

ANDREW & JESSICA  
HANSEN & ROBERTS

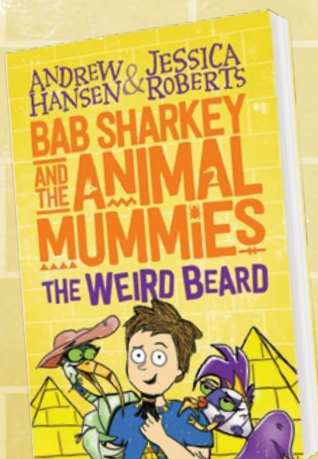
BAB SHARKEY  
AND THE ANIMAL  
MUMMIES

AN AMAZINGLY INTERESTING  
DISCUSSION AND ACTIVITY GUIDE



The last thing twelve-year-old Bab Sharkey expected to find on his Mum's dig in Egypt was a magical beard that attaches itself to the **smartest** person around. Weirder still, it attaches itself to **HIS** face!

But the ancient and evil Unpharaoh is determined to get her beard back and rule over the animal mummies forever ...



**BAB SHARKEY AND THE  
ANIMAL MUMMIES:  
THE WEIRD BEARD**

9781760650001

May 2018

**BAB SHARKEY AND THE  
ANIMAL MUMMIES:  
THE GIANT MOTH MUMMY**

9781760650018

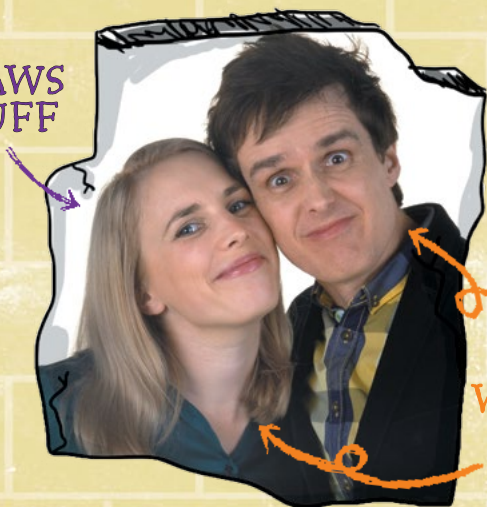
September 2018

**PERFECT**  
for readers  
**8-10!**

## ▲ @ ANDREW HANSEN 🐟 📖

When Andrew isn't writing about Animal Mummies, he writes and performs comedy. Working with his friends in a group called The Chaser, he's written funny newspapers and books. The Chaser have also made TV shows with silly names like *Media Circus*, *The Hamster Wheel*, *The Chaser's War On Everything*, and even one called *CNNNN* which has more Ns in a row than any other show.

DRAWS  
STUFF



WRITES  
STUFF

## 🐟 ▲ JESSICA ROBERTS 📖 ✍️

Jessica writes, draws and films stories. Originally from a little town called Kyneton, Jessica grew up surrounded by an odd collection of pets including dogs, quails, chickens, sheep, goats, rabbits and a donkey who'd bite holes in your clothes if you weren't careful. During a trip to Egypt, Jessica got the idea for this story when she saw real mummified animals in a spooky museum.

# THE REAL STORY OF ANIMAL MUMMIES



This is an Ibis mummy like me!



Historians believe around **70 MILLION** animal mummies were made between 800 BC and 400 AD.

There are **THREE REASONS** animal mummies were created: pets that were buried with their owners; animals sold to the public as offerings to the gods; and sacred temple animals preserved for religious reasons.

Some animal mummies have been found to only contain part of an animal, or **NO ANIMAL AT ALL!** Historians suspect this is because consumer demand for animal mummies outweighed supply.



Meow! A CAT mummy!

Crikey, a **CROCODILE!**



Almost every type of animal that lived in Ancient Egypt has been found as an animal mummy, including birds, bulls, cats, dogs, fish, scarab beetles, hippos, snakes and even a 1 ½ metre long **NILE CROCODILE!**



Hatmehyt was also called "The Chief of Fish"!

A sculpture of HATMEHYT



When animals had specific markings Ancient Egyptians believed they were **INCARNATIONS OF GODS**. Much more care was taken in mummifying and burying these special animals.

FISH mummies (like Scaler) represented HATMEHYT, goddess of life and protection.



Ibis mummies (like Prong) represented THOTH, the god of magic and wisdom.

An illustration of THOTH

You can print this page as a student handout at [animal-mummies.com](http://animal-mummies.com)



# BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS



- Bab finds the animal mummies scary when he first meets them. How does he overcome his fear?
- What are the characteristics of a good leader and a bad leader?
- Discuss how Bab and the Unpharaoh demonstrate these characteristics.
- How does the relationship between Bab, Scaler and Prong start and change throughout the book? How does this relationship affect Bab?
- The authors use a number of puns throughout the story – can you find all of them?
- Discuss how Bab demonstrates the following qualities:
  - Resourcefulness (finding clever solutions)
  - Courage
  - Intelligence
  - Friendliness
- Bab discovers the beard can take the form of whatever he needs. Come up with some ideas of how Bab could use the beard to protect Mumphis or just to have fun.



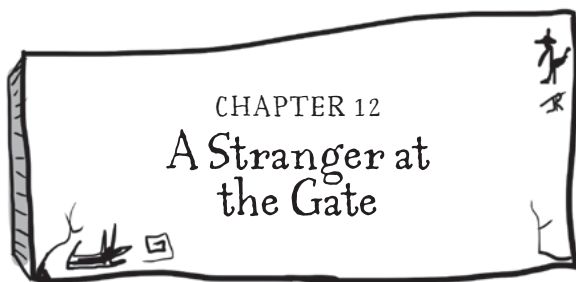
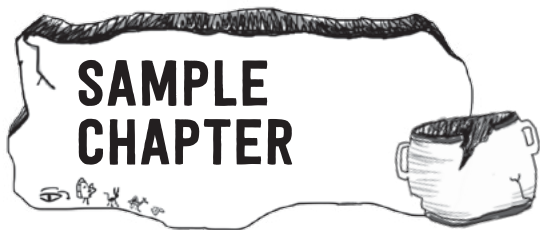
**Write** a story in pictures, like the story of Mumphis's history on page 101. Share your story with a partner to see how well they can interpret your story.

**Keep** a vocab journal while reading the book – make a list of all the words and phrases you are unfamiliar with and find the meaning in a dictionary.

**Write** another adventure Bab Sharkey and the Animal Mummies could have together. Illustrate your story in a similar way to *The Weird Beard*.

**Research** mummies and create an informational poster including information on what the ancient Egyptians mummified and why.

**Ancient Egyptians** believed their gods and goddesses could live anywhere and in anything, so they would create idols (mummies, artwork and statues) to worship them. Research the gods and goddesses of Ancient Egypt and identify which animal would have been mummified for each god.



**BONG!**  
**BONG!**  
**BONG!**

There were three more knocks on the pair of town gates.

“Who is it?” honked Prong.

“Me,” said a posh, silky voice from behind the gates.

The left gate had a small peephole in the shape



of a falcon's eye. Prong flipped the peephole cover open. Because of her long beak she couldn't press



her eye up to the hole, so instead she stuck her beak all the way through it.

“Who is ‘me?’” she asked.

“You?” said the voice behind the gates. “I believe you’re Prong the Ibis Mummy.”

“I am, but you said you’re ‘me,’” honked Prong. “So who am I? Good golly, you must be me! Prong! I’ll open the gates.”

Prong unlatched the gates and, yanking with her beak, pulled one of them open. It hadn’t opened in thousands of years, and went **SCREEEEEE!** because it was so rusty. The gate was so huge, Prong could only open it a tiny bit.

The gap was not wide enough for anyone to pass through, but it was wide enough for Prong to see through. Standing outside the gate was a floppy-looking human. That’s the only way Prong could think of him: *floppy-looking*. She peered more closely. He looked a bit like Bab!

Prong honked in amazement.

In fact, as you might have guessed, this person was really Cainus the Jackal wearing a disguise. Cainus was dressed head to toe in a loose-fitting onesie that resembled Bab – if Bab had been made entirely of cottonwool. He had a woolly Pharaoh’s Beard, loose shirt and shorts, and large fluffy shoes.



“It is I,” declared Cainus from inside his Bab suit.

“Babe! I mean Bob. What’s his name? Bab.”

“Hail, Pharaoh Bab!” said Prong. “Hang on, I was with you a moment ago. How did you get out there?”

Cainus scratched his Bab head. “I, um, ducked home to my, er, human boy palace. To grab some Babby things.”

“You look a bit floppy,” said Prong.

“I’m, er ...” Cainus paused to think. “Dehydrated! The desert, you see. Now let me in!”

Prong flapped her bandaged wings and flew over the gate. She picked Cainus up in her claws and flew back over again, dumping him inside the gates. In doing so, her claws tore away part of Cainus’s disguise, revealing one of his ears.

Prong gawped at the ear. “You seem to have grown a long, dark ear,” she said.

“Er, that’s ...” spluttered Cainus, “that’s a spare Pharaoh’s Beard. I always carry two.”

“Smart,” said Prong. “Now let’s go to Dustburgers!”

But Cainus scampered away down a lane.

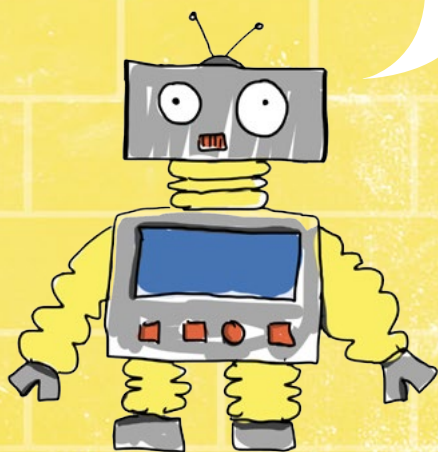
“All right,” she said, “I guess we *won’t* walk together then!”

And she waddled off another way towards the restaurant.



Beep-boop find more  
fascinating info here:

**ANIMAL-MUMMIES.COM**



#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**WALKER BOOKS**