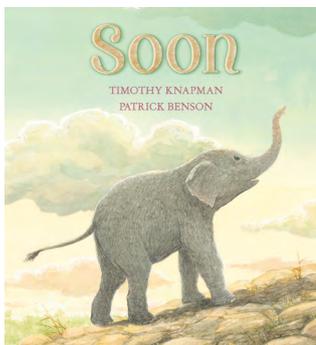




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Soon

Author: Timothy Knapman
 Illustrator: Patrick Benson
 ISBN: 9781406351354
 ARRP: \$24.95
 NZRRP: \$27.99
 January 2015

*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

From Patrick Benson, the illustrator of *Owl Babies*, comes the read-aloud story of Raju the baby elephant and his mummy who set out on a great jungle adventure. Raju follows his mother, holding tightly onto her tail, as they bravely journey across a wide river, battle the tall grass and delve into the deep, dark forest ... meeting snapping crocodiles, slithering snakes and ferocious tigers along the way. But where are Raju and his mummy going? What will they see in the end? Little tired Raju keeps asking, "When can we go home again?" and, each time, his mummy replies, "Soon". This lyrical story transports readers to the lush, wild Indian jungle and exquisitely captures the fear and excitement of new experience.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Timothy Knapman is a children's writer, lyricist and playwright. His children's books have been translated into twelve languages and include the bestselling *Mungo and the Picture Book Pirate* series. His titles have often been featured on CBeebies Bedtime Stories. *Soon* will be his debut to the Walker Books list. He lives in Weybridge, Surrey.
 @TimothyKnapman

Patrick Benson has won many awards for his work, including the Mother Goose Award, the Christopher Medal and the Kurt Maschler Award. He gained great acclaim for his illustrations in *Owl Babies*, which has sold over two million copies worldwide, and went on to illustrate *The Minpins* by Roald Dahl, *The Little Boat* by Kathy Henderson and *The Sea-Thing Child* by Russell Hoban. He lives in Hawick, Scotland.

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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary years F-1 • Ages 5+ 	Key Learning Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Art • Geography • Science 	Example of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture book 	Themes/Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family relationships • New experiences • India
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National Curriculum Focus:*					
English			Geography	Science	Visual Arts
Foundation	ACELY1647	ACELT1582	Foundation	Foundation	F-2
ACELA1429	ACELY1648	ACELT1584	ACHGK001	ACSSU002	ACAVAM106
ACELA1432	ACELY1651	ACELT1586		ACSSU004	ACAVAM107
ACELA1786		ACELY1657	Year 1	Year 1	ACAVAM108
ACELA1437	Year 1	ACELY1658	ACHGK005	Year 1	ACAVAR109
ACELA1440	ACELA1444	ACELY1661	ACHGK006	ACSSU017	
ACELT1575	ACELA1787		ACHGK007	ACSSU211	
ACELT1783	ACELA1449			ACSSU019	
ACELT1578	ACELA1452				
ACELT1580	ACELT1581				

*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.



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities

English

Before Reading

Before reading *Soon*, view the cover and title of the book. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author
- The illustrator
- The publisher
- The blurb.

What do you think the story might be about from looking at the title only? Do your ideas change after seeing the cover? Write your own story using the title *Soon*.

Exploring the Text

Is *Soon* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? How can you tell?

Why do you think Raju's mummy decided to take him on an adventure? Do you think she was successful?

Raju's mummy is giving Raju a new experience by showing him the view from the top of the mountain. Think about the first time you tasted your favourite food, saw your favourite place or played your favourite game. How did you feel when you first experienced this?

In *Soon*, Raju's mummy is giving Raju a new experience and keeping him safe. Think about how your mum, dad or carer does the same for you. Write and illustrate a short story based on this.

Make a list of the animals that are featured in *Soon*. Can these animals be found anywhere other than India? What other animals could Raju have met in the Indian jungle?

Rewrite part of the story from the perspective of the crocodile, snake or tiger. What were they thinking? Why were they approaching Raju and his mummy?

Ask students to tell the class what their favourite picture book is. How is it similar or different to *Soon*?

What is your favourite part of the book? What do you like about that part?

Visit your school library and find other books by written by Timothy Knapman and illustrated by Patrick Benson. Are their other books similar or different to *Soon*? Compile your findings in a list.

Visual Arts

How do the illustrations add to the story? How would the story be different if there were no illustrations?

Visit your school library and choose a selection of picture books. Identify the illustrators. How many different styles of illustration can you identify? Which style is your favourite? Why?

Examine the colours Patrick Benson has used in his illustrations. Take note of the predominant colours in several of the illustrations. Why do you think the illustrator has used these colours? What mood do these colours create?

Geography

Soon is set in the Indian jungle. How can you tell that this is the setting? Locate India on a map of the world or a globe.

Create a map that shows Raju's journey from his home to the top of the mountain and back again. Mark the places where Raju and his mummy come across the crocodiles, the snake and the tiger.

Create a new version of *Soon* featuring only Australian animals. What animals could replace Raju and his mummy? What animals could replace the crocodiles, snake and tiger? Draw some illustrations featuring the animals you picked.

Science

Research the Indian elephant and create a factual poster featuring images and facts. How are Indian elephants similar or different to other elephants? Do they live anywhere other than India? What do they eat? What threats do they face?

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