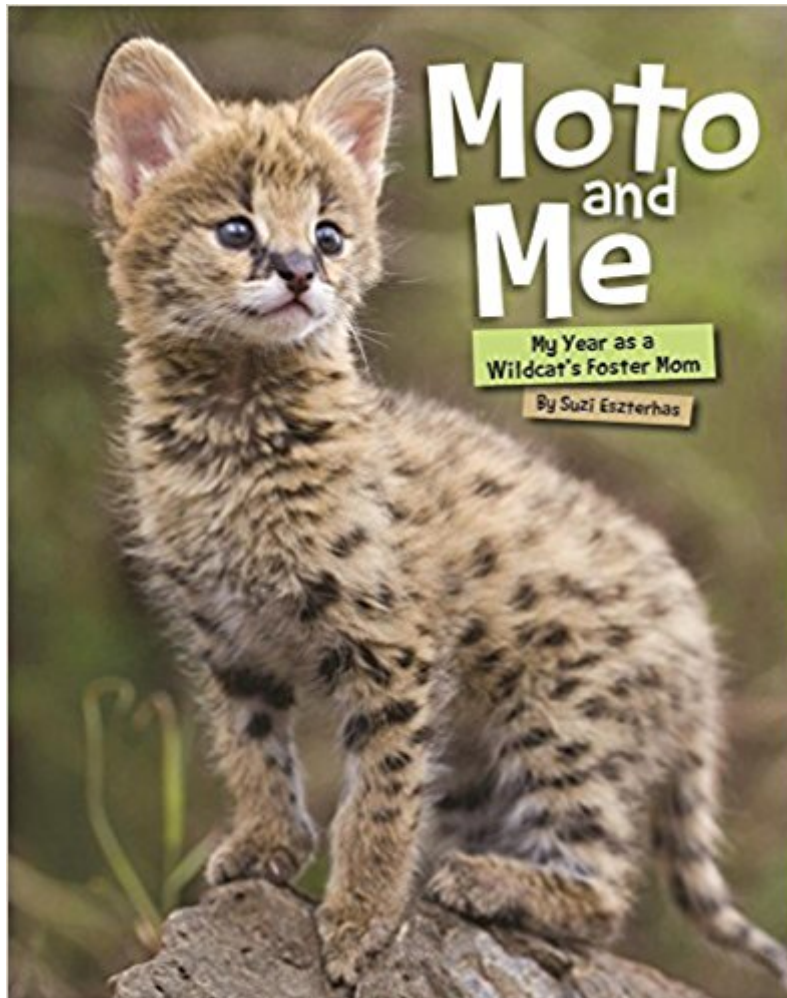




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Moto And Me: My Year As A Wildcat's Foster Mom



Synopsis

Moto and Me tells the remarkable firsthand story of wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas's care for an orphaned baby serval—a small, spotted wildcat—in Kenya. When a grass fire separates the serval from his family, a ranger asks Suzi, who is living in a bush camp and is skilled with animals, to be the serval's foster mom. The book chronicles Suzi's tender care of Moto, including how she feeds, bathes, and plays with him, and helps him develop hunting skills. Her goal is to help him learn how to survive on his own in the wild. After 6 months, he is ready to leave—a difficult good-bye, but exactly what Suzi had worked for. Stunning photography illustrates this touching and rare wildlife rescue story.

LEVELING Grade Range: 2-6
Fountas & Pinnell: P
Lexile: 860
COMMON

COREW.3.1,2,2a,2b,4,7,8,10
L.3.3,4,4a,4b,4c,4d,5,5b,5c,6
SL.3.1,1a,1c,1d,2,3,4,6
RF.3.3,3a,3b,3c,3d,4,4a,4c
RI.3.1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10

Book Information

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Hardcover: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 7.7 x 0.3 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #303,529 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Travel > Africa > Kenya](#) #143 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa](#) #167 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Ecotourism](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

Customer Reviews

"A tender and heartwarming account that's certain to delight children, especially animal lovers." (School Library Journal)"Photos of Moto, both as a fluffy-faced baby and an active, handsome adult, are the clear scene-stealers, but plenty of interesting facts on servals are included. More than one reader will consider following in Eszterhas' footsteps." (Booklist)"A model of narrative nonfiction for

the elementary-age audience... an encouraging example of wildlife rescue and release with guaranteed child appeal." (Kirkus, STARRED REVIEW)"[Suzi Eszterhas's] passion for wild animals is, as always, evident and contagious. There's no way to describe the color photographs other than: SQUEEEEE...! Highly recommended for ages 7 to 10." (Ingram)"Tender...a vibrant, small-scale comeback story." (Publishers Weekly, STARRED REVIEW)"Woven throughout the story are facts about servals and their natural environment, and the photography is stunning." (Ithaca Child Magazine)

"Such a good idea for a book and such wonderful writing... I can't imagine how any kid could resist at least thumbing through the pages." (Betsy Bird , A Fuse #8 Production (SLJ))|"This appealing wildlife story is told with authentic detail by a talented author/photographer with expert credentials... Highly Recommended." (Canadian Review of Materials)

animal lovers delight!

My daughter told me that I needed to write a really long review about this book because it was so good! This book is an easy to read chapter book that my daughter and I very much enjoyed reading together. My daughter is crazy about animal stories especially cats so this book was a great hit. As you might expect since this book was written by a wildlife photographer, the pictures are amazing! You really want to reach out your hand and pet Moto. My daughter and I neither one knew much about servals when we started and we were shocked to learn that serval kittens do not know how to go to the bathroom on their own. "When their mom cleans their bottoms, the feel of her warm, wet tongue tells their bodies that it is time to go." We both heartily agreed that we are glad this is not the case for human babies!! I remember watching Born Free when I was little and I was sad when the Adamsons had to leave Elsa, so I was a little worried I would feel a bit sad at the end of this book. Actually, Eszterhas does a great job of making the end feel triumphant rather than sad. Eszterhas has taken a lot of amazing photographs of wild animals and their babies and we enjoyed looking online at those pictures as well. We also learned some about endangered animals online including the pangolin which I had never even heard of previously! Altogether this book is a winner!

I'm going to give you three good reasons why you're going to go buy this book. 1. A portion of the royalties from sales of the book will be donated to the Mara Conservancy to help protect Moto's home. 2. LOOK AT THAT FACE. 3. LOOK AT IT. Now that I've clearly and concisely argued my

point. This book is amazing. Told quickly and effectively, as all children's nonfiction needs to be, it's the story of the world's most flippin' adorable baby serval, and the year Suzi Eszterhas spent fostering him while taking photographs in the wild in Kenya. The story of Mama Serval having to leave her baby behind is literally like two paragraphs and I was tearing up. I'm so soft. Maybe if I couldn't see the baby face, it would've been easier to handle. So much can be learned about wild animals in these few pages, and it's just such a sweet, fun story. Kids will be wondering about Moto, running in the wild and making new adorable fluffy faced bitey babies.

Moto, is a wildcat, a Serval, from Kenya. When he is found at approximately 2 weeks old by tourists, he is given to the author Suzi Eszterhas, a wildlife photographer. She is asked by the Rangers to foster the kitten. Her goal is to look after him, but to assist him to become independent so he can survive in the wild. There are beautiful photographs that add to the narrative of what Suzi does to help Moto learn to be an independent adult. There is a section at the back that gives facts about servals. I had never heard of this type of cat before, so found the information fascinating. It is important that the book teaches that fostering a wild animal is not the same as having a pet. That is something that children need to learn. This book would be a great addition to a school library and could be used in different ways. The publisher generously provided me with a copy of this book via Netgalley.

I'm always on the lookout for non-fiction books about animals to share with the students in the 2nd grade classroom where I work. They are voracious readers in general but they seem to especially enjoy reading about animals, rescues in particular. I wish I'd received a print review copy just so I could have shared this one with them, without a doubt this would be a favorite. Moto is so cute and his story shows how important it is for baby animals to be with their mothers. I also found it to be an exciting way to learn how much work caring for an animal is as well as what happens when a wild animal is rehabilitated and able to return to their natural life cycle. With lovely photographs and fascinating facts I think this would be great for children in the 2nd-4th grade levels. Even as an adult I enjoyed it. Notes: Review copy received through NetGalley.

Title: Moto and Me: My Year as a Wildcat's Foster Mom
Author/Photographer: Suzi Eszterhas
Publisher: Owlkids Books
Published: 4-15-2017
Pages: 40
ISBN: 9781771472425
Reviewed For: NetGalley and the Publisher
Reviewed By: DelAnne
Rating: 4.5 Stars
Think a modern Born Free. This is a story I will always love to read. Someone loving nature enough to take a break from their

life to help a wild animal to return to the wild. Told in simple to read and follow along text. Young readers can enjoy sharing Suzi's year long adventure teaching Moto how to survive in the wild with their family and friends. The numerous photographs enhance young readers enjoyment of this delightfully fun read. My rating of Moto and Me is 4.5 out of 5 stars.

Moto and Me, a personal inside look at an animal rescuer and the Serval that she raises to return to the wild is the first book by Suzi Eszterhas for me to have read. To say it is wonderful or amazing is an understatement. The text and illustrations give the reader insight not only to the Serval cat but to the author as well. It conveys the feelings of a foster animal mom with the "wildness" of the African Masai Mara's savanna. Fantastic photographs with open, honest details that would delight young readers as well as older; it is simply beautifully done. As having thirty years in elementary education, I believe this is one of the best children's animal nonfiction books I have ever read. The publisher through Net Galley provided a copy.

I knew Ms. Eszterhas through her wonderful photos. I never guessed her voice would shine just as brightly...but it does. This book has wow-power--an appealing story with visual cuteness galore. In addition to homes, it belongs in zoos' education departments, organizations that foster wildlife, and those who promote the "keep wildlife wild" message.

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