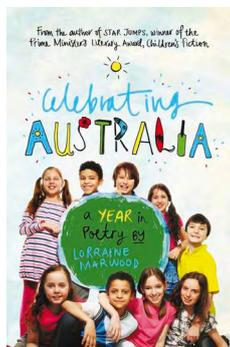


Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Celebrating Australia: A Year in Poetry

Author: Lorraine Marwood
ISBN: 9781925081022
ARRP: \$16.95
NZRRP: \$18.99
January 2015

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

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Outline:

Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Boxing Day and birthdays. Weddings, Chinese New Year, the first day of spring and Ramadan. So many special occasions! So much to celebrate. In this vibrant new poetry collection, Lorraine Marwood explores the many ways we celebrate in Australia!

Author Information:

Lorraine Marwood was born and raised in rural Victoria and has lived for most of her married life on a dairy farm with her husband and their six children. Lorraine now lives in a rural town with plenty of bush around. Lorraine is an award-winning poet who has been widely published in literary magazines across Australia, as well as magazines in the UK, USA, New Zealand and Canada. She has also published several children's novels and collections of poetry. She loves to take writing workshops and encourages others to write their own poems.

Her titles with Walker Books Australia include *A Ute Picnic and Other Australian Poems*, *Ratwhiskers and Me*, *Note on the Door and Other Poems about Family Life* which received a Notable mention in the Children's Book Council of Australia Awards and *Star Jumps*, which was short-listed for the Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards 2010, Lower Primary Category; received a Notable mention in the Children's Book Council of Australia Awards, 2010; and won the Prime Minister's Literary Awards, Children's Fiction, 2010.

For more information about the author, please visit her website: www.lorrainemarwood.com.

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 2-4
- Ages 7+

Key Learning Areas:

- English

Example of:

- English
- Poetry

Themes/ Ideas:

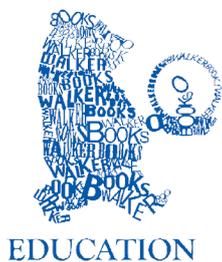
- Celebrations
- Days of observance

National Curriculum Focus:*

English content descriptions include:

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
ACELA1460	ACELA1477	ACELA1492
ACELA1462	ACELA1478	ACELA1494
ACELA1463	ACELT1594	ACELA1498
ACELA1466	ACELT1596	ACELT1602
ACELA1470	ACELT1598	ACELT1603
ACELT1589	ACELT1599	ACELT1606
ACELT1590	ACELT1600	ACELT1607
ACELT1591	ACELT1791	ACELT1794
ACELT1592	ACELY1675	ACELY1689
ACELY1665	ACELY1677	ACELY1690
ACELY1667	ACELY1678	
ACELY1668	ACELY1682	

*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

Poetry

Ask students to visit the school library and find a short poem that they like. Have students write this poem on a piece of paper and then fold it in half (make sure that they record the title of the poem and the book that they found it in). Then ask students to put their chosen poems into a hat or box at the front of the classroom. Throughout the week, select random poems from the box and read aloud. Ask students to discuss why they like/dislike this poem and what type of poem it is. Choose interesting words from the poem for further discussion.

Discuss different forms of poetry with students. What style of poetry is used in *Celebrating Australia*? Look at Lorraine Marwood's other titles: *Guinea Pig Town*, *A Note on the Door*, *Ratwhiskers and Me* and *Star Jumps*. How does this book differ?

Reading aloud

Locate the poetry section in your school or local library. Choose a poem that you like and practise reading it aloud. Read the poem aloud to your class and then explain what interested you about the poem.

Ask students to choose a poem from *Celebrating Australia* to recite to the class. After they have recited the poem ask them to share why they chose this particular poem.

Ask groups of students to take turns reading a line each of a particular poem. When they have practised a few times ask the group to perform their poem to the class. How does a poem change with different voices reading it?

Celebrations

Read "A Recipe for Harmony Day" (page 28). Write a plan for your school's involvement in World Harmony Day. What is the purpose of Harmony Day? What would you hope to achieve by celebrating it at your school? What activities do you think will help reach that goal? Write your own poem with the title of "A Recipe for Harmony Day" based on your plans.

Read "April Fools Day" (page 39). As a class, share stories about pranks you have done or have been done to you on April Fools Day in the past. Write and illustrate

a poem about one of these stories.

Discussing the book

What is the purpose of a table of contents? Why would one be included in this book?

Locate the contents then read the titles of the poems in your section of the book. Choose one title which intrigues you and write your own poem using that title. (You may like to use the words and phrases you have brainstormed as inspiration.) After you have written your poem, compare it with Lorraine Marwood's version. Was hers like you expected? How were the subjects, themes and poetic style similar and different to your poem?

Create a collage or other visual representation of *Celebrating Australia*. This should use pictures and found objects, font, colour and composition to reflect the main subjects and themes of the book. Your collage could focus on one celebration or celebrations in general. Display these in the classroom.

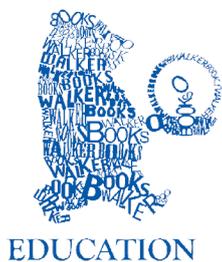
Choose one poem and rewrite as if it were prose (ordinary grammatical structure). Compare the poem and your prose adaptation and use it as a base for a class discussion on the difference between poetry and prose.

Write a poem about how you celebrate a key date (such as Christmas, New Years Eve, Chinese New Year, weddings, etc.) Focus on what makes your celebration special to you. Collect the poems from the class and bind them into a book of poetry that you can keep in the classroom or library.

Write a book review on *Celebrating Australia*. Discuss what you liked about it, reference books that are similar and recommend who you think would like the book.

Research Lorraine Marwood and prepare a PowerPoint (or similar) presentation about her. Include information on other books she has written, awards she has won and any other interesting information.

Read "Back to School" (page 16) aloud to the class. Have a class discussion on how you relate to this poem. What do you agree or disagree with in the poem? What other things would you have included in it?



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Have a class “scavenger hunt” and see who is first to locate the language techniques and types of poems listed below. (You may like to work in pairs for this activity – and make sure you remember to write down the quotes and/or page numbers!) After completing this activity, use the quotes you’ve found to create a memory card game where you match up the following techniques with examples from the book.

Language techniques

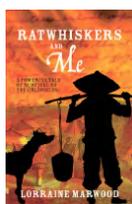
- rhyme
- rhetorical question (a question that doesn’t really seek an answer)
- repetition
- pun (a play on words)
- hyperbole (extreme exaggeration)
- alliteration (where the first letters of words near each other are repeated for poetic effect)
- direct speech (something someone says aloud)
- onomatopoeia (where a word imitates the sound it represents)
- simile (a comparison using “like” or “as”)
- metaphor (a comparison where one thing is said to be another)
- first person (“I”)
- aural imagery (description which appeals to sound or hearing)
- visual imagery (description which appeals to how something looks)
- olfactory imagery (description which appeals to how something smells)
- tactile imagery (description relating to the sense of touch)
- italics

- enjambment (where a sentence continues from one line to the next without punctuation)
- ellipsis (...)
- parentheses (brackets)
- sentences made of one word
- words written in CAPITAL LETTERS
- three verbs (action words) in a row

Types of poems

- a prose poem (a poem set out as if it was not a poem, with the lines stretching all the way across the page)
- a poem with stanzas
- a poem written in a child’s voice
- a poem which uses different fonts (lettering)
- a humorous poem
- a sad poem

Other books by Lorraine Marwood



Ratwhiskers and Me
9781921150395
AU\$15.95/NZ\$17.99
Classroom ideas available



Star Jumps
9781921150722
AU\$15.95/NZ\$17.99
Classroom ideas available



Guinea Pig Town and other Animal Poems
9781922077424
AU\$16.95/NZ\$18.99
Classroom ideas available



A Ute Picnic and Other Australian Poems
9781921529771
AU\$15.95/NZ\$17.99
Classroom ideas available



A Note on the Door and Other Poems about Family Life
9781921720611
AU\$15.95/NZ\$17.99
Classroom ideas available