This is a Moose
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Moose? Yes, Moose! When a movie director tries to capture the life of a moose on film, he's in for a big surprise. It turns out the moose has a dream bigger than just being a moose—he wants to be an astronaut and go to the moon. Great for encouraging students to dream big and think outside the box.

Lexile: 500    AR Level: 2.8

Author Website: http://www.hachettebookgroup.com/titles/richard-t-morris/this-is-a-moose/9780316213608/
Illustrator Website: http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/childrens_books/
Book Trailer/Author interview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkLefBuX7I
Nonfiction Title: Moose – by Kate Riggs
Making a Movie – by John Lockyer
Careers – by Wendy Benger

Introduction: Have a discussion about what students dream they want to be when they grow older.

Story time Activities:
This is a great story for students to act out. They could act like the animal is really supposed to act and then the way the animal acts in the book. This is a great way to discuss how authors often give animals human like qualities.

Students could also draw a picture of their dream job and what they would like to be if they could do anything. Discuss why it is important to dream big and to make a plan for how you will accomplish your dreams.

Have the students create a story square or cartoon about one of the other animals in the book and how that animal is living its’ dream.

Compare and contrast the writing / language / vocabulary used for a movie script versus a storybook.

Students can act out and film the story. Assign students the job as a director, camera operator, etc. Teach them some of the filming terms used in the book.
Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think that duck was so upset with Moose?
   (Because Moose is changing Duck’s plan for his movie.)
2. How can planning for your dream help you to make it come true?
   (If you make a plan then you know what you need to accomplish the dream and you can work in small steps to make it a reality.)
3. How does the author use text features to help you understand what is going on behind the scenes?
   (The author uses word balloons coming from the sides of the pages.)
4. Has anyone ever told you you couldn't do something because you're a girl? Or a boy?
5. Have you ever thought about doing something that folks like you don't usually do? What is it? Will you care what anyone else thinks of your choice?