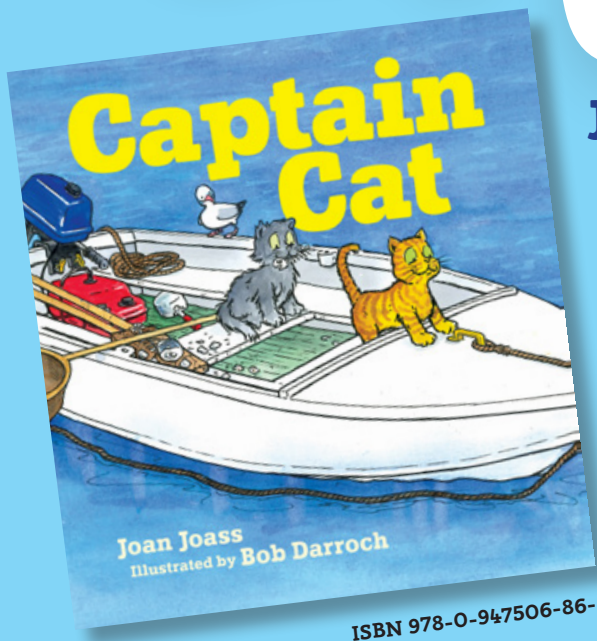


Captain Cat



ISBN 978-0-947506-86-5

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Illustrated by **Bob Darroch**

Dad forgets to tie his boat to the jetty properly when he returns from a fishing trip. The family cats, Fluff and Scout, are curious about what he's left in the boat and they accidentally become cat sailors!

Oratia 
**Teacher
Resource**

Published by Oratia Books
www.oratia.co.nz

Questions

- * In the story, what was Dad's favourite hobby? What is *your* dad's favourite hobby? What is *your* favourite hobby?
- * What did Fluff and Scout do each time Dad went out in his boat? Why?
- * How was Mum feeling when Dad was late back from fishing? Why do you think she felt like this?
- * Why didn't the grown-ups notice the cats in the boat?
- * Who is 'The Coastguard' and how might they have been able to help save the cats?
- * Find out what SPCA stands for. What does the SPCA do?
- * Who saved the cats and how? (There are two answers to this question!)
- * When Mum and Dad got back to the jetty, their arms were sore. Why?
- * A line in the story says, 'Our heroes, red-faced, smiled and waved.' Who were the heroes? Give two reasons why they may have been red-faced.
- * Explain why Fluff and Scout now 'prefer to stay inside'.



Activities

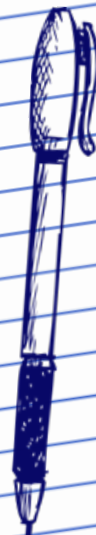
- * Look at the picture of Dad in his boat (on the next page). Use a ruler and draw lines to label these things on a boat: **motor**, **bow**, **stern**, **port side**, **starboard side**, **petrol can**, **oars**. Can you label any other items in the boat?



- * Name **three safety things** you should *always* have with you when you go out in a boat.
- * Research some **safe-boating rules** for small boats.
- * Make a **collage** of Fluff and Scout in the boat OR some of the children in the book playing on and around the Joneses jetty.

Writing

- * Do you have a cat or another sort of pet? What is his/her name? **Describe** what he/she looks like. Now write a **short story** describing the things they like to do, especially the silly and funny things.
- * Write a **cinquain** or a **short rhyming poem** about your cat (or other pet).
- * Pretend Fluff and Scout can talk. Now write a **short story about their conversation** with each other during their adventure.
- * Pretend you are a reporter and **write a front page newspaper article** about the rescue of Fluff and Scout.



A cat for captain?
That's not right!
And not a human
being in sight ...



