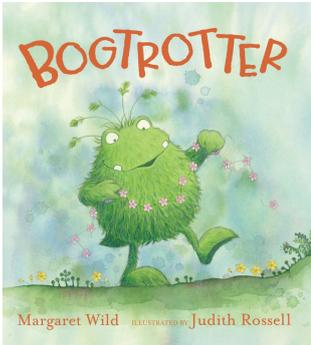




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Bogtrotter

by Margaret Wild
Illustrated by Judith Rossell
ISBN: 9781921977558
ARRP: \$24.95
NZRRP: \$27.99
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

Every morning Bogtrotter runs across the bog, up the bog, down the bog and around the bog until it's time to go home. Sometimes he wishes things would change, but he doesn't know how or what or why. Until one afternoon, when he picks a flower for the first time in his life...

Author Information:

Margaret Wild has written more than seventy books and has been published around the world. Her numerous awards and distinctions include the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year Award for *Jenny Angel*, illustrated by Anne Spudvilas, *The Very Best of Friends*, illustrated by Julie Vivas, and *Fox*, illustrated by Ron Brooks. In 2008 she received the Nan Chauncy Award for an outstanding contribution to children's literature in Australia. Her book *Vampyre*, illustrated by Andrew Yeo, was short-listed at the 2011 Aurealis Awards. Margaret has three titles in the Walker Classics series: *Going Home* and *A Bit of Company*, both illustrated by Wayne Harris, and *Let the Celebrations Begin!*, illustrated by Julie Vivas.

Judith Rossell worked as a government scientist, for a cotton spinning company and studied textile design in Scotland before becoming a full-time writer and illustrator of children's books. She has written 11 books and illustrated more than 80, and her work has been translated into 14 languages. Judith teaches at RMIT and lives in Melbourne, Australia. *Bogtrotter* is her first title with Walker Books Australia.

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 F-2 • Ages 5+ 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Visual Arts 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture Book • Fiction 	<p>Themes/Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belonging • Trying new things • Loneliness • Discovery
<p>National Curriculum Focus:*</p>			
<p>English</p> <p>Foundation ACELA1429 ACELA1432 ACELA1786 ACELA1440 ACELT1575 ACELT1577 ACELT1783 ACELT1578 ACELT1580 ACELY1646 ACELT1647 ACELY1651</p>	<p>Year 1 ACELA1444 ACELA1787 ACELA1449 ACELT1581 ACELT1582 ACELT1583 ACELT1586 ACELY1657 ACELY1661</p>	<p>Year 2 ACELA1463 ACELA1465 ACELA1469 ACELT1587 ACELT1589 ACELT1590 ACELT1593 ACELY1667 ACELY1668 ACELY1671</p>	<p>Visual Arts</p> <p>F-2 ACAVAM108 ACAVAR109</p> <p>*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.</p>



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Discussion Questions And Activities:

Before Reading

View the cover and title of the book. Identify the title of the book, the author, the tagline, the publisher and 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 *Bogtrotter*.

Listen to the teacher read the book out loud without looking at the illustrations. After hearing the story draw a picture of what you think Bogtrotter looks like.

Afterwards, listen to the teacher read the story again, this time looking at the illustrations. Does your Bogtrotter look similar or different to the Bogtrotter in the book? Have a class discussion on how illustrators can have different interpretations of characters and settings based on the text.

Create a gallery of your class's different interpretations of Bogtrotters. Decorate your gallery with daisy chains and other plants and flowers just like how Bogtrotter decorates his cave.

Exploring the Text

Is *Bogtrotter* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? How can you tell? Who do you think the book was created for? Why do you think that?

Take turns describing/retelling the story as if you were explaining it to someone who hasn't read it yet. What do you think are the most important parts of the story? Why do you think that?

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

What do we know about Bogtrotter based on the text and illustrations in the book? Create a mind map or word cloud about him using words to describe his appearance and activities he likes doing.

The two conversations Bogtrotter has with the frog are very important as they inspire a change in Bogtrotter. Describe how Bogtrotter changes throughout the story. What do you think would have happened if he never met the frog?

Have a class discussion about how Bogtrotter learns to break with tradition (running around the bog every day) and try new things. Do you think it is important to try new things? Why? What do you think would happen if you never tried new things?

Think about something that you do the same every day (for example: the way you wear your hair, what you eat for lunch, where you and your friends sit at lunch time, a hobby or activity that you do after school, etc.) and try something different. Share a recount of what happened with the class, discussing what you changed and how it made you feel.

In the beginning of the story Bogtrotter runs around the bog every day, but has never picked a flower. Take a walk around your school or home, paying careful attention to your surroundings. Make a list of things that you notice that you've never noticed before. Why do you think you've never noticed these things before?

The book ends with Bogtrotter seeing that there are many other Bogtrotters running around. Write a story about what could happen next.

What other books has Margaret Wild or Judith Rossell written or illustrated? Have you read any of their other books? Can you find any in your school library? Which is your favourite Margaret Wild or Judith Rossell book? Present it to the class explaining why you like it.

Grammar and Punctuation

Why does Bogtrotter's name start with a capital letter? Why are names written like that? What does a sentence begin and end with? Find examples of this in the book.

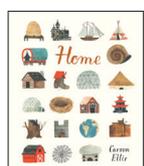
Illustration

The illustrations give the reader a lot of clues as to what emotion Bogtrotter is feeling. Look at his expression and body language on several pages and discuss how you think he is feeling in each illustration.

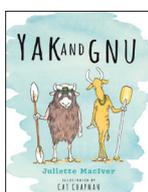
Visual Arts

Imagine you were a Bogtrotter and you lived in a cave. Design your own imaginative cave home decorated with flowers and plants. You could draw a picture of it or make a model from clay, paper-mâché or other craft material.

Other Great Titles From Walker Books:



Home
Carson Ellis
9781406359428 HB
Classroom ideas available



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Juliette MacIver
Cat Chapman
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Leslea Newman
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