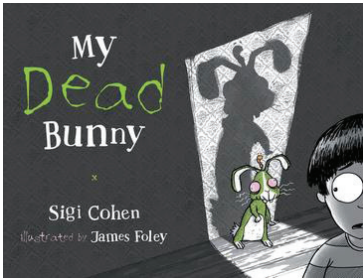




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



My Dead Bunny

by Sigi Cohen
illustrated by James Foley
ISBN: 9781922179593
ARRP: \$19.99
NZRRP: \$24.99
October 2015

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

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Outline:

Family versus zombie bunny!

“My dead bunny’s name is Brad; his odour is extremely bad. He visits me when I’m in bed, but Bradley wasn’t always dead...” A hilarious rhyming tale about a zombie bunny who comes back to visit his owner.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Sigi Hallis Cohen was born and raised in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and currently lives in Perth, Western Australia. He has a degree in English literature and a compulsion for matching words that rhyme. Sigi started on limericks and moved on to rhyming couplets, then to sonnets, then to writing children’s verse. In the meantime, he embarked on a career in law to alleviate the stresses of writing children’s picture books. *My Dead Bunny* is his first book.

Born in Western Australia, James Foley is the eldest of three children. James started his illustration career in primary school by drawing cartoons for the school newspaper. Unfortunately, the paper only lasted one issue, probably because his class faked a fire in the school hall using smoke machines to get their story on the front page. James started working more officially as a freelance illustrator in 2003 when he drew his first cover for the Western Australia’s weekly *Quokka* newspaper. James enjoys presenting workshops at schools and libraries and is always delighted to see the natural enthusiasm children bring to drawing, especially when they draw just for themselves and don’t care if it’s “good enough” or not. *In the Lion* was his first book with Walker Books Australia. For more information, please visit his website: www.jamesfoley.com.au.

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.

<p>These notes are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary years 2-4 • Ages 8+ 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Visual Art 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture book • Fiction 	<p>Themes/Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pets • Death • Rhyme/rhythm 								
<p align="center">National Curriculum Focus:*</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1865 550 2000"> English Year 2 ACELA1469 ACELT1591 ACELT1592 ACELT1593 ACELT1833 </td> <td data-bbox="624 1865 719 1982"> Year 3 ACELA1483 ACELT1594 ACELT1600 ACELT1601 ACELT1791 </td> <td data-bbox="793 1865 888 1962"> Visual Art F-2 ACAVAM107 ACAVAM108 ACAVAR109 </td> <td data-bbox="970 1865 1123 2045"> *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. </td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td data-bbox="624 2000 719 2076"> Year 4 ACELA1496 ACELT1607 ACELT1794 </td> <td data-bbox="793 1977 888 2056"> 3-4 ACAVAM111 ACAVAM112 ACAVAR113 </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				English Year 2 ACELA1469 ACELT1591 ACELT1592 ACELT1593 ACELT1833	Year 3 ACELA1483 ACELT1594 ACELT1600 ACELT1601 ACELT1791	Visual Art F-2 ACAVAM107 ACAVAM108 ACAVAR109	*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.		Year 4 ACELA1496 ACELT1607 ACELT1794	3-4 ACAVAM111 ACAVAM112 ACAVAR113	
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Book Trailer

What do you like about the trailer? What would you change? Why do you think James chose this music? <https://jamesfoley.com.au/2015/09/03/20150901-book-trailer/>. Compare it to the original Frankenstein trailer (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKyIXjyVsfw>). What are the similarities between the two trailers?

Rhyme

My Dead Bunny is written in rhyming couplets. That is, the rhyme scheme is AA, BB and so on.

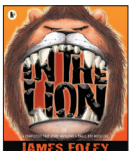
*"My dead bunny's name is **Brad**;
His odour is extremely **bad**.
He visits me when I'm in **bed**,
But Bradley wasn't always **dead**..."*

Experiment with writing your own rhyming couplet. Try to write four or five couplets as a story. Did you find this task easy or difficult?

Continuing the Story

At the end of the story the boys think about digging up Billy's dog, Roxanne. Write a sequel to *My Dead Bunny* about what happens next. Illustrate your story in a similar style to James Foley's illustrations.

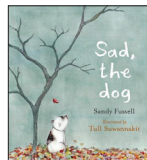
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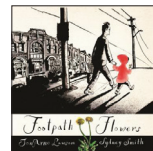
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