

LEVELED BOOK • J

# The Creature Constitution

**Multi  
level  
J•M•P**

Written by Torran Anderson  
Illustrated by Chris Baldwin

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## **Independence Hall**

**Philadelphia, 1786**

None of the creatures in the hall were able to sleep.

Every night, the mice would run through the spiders' webs.

Then the spiders would chase the mice.

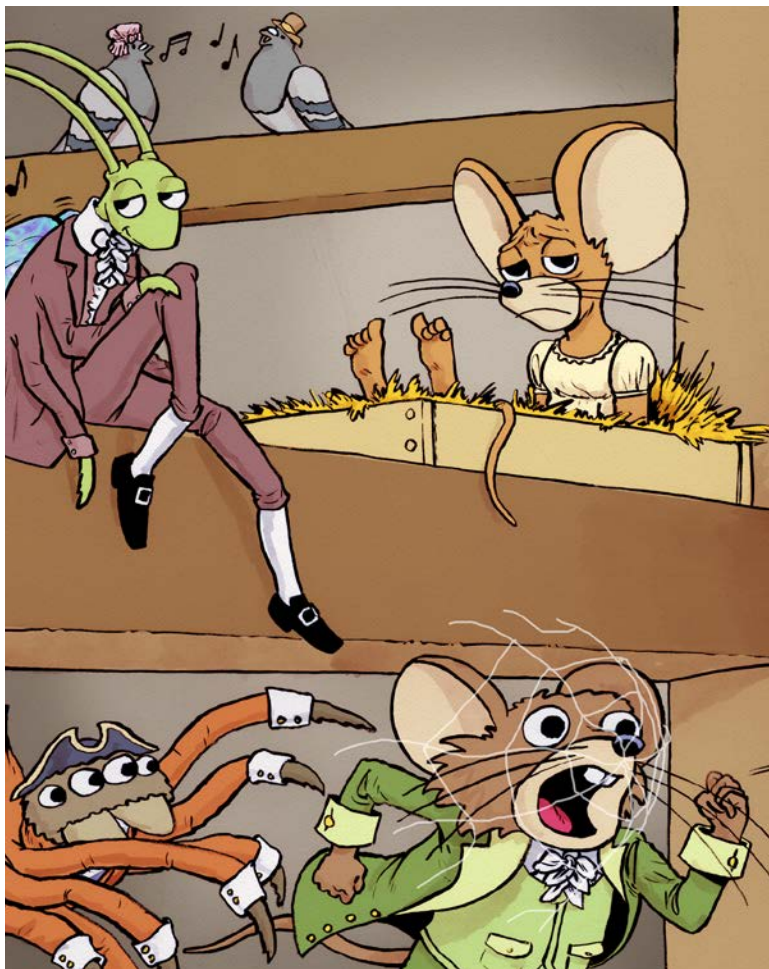


The crickets would chirp all night.

The pigeons in the clock tower  
would start singing early in the  
morning.

Everyone was **tired** and unhappy.





Maddy the Mouse had the biggest ears in the hall.  
She heard everything.  
She worried that no one would ever sleep.



Then the humans began meeting  
in the hall.

Maddy sneaked into the room and  
listened as they talked.

They needed something with **rules**  
that everyone would follow.

They called it a **constitution**.



Maddy thought a constitution  
was a great idea.  
She called a meeting.  
Every creature came.  
There were so many animals  
that they could barely move.



“The humans have a great idea,”  
Maddy said.

“They are writing a constitution.  
We should have our own  
constitution.”





“What’s a constitution?” asked  
a pigeon.

“It’s a list of rules for us to live by,”  
Maddy said.

“We need rules so we can all sleep.”  
All the creatures **agreed**.



“There are too many of us  
to talk about the rules right now,”  
Maddy said.

“Each group should pick five  
creatures to talk for them at  
a meeting tomorrow.  
They will decide what the new rules  
will be.”



The groups each went back  
to where they lived.  
They picked animals to speak  
for their group.



The next day, the chosen creatures met.

Everyone listened to each other's problems.

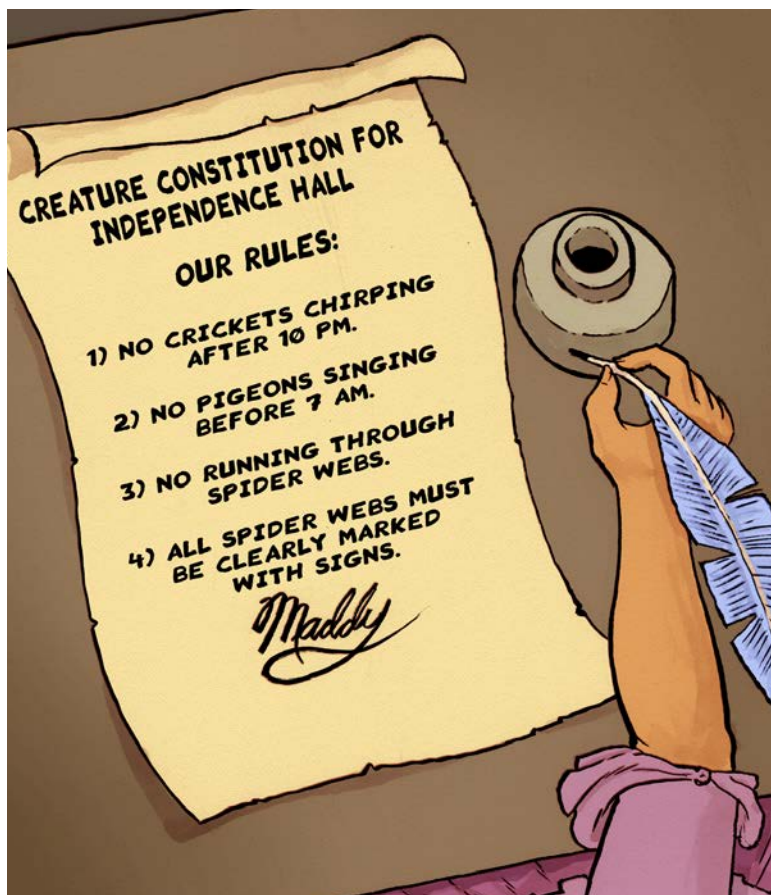




When the groups started to **argue**, Maddy reminded them to work together.

Each group then shared the rules that they thought would let everyone sleep better.

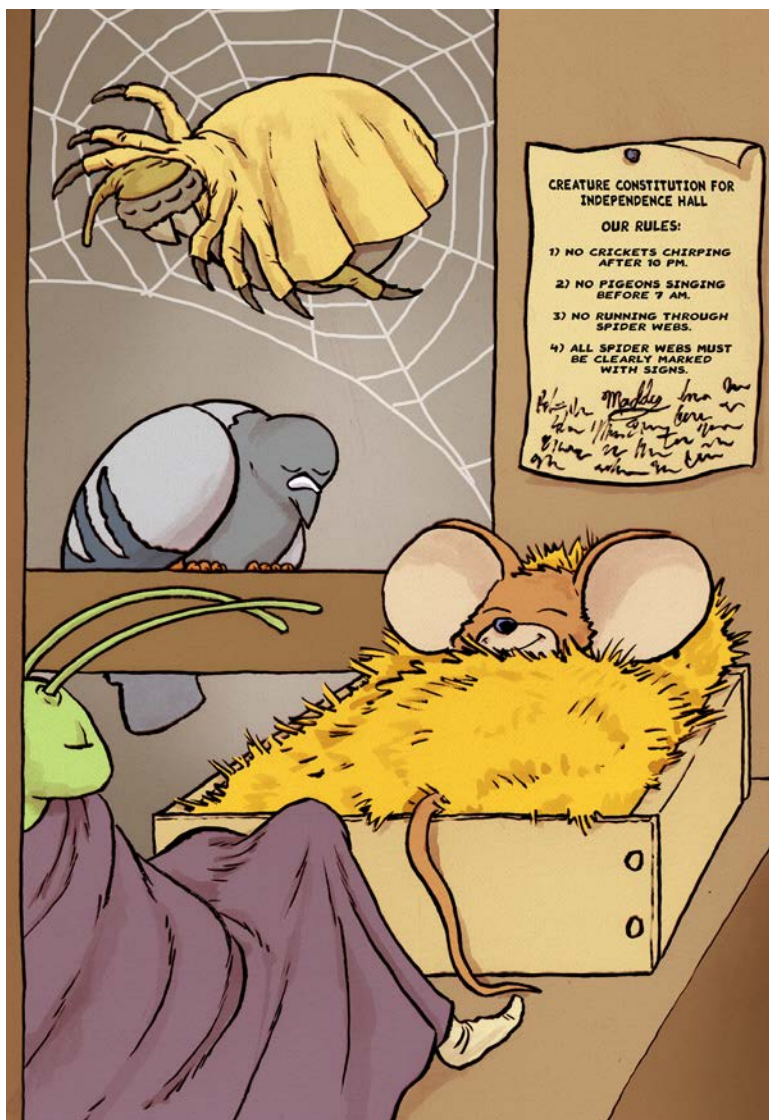
They came up with rules that everyone could agree on.



Maddy had found a way for them to all work together.

The creatures asked Maddy to be their leader.

They would bring new problems to Maddy and the other groups.



The night they **signed** their constitution, the creatures in the building all had a good night's sleep.

## Glossary

<b>agreed</b> (v.)	to have the same opinion (p. 9)
<b>argue</b> (v.)	to disagree; to give reasons for or against something (p. 13)
<b>constitution</b> (n.)	the basic laws of a state or nation that tell how the government is run (p. 6)
<b>rules</b> (n.)	things that tell what is or is not allowed (p. 6)
<b>signed</b> (v.)	wrote one's name on something (p. 15)
<b>tired</b> (adj.)	in need of rest or sleep (p. 4)



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## Correlation

LEVEL J	
Fountas & Pinnell	J
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*A Reading A-Z Level J Leveled Book*

*Word Count: 331*



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