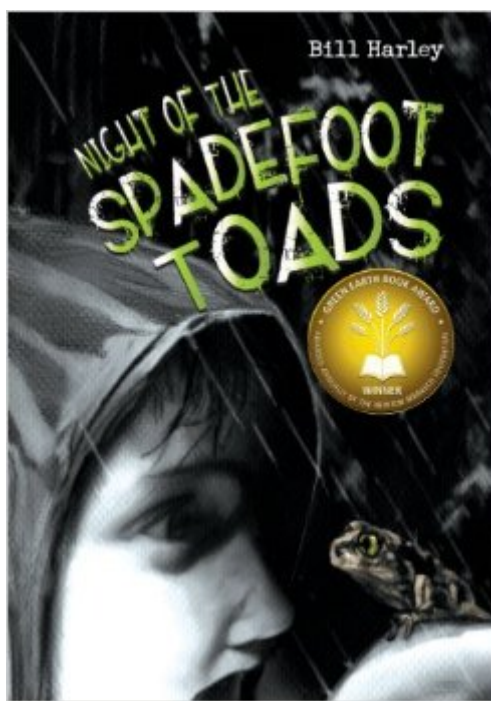


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# Night Of The Spadefoot Toads



## Synopsis

When his father takes a new job in Massachusetts, Ben Moroney must leave behind his best friend Tony, a western banded gecko named Lenny, and worst of all, the desert home he has loved and explored. Ben's adjustment to his new environment is not going well until he unexpectedly finds a kindred spirit in his eccentric fifth-grade science teacher, Mrs. Tibbets. Together they explore the varied habitats on her rural property, and she introduces him to the elusive and endangered Eastern spadefoot toads that make their home there. When Ben discovers that Mrs. Tibbets's relatives plan to sell the land to developers, he knows he must try to stop them. As Ben's obsession with saving the spadefoot toads habitat grows, his schoolwork suffers and his relationships with his family and new friends are strained. One foolish, impulsive act threatens to destroy his friendship with Mrs. Tibbets and maybe even her career. But just when it seems things can't get any worse, Ben finds a way to meet his responsibilities to the people around him and learns what it means to feel at home.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,381 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving #13 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Frogs & Toads #119 in Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## Customer Reviews

Ben is having a hard time adjusting to the move from Tucson, Arizona to Edenboro, Massachusetts. He misses his best friend and the pet lizard he left with his friend. On top of that some of his treasured things he had carefully packed away for transport did not make it to his new home. Yep, it was lost in transport. So Ben is not a happy camper! Ben has been attending his new school for

about two months and still hasn't made any real friends. Plus there is an annoying loud mouth bully that he tries real hard to stay out of that guys radar. His geography teacher has given the class a project to do about habitats and he has chosen Arizona because he knows all about the different habitats and creatures in the Tucson area deserts. His science teacher, Mrs Tibbets turns out to be pretty cool for a really old teacher. Come to find out she is very interested in nature especially that of the wooded area between her house and Ben's house. She hired Ben to do some yard work for her and afterwards they explored the woods behind her house. She told him of one special place in particular and that was a vernal pond where an endangered species called the spadefoot toads came to lay and fertilize their eggs. This is the only time they came out from underground. A very rare occurrence. The only problem is she is being forced to sell her property which will result in destroying the habitat of not only the spadefoot toads but that of many other creatures. Can Ben do anything to stop this destruction? After all he is only a fifth grader. What will happen to the spadefoot toads? It's not like they can pack up and move somewhere else. It is so refreshing reading about this little guy that has so much passion about saving this habitat.

Once You Start Reading You Won't Let Go! I just finished reading Night of the Spadefoot Toads by Bill Harley. This is a book that will knock you off your feet! I love this book so much I could read it a hundred times. This book is mostly about the main character Ben and how he does everything he can to save the spadefoots, while getting a hang of his new home, Massachusetts. One reason I love this book is because of the tension and drama. The main character Ben, faces a lot of challenges, especially, since he just moved from Tucson, Arizona to Massachusetts. Frankie, a bully, has a conflictual relationship with Ben. But surprisingly, I think Frankie's actions boosted Ben's confidence. Also, fitting in at a new school is something I've experienced. Trust me it's hard. And that's just the beginning. Another reason why I love this book is because of how Bill Harley gives a good rising action. Throughout the book, Ben gets overwhelmed with all the issues, conflicts and challenges he faces. I was really shocked when Ben's best friend, Toby, hung out with Larry (jerk). If it wasn't enough, Lenny the lizard died. Because of this, I'm starting to think that because Toby hung out with Larry too much Lenny died. Will Ben be able to finish his report despite dealing with all these problems? My last and favorite reason is how Ben develops a strong relationship with Ms. Tibbets, his science teacher. Bill Harley sure knows how to write a good book! The relationship starts when Ben and Ms. Tibbets went to the vernal pool and saw the spadefoots (which are endangered). There they seem really close. But what really touched me was how Ben stepped in to help Ms. Tibbets with her big problem (which you'll see if you

choose to purchase this book) and never gave up. Will Tabitha (Ms.

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Night of the Spadefoot Toads Mary Higgins Clark; The Night Collection (Silent Night & All Through the Night) [Abridged, Audiobook] [Audio CD] Frogs, Toads & Turtles: Take Along Guide (Take Along Guides) Frogs and Toads and Tadpoles, Too! (Rookie Read-About Science) Flying Frogs and Walking Fish: Leaping Lemurs, Tumbling Toads, Jet-Propelled Jellyfish, and More Surprising Ways That Animals Move The Frogs and Toads of North America: A Comprehensive Guide to Their Identification, Behavior, and Calls Toads and Tessellations (Charlesbridge Math Adventures) Toads and Tessellations (Charlesbridge Math Adventures (Hardcover)) Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads The Frogs and Toads All Sang Toads and Diamonds Every Night's a Saturday Night: The Rock 'n' Roll Life of Legendary Sax Man Bobby Keys Night Night, Little Tiger Night-Night, Little Pookie (Pookie Books) Good Night Dump Truck (Good Night Our World) Nighty Night Construction Trucks (Nighty Night Bedtime Books Series) (Volume 2) Good Night Planes (Good Night Our World) Good Night Trains (Good Night Our World) Good Night Vancouver (Good Night Our World) Good Night Chicago (Good Night Our World)

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