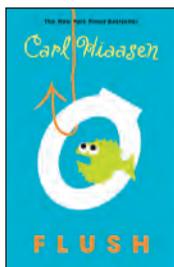
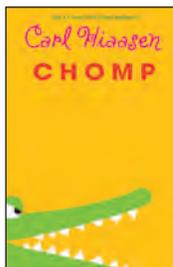


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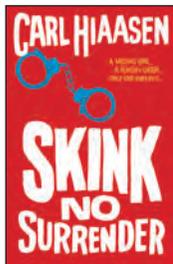
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MULTIMEDIA CONNECTION!

Share the movie version of *Hoot* with your students and discuss the similarities and differences between the book and the movie.

HOOT

Carl Hiaasen

Will Roy be able to survive the attention of his class bully, figure out who the barefoot running boy is, and save the baby owls from the development of a new pancake house? Yes! He does all that and more. This is a tremendously funny ecological mystery adventure—a perfect way to bring social action and the sciences into literacy learning. There is something for every student.

Analyzing Humor in Writing

Hoot is hilarious and a wonderful tool for teaching how writers can effectively use humor in their writing. Watch the Ted Ed video about dramatic irony (ed.ted.com/lessons/in-on-a-secret-that-s-dramatic-irony-christopher-warner) with your students. After watching the video, define dramatic irony as a class and then read or review chapter 15, in which Roy tricks Dana into going to the Mother Paula's construction site. Show your students how to identify dramatic irony in this chapter. What secret are we, the readers, "in on"? What do we know that Dana does not know? How does this dramatic irony lead to an amusing experience for the reader? Next, have students work in pairs to find dramatic irony in other parts of the novel (e.g., the hospital scene in chapter 12, Beatrice telling Roy's mom they need beef on page 114). Have the pairs report back to the class which scenes they found, how those scenes create humor, and other ways the dramatic irony affects the telling. Finally, ask students to brainstorm other novels, TV shows, movies, plays, etc., in which the writers use dramatic irony and to what effect.

- 🎧 Correlates to Common Core State Standards:
R.CCR.4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
RL.5.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

Discussing the Theme of Making Change

Carl Hiaasen writes passionately about his Florida home, and that passion seeps into his characters in *Hoot*. Roy, Mullet Fingers, and Beatrice care deeply about their local burrowing owls, and the theme of protecting the natural environment is woven throughout the novel. What strategies do Roy, Mullet Fingers, and Beatrice use to save the owls, and how do these strategies compare to one another? Research some environmental or conservation concerns in your town or state. As a class, investigate ways students and other young people can get involved and help. Students might create brochures to distribute in their school (and others!), listing conservation organizations that accept student volunteers; start a petition; host a student webinar or podcast; create or join a club. Roy, Beatrice, and Mullet Fingers effected change, and you can too!

- 🎧 Correlates to Common Core State Standards:
R.CCR.2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
RL.5.2: Determine the theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.

More teaching activities available at [RHTeachersLibrarians.com](https://www.RHTeachersLibrarians.com)

🎧 = Listening Library Audio Available