

A RIDDLE OF EELS

DISCOVER MORE WITH

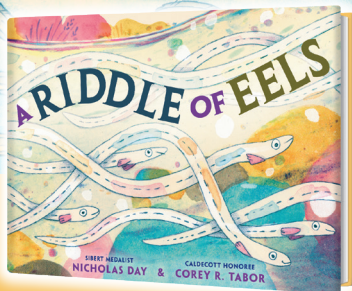
While reading

A Riddle of Eels, we learn about

Johannes Schmidt, who sailed around studying eels and eventually declared that the birthplace of eels is the Sargasso Sea. This is one of the few facts we know about eels. Is there an animal that feels like a mystery to you? Is there an animal you would like to learn more about, just like Johannes Schmidt did? Let's discover more!

What animal would you like to learn more about?

Go to your school or local library and find a few books about your chosen animal. Read the books with a grown-up or on your own. What did you learn? Write what you discovered on the lines below. When you are ready, share your new learning with your classmates!



He'd spent his life following the eel. And yet it had remained a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.



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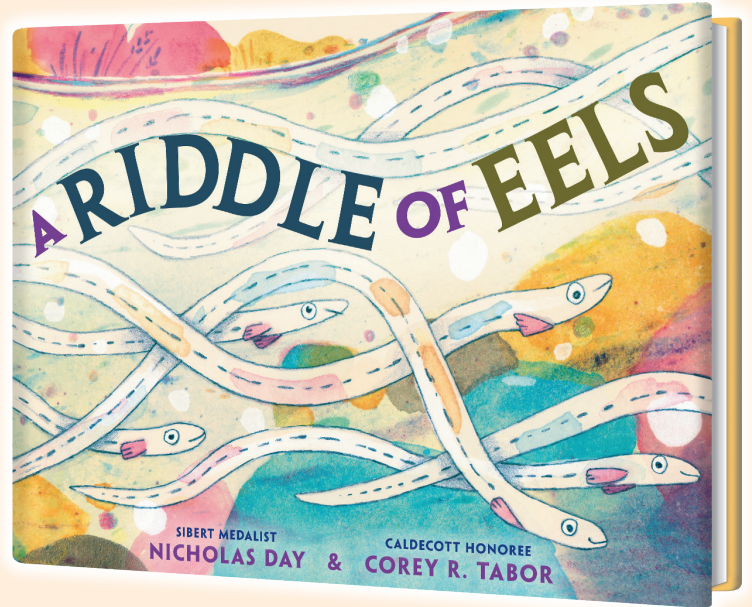
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ABOUT THE BOOK

You'd think a book about eels would tell you everything you need to know about eels: where they're born, how they grow, where they live, where they die. But the truth is far stranger: the more we *think* we know about eels, the more the mysterious creature wriggles away, leaving even experts scratching their heads.

And maybe this book tells you a few things about eels. We know, for instance, that they are fish even though they look like snakes. But how can we ever know if we've got the complete picture on anything? Why are we so certain of our knowledge . . . till we're not?

With humor and expressive, bright illustrations, this book blends science and history to illuminate a real-life mystery that has puzzled great minds from Aristotle to Freud. Perfect for inquisitive readers and fans of *weird-but-true* stories, here is a celebration of curiosity and the unknown by a Sibert Medalist and a Caldecott Honoree. It reminds us that some questions are more magical when they don't have simple answers.



AUTHOR BIO

Nicholas Day is the author of *The Mona Lisa Vanishes*, which received the Robert F. Sibert Medal and the Boston Globe–Horn Book Award for Nonfiction, and *A World Without Summer*, which was a Robert F. Sibert Honor book and a YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Finalist. He lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, with his family.

ILLUSTRATOR BIO

Corey R. Tabor is the author and illustrator of more than twenty books for children, including the Caldecott Honor-winning *Mel Fell*; the Fox series, which has garnered three Geisel Awards and a Geisel Honor; the Sir Ladybug graphic novel series, and the picture books *Bear for a Day*; *Cranky, Crabby Crow (Saves the World)*; and *Snail Crossing*. Corey lives in Tacoma, Washington with his family.