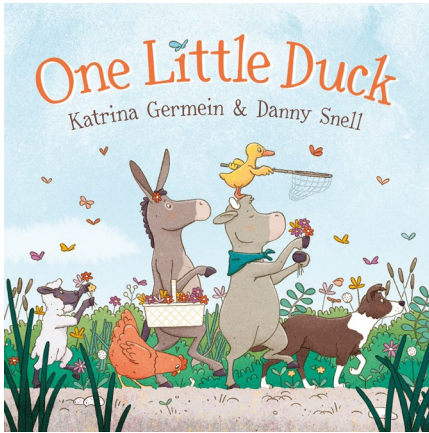


Classroom Resources



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One Little Duck

Katrina Germein and Danny Snell

BOOK SUMMARY

The classic 'Five Little Ducks' meets *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and *I Went Walking* in an irresistibly fresh, cute and clever picture book that pre-schoolers will love.

*One little duck went out one day,
over the hills and far away.*

Mother Duck said...

'Moo Moo Moo Moo,'

and Cow said, 'Wait! Now I'm coming too.'

Oh no, Mother Duck has forgotten how to quack!

Every day she tries a new barnyard call, and every night Little Duck returns with a new farm friend.

A fun twist on the song 'Five Little Ducks', this delightful story from the award-winning duo Katrina Germein and Danny Snell is destined to become a modern classic.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ACELA1439
- ACELT1575
- ACELA1448
- ACELT1581

THEMES

- Families
- Natural World
- Belonging
- Humour

Recommended Reading Ages: 3+

Resources Created For: Lower Primary

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Before Reading

1. Have a look at the cover and identify as many animals as you can.
2. This story is based on the commonly known nursery rhyme “Five Little Ducks”. Ask students if they know this song.
 - a) Learn “Five Little Ducks” as a class.
 - b) Based on the animals on the cover, the title of the book and the nursery rhyme it’s inspired by, what do students think might happen in the story?

During Reading

After you have read the book together, ask students how the narrative in the book is similar and different from “Five Little Ducks”.

1. Why do you think the author has used this popular nursery rhyme as the inspiration for her story?

Language and literacy

1. Identify any unfamiliar words in the text.
 - a) Look up these words in a dictionary and ask the class to record them in their vocabulary lists (or other place as appropriate for the class).
 - b) Create a cloze activity based on the text for students to complete, using these words in context.
2. Identify parts of speech used in *One Little Duck*: noun groups/verb groups, prepositions, adjectives and punctuation such as quotation marks, commas and full stops.
 - a) This may also be an opportunity to discuss the purpose of speech bubbles in a text.
3. Discuss rhyme with the class.
 - a) What words in the story rhyme?
 - b) What is the rhyme scheme of the story?
 - c) Make word families of the rhyming words and brainstorm more to add.
4. Explain onomatopoeia to the class.
 - a) Ask students to identify all the examples of onomatopoeia in the story.
 - b) What other animals do students think could have joined the friends, and what noises might they have made?
 - c) If a LOTE subject is taught to the class find out the animal names and sounds in the language they learn.
 - (i) If possible, the class could learn “Old MacDonald Had a Farm” in this language.
 - (ii) Why might other languages use different onomatopoeia for the same animals?
5. Introduce the students to ordinal numbers (first, second, third) and sequencing words like *next* and *then*.
 - a) Create a story map with the class outlining the key events, characters and settings in the story using ordinal numbers and sequencing words.

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Visual literacy

1. The first double spread shows the little duck on its way. How does the illustration show what is meant by “over the hills and far away”?
 - a) What things can students see that would be in the distance?
 - b) How is the increasing distance conveyed in the illustration?
 - c) As the story goes on, the objects in the distance of this first spread can be seen, but they change. How and why do they change?
2. Danny Snell, the illustrator, has provided a clue on each spread where the animals go “out one day” about which animal might be coming next. Can the students find the clue on each spread?
3. Have a look at each spread where Mother Duck calls to a new animal. Each time this spread is set out the same way.
 - a) How is each spread set out?
 - b) What changes in each spread?
 - c) What do these changes tell us about what’s happening?
 - d) Look particularly at the spread where Mother Duck calls “Grunt Grunt Grunt Grunt,” and the spread “Mother Duck waited all alone.”
 - (i) What is similar and what is different?
 - (ii) Do each of the spreads create the same feeling?
 - (iii) How do the similarities and differences create these different feelings?
4. In the second to last spread, the Mother Duck seems quite sad. How are her feelings shown in the illustration?

After Reading

1. Using the original nursery rhyme of “Five Little Ducks” and *One Little Duck* as an example, in pairs or as a class have a go at writing your own version of this song.
 - a) Ask students to turn this song into a picture book to be shared with students in other classes.
2. What if the animals did something else instead of camping?
 - a) What other activities could they be doing together that would take them “over the hills and far away” and might cause them not to hear Mother Duck?
 - b) Ask students to illustrate this activity and display the pictures in the classroom or library.

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About the Author and Illustrator

Katrina Germein is a bestselling picture book author whose books have been published around the world. Popular titles include *Big Rain Coming* and *My Dad Thinks He's Funny*, which was Highly Commended in the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. In 2019 Katrina received a Speech Pathology Book of the Year Award for *Let's Go Strolling*. Many of her other stories are CBCA Notable Books. Katrina is an ambassador for Raising Literacy Australia, a Books in Homes Role Model and a Premier's Reading Challenge Ambassador. She has an energetic dog named Mango and summer is her favourite season.

Danny Snell has been working as an illustrator for over 20 years and in that time has illustrated over a dozen children's picture books. Working in a variety of media and with a focus on simple compositions, he brings a gentle whimsy to his book characters and settings. Danny's books have won a number of awards over the years including the 2014 CBCA Eve Pownall Award for *Jeremy*. His first book as both author and illustrator was *Seagull*, which in 2016 won the Wilderness Society Environment Award for Children's Literature. And more recently, *Little Chicken Chickabee*, was a 2017 CBCA Notable Book. Danny's most recent book with Working Title Press is *Ozzie Goes to School* by Jocelyn Crabb. He lives in Adelaide with his partner and two daughters. Learn more at dannysnell.com.

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