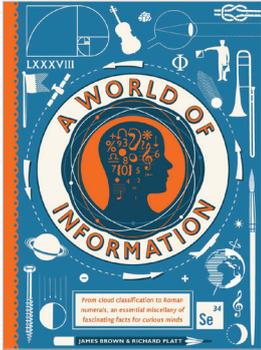# Walker Books
Classroom Ideas

A World of Information

by James Brown and Richard Platt
ISBN: 9781406370843
ARRP: $29.99
NZRRP: $34.99
October 2016

Outline:

This visually stunning miscellany from the effortlessly stylish print-maker James Brown is a collection of incredible facts and figures. Do you know how many bones there are in the human body or how clouds form? Or about different types of knots or how Morse code works? Each illustration is both beautiful and enlightening, and is accompanied by an engaging fact-filled explanation by celebrated author Richard Platt. Covering more than 30 diverse and fascinating topics, there is a world of information at your fingertips in this book, which is perfect for all the family to enjoy.

Author/Illustrator Information:

James Brown is an illustrator and printmaker living and working in London. Trained as a textile and surface print designer, he worked in textiles for ten years. He then branched out into illustration and has worked with the V&A and Guardian.

Richard Platt is the author of *Pirate Diary*, which won the Kate Greenaway Medal, the Silver Smarties Book Prize and the Blue Peter Award for Best Factual Book, and *Castle Diary*, which was Highly Commended for the Kate Greenaway Medal and shortlisted for the Kurt Maschler Award. He has written over 70 books and has appeared widely on TV and radio, talking about his children's writing. He lives in Kent.

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:	Key Learning Areas:	Example of:	Themes/Ideas:
• Primary years 1+ • Ages 7+	• English • Art	• Picture book • Non-Fiction	• Non-fiction • Hobbies • Science • Weather • Art

National Curriculum Focus:*

English

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
ACELA1461	ACELA1475	ACELA1489	ACELA1504	ACELA1517	*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.
ACELA1463	ACELT1598	ACELA1490	ACELT1795	ACELA1518	
ACELA1466	ACELY1676	ACELA1496	ACELY1698	ACELA1524	
ACELY1665	ACELY1677	ACELA1498	ACELY1699	ACELT1614	
ACELY1789	ACELY1792	ACELT1602	ACELY1700	ACELT1615	
ACELY1667	ACELY1679	ACELT1606	ACELY1701	ACELT1616	
ACELY1668	ACELY1682	ACELT1607	ACELY1703	ACELT1618	
ACELY1670		ACELY1689	ACELY1704	ACELT1800	
		ACELY1690	ACELY1707	ACELY1708	
		ACELY1694		ACELY1709	
		ACELY1695		ACELY1816	
		ACELY1697		ACELY1710	
				ACELY1711	

Walker Books
Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities:

English - Language

Text Structure and Organisation

Before reading *A World of Information*, examine the cover of the book. Identify the following:
- The title
- The subtitle
- The authors
- The publisher
- The blurb

Based on the cover, what do you think this book is about? What sort of content do you think it will include? Who do you think is the intended audience of this book? What is the purpose of this book? Give reasons and evidence for your answer. Compare this book to a textbook, an encyclopaedia or another illustrated non-fiction book. Discuss the audience and purpose of each text and compare how each text tries to achieve this purpose. How are they similar and how are they different?

Expressing and Developing Ideas
Examine several spreads of the book and make a note of all the different visual elements on the page including: fonts, colour choices, photographs, illustrations and patterns. Why do you think the book has been designed this way? Imagine the book was designed in black and white with no images. What effect would this have on the reader?

Language for Interaction
What is the difference between objective and subjective language? What is used in this book? What effect does the use of objective and subjective language have on the reader?

What is bias? Do you think the a non-fiction books should have a bias? Do you think the authors of this book are biassed?

Write two versions of a book review on A World of Information. One review should use objective language so you giving the reader only facts about the book. The second review should use subjective language which should show your opinion of the book and persuade the reader to agree with your opinion. Swap your reviews with a classmate so you can evaluate each other's work. Include references to the text in both of you reviews and make comparisons to other similar texts.

English - Literature

Creating Literature
Examine the way this book presents information such as text and small illustrations on the left side of a spread and a large infographic on the right side of the spread. Choose a topic that interests you that isn't included in the book to present in a similar style. Research your topic and choose to the most relevant information and illustrations to include. For example you could create a spread about cricket, using the infographic area to present the equipment needed, or the layout of a cricket pitch.

Responding to Literature
Examine the language and design of this book. How do you think the language and presentation would differ if the intended audience was different? For example, what if this was a book intended for parents, senior citizens or very young children?

English - Literacy

Interacting with Others/Creating Texts
Choose one of the topics in this book and use your school library or the internet to research more about the topic. Create a presentation about your topic to deliver to the class. Your presentation should be informative and persuasive so make sure to use a range of techniques to achieve this. Plan, design and distribute a handout during a presentation featuring several quick key facts. Use the below questions to help you plan your presentation:
- What topic am I presenting?
- Who is my audience?
- What am I trying to persuade my audience about?
- What persuasive techniques have I included in my presentation?
- What information have I included in my handout?

At the end of your presentation, ask the class if there are any questions or comments. Invite other students to share any information they might know about the topic that you presented.

Interpreting, Analysing, Evaluating
Is this book an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? Is it a combination of more than one of these? Provide evidence from the book to support your answer.