites from Volume 4: Rare and Risky Animals. Write an entry on a NEW rare and risky magical animal that you have discovered. Make sure you give it a name, describe what magical powers it has, and draw a picture of it.

Name:

Magical abilities:

[Blank lines for additional details and description]

[Blank lines for diagram or picture]
Design a merpet

Meg is a mermaid, who has lost her pet hippocampi, Neptune. (A hippocampi is a magical half-fish half-horse creature.) What other magical pets might a mermaid or merman have? Draw one below:
Write a magical animal poem

Sir Walter Windsmith would rather be a poet than a knight—even if he isn’t the best at rhyming! Write your own poem about magical animals below! The idea for this poem was inspired from a famous poem written by William Blake, which asks questions of a beautiful, mysterious and dangerous creature, the tiger. This is the first stanza of that poem:

Tiger Tiger burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?
In what distant deeps or skies,
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand, dare seize the fire?

Now write a poem in which you are asking questions of either one, or more beautiful and mysterious creatures. They can be real or mythical creatures. For example: Unicorn, where did you get that sparkle in your horn? The questions you ask can be answered, or not, if you wish.
Make your own forest dragon

You will need a BIG piece of paper for this activity! Forest dragons are VERY special, especially since they have scales that are made partially out of leaves. Go outside and find a leaf. Glue it on a BIG piece of paper and design a forest dragon around it. Then write a story below about what happens next with the forest dragons at the Agency!