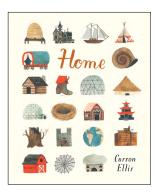


Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Home

Carson Ellis ISBN: 9781406359428

ARRP: \$24.95 NZRRP: \$27.99 April 2015 *Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

Walker Books Australia Locked Bag 22 Ph +61 2 9517 9577 Fax +61 2 9517 9997

Newtown, N.S.W., 2042

These notes were created by Steve Spargo. For enquiries please contact: educationwba@walkerbooks.com.au

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Outline:

Home might be a house in the country, an apartment in the city, or even a shoe. Home may be on the road or the sea, in the realm of myth, or in the artist's own studio. A meditation on the concept of home and a visual treat that invites many return visits, this loving look at the places where people live marks the picture book debut of Carson Ellis, acclaimed illustrator of the Wildwood series and artist for the indie band The Decemberists.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Carson Ellis previously illustrated *The Composer Is Dead* by Lemony Snicket and *Dillweed's Revenge* by Florence Parry Heide. She also collaborated with her husband, Colin Meloy, on the best-selling Wildwood series. Carson Ellis lives with her family outside Portland, Oregon.

How to use these notes:

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

These notes are for:

- Primary years F-3
- Ages 4+

Key Learning Areas:

EnglishArt

Example of:

Picture bookFiction

Themes/ Ideas:

- Home
- Belonging

National Curriculum Focus:*

English content descriptions include:

Foundation	Year 1	Year 2
ACELA1429	ACELA1447	ACELA
ACELA1431	ACELA1448	ACELA
ACELA1432	ACELA1449	ACELA
ACELA1434	ACELA1452	ACELT
ACELA1786	ACELA1453	ACELT
ACELA1440	ACELT1581	
ACELT1575	ACELT1582	
ACELT1783	ACELT1584	
ACELT1578	ACELT1586	
ΔCFIT1570	ACELV1658	

ACELY1661

ACELY1648

ACELA1463 ACELA1482 ACELA1465 ACELT1596 ACELA1469 ACELT1500 ACELT1587 ACELT1791 ACELT1590 ACELY1678 *Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.



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Discussion Questions and Activities

Before reading

- Prior to reading Home, examine the cover, title and back cover blurb. What do you think the book is about and why?
- What do you think this book might be about just from hearing the title? How do your ideas change when you see the cover? After reading the book, compare your initial thoughts to what the book is actually about. Discuss the phrase "you can't judge a book by its cover."
- What does the word "home" mean to you? Have a class discussion and create a mind map on the white board of each student's interpretation of "home".

Exploring the text

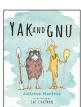
- Is Home an imaginative, informative or persuasive text?
 Is it a combination of more than one of these? How can you tell?
- "This is my home, and this is me. Where is your home? Where are you?"
 Draw a picture of you in your actual home and a picture of you in your dream home. Include things in the illustration that reflect your personality, likes, dislikes, interests and hobbies. Present the illustration of your dream home to the class, explaining why you designed it that way.
- There are several references to other stories in Home. Identify these references. Discuss with a partner what clues there were that showed the illustrator was referencing another story.
- There is a character that appears on every page. Which character is it? Where is it on each page? Why do you think the illustrator chose to include this character on each page?
- Homes suit the needs of the people or creatures that live in them. Choose several of the illustrations from the book and discuss what you think are the needs of the character that lives in that home. How does your home

- suit you and your family's needs?
- Home shows that many people and animals have different types of homes. Research what kind of homes the following animals or fictional characters might live in:
 - A whale
 - A cat
 - A bear
 - · Santa Claus
 - A bunyip
 - A dragon
- Use Google Maps Street View (http://maps.google.com.au) to view buildings from around the world. Choose an interesting building and write a short story or have a discussion about what type of person you think lives in that home. Give reasons why certain aspects of the building make you think that kind of person lives there.
- Carson Ellis asks the reader several questions in Home about who lives in certain homes. Come up with some imaginative answers to these questions based on clues in the illustrations. There are no right or wrong answers.
- Write a book review on Home. Include what you liked about the book, who you think would enjoy it the most and mention any other books you think are similar to Home.
- Choose one of the illustrations in Home and use it as a story starter. Write and illustrate a creative story about the person or animal that lives in that home. For example, you could write about the Moonian meeting an astronaut or about the folks that live on the road in a bus. After writing, edit your story for spelling, punctuation and grammar and then share it with the class.
- Visit your school library and find any books about a home or that have "home" in the title. Compare these books to *Home* and discuss how the different authors and illustrators deal with the topic differently.

Other great picture books from Walker Books



Mum Goes to Work Author: Libby Gleeson Illustrator: Leila Rudge 9781921529825 AU\$24.95/NZ\$27.99



Yak and Gnu Author: Juliette MacIver Illustrator: Cat Chapman 9781922077684 AU\$24.95/NZ\$27.99



A is for Australia Frané Lessac 9781922179760 AU\$24.95/NZ\$27.99 Classroom ideas available



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Illustrator: Patrick Benson
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