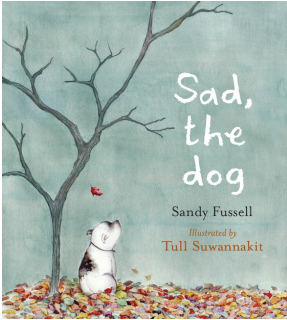




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Sad, the Dog

by Sandy Fussell
Illustrated by Tull Suwannakit
ISBN: 9781921529641
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:

Mr and Mrs Cripps feed their dog, wash him, and even clean inside his ears. But they don't give him a name. So the dog names himself – SAD. What will it take to make SAD, the dog, happy?

Author/Illustrator Information:

Sandy Fussell lives on the NSW South Coast with her husband and two sons. She studied mathematics at university, is intensely interested in history, and now works in IT. She is afraid of bears, volcanoes and samurai swords and has written a book about each one of them. For further information please visit her website: www.sandyfussell.com

Tull Suwannakit is originally from Thailand and now lives in Australia. He received a BFA in animation from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2004, and has worked as an animation studio sculptor and set designer in New York. He has been writing and illustrating children's picture books since 2006 in Thailand, but *What Happens Next?* is his first book with an Australian publisher. Tull completed his Masters in Fine Art from RMIT in 2011 and has been exhibiting extensively in galleries in Melbourne. When he is not doing his art, Tull teaches young children at a preschool.

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"> • Ages 5+ • Primary Years F-2 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture Book 	<p>Themes/Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pets • Loneliness • Sadness • Friendship • Caring for Others 				
<p>National Curriculum Focus:*</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>English Foundation ACELA1429 ACELA1432 ACELA1440 ACELT1577 ACELT1783 ACELT1578 ACELT1579 ACELT1580 ACELY1648</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Year 1 ACELA1444 ACELA1787 ACELA1447 ACELA1448 ACELA1449 ACELA1453 ACELT1581 ACELT1582 ACELT1586</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Year 2 ACELA1462 ACELA1465 ACELT1589 ACELT1590 ACELY1665 ACELY1668 ACELY1671</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <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> </td> </tr> </table>				<p>English Foundation ACELA1429 ACELA1432 ACELA1440 ACELT1577 ACELT1783 ACELT1578 ACELT1579 ACELT1580 ACELY1648</p>	<p>Year 1 ACELA1444 ACELA1787 ACELA1447 ACELA1448 ACELA1449 ACELA1453 ACELT1581 ACELT1582 ACELT1586</p>	<p>Year 2 ACELA1462 ACELA1465 ACELT1589 ACELT1590 ACELY1665 ACELY1668 ACELY1671</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

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

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

Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about? How do you think it will begin/end? After reading, revisit your answer to this question. Were your predictions correct?

Exploring the Text

Is *Sad, the Dog* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? Is it a combination of more than one of these types of texts? How can you tell?

Different lettering (also called “typeface” or “font”) is used throughout the book. When is this different lettering used? Why do you think it is used in these places?

Who are the characters in this story? Who is the main character? What do we know about the characters from the text and illustrations? Create a character profile for each of the characters.

Examine the page where Sad stops singing, drawing and reading. Pay attention to Sad’s facial expression and body language. As a class, create a mind-map of the emotions that Sad might be feeling at this point in the story. In the mind-map, include some thoughts that might be going through Sad’s head (for example: “Nobody loves me” or “I’m very lonely” etc.) Do the same activity for the page where the new family first arrive and Sad hides in the pile of leaves and for the page where Jack renames Sad as Lucky.

Endpapers are the first and last pages in a book (i.e. the ones that are stuck to the inside of the front and back covers). Compare what is happening on the front endpapers to the back endpapers. What is different about them? What do you think caused the changes?

Go to the library and find other books about dogs. Create a display of dog books in your classroom or library and decorate the display with things from *Sad, the Dog* such as ripped up newspaper, autumn leaves, a dog bed, a water bowl, etc.

Grammar and Punctuation

How can you tell when a character is speaking? Draw common punctuation marks on the board and discuss the use and purpose of each. Read the book again and ask students to clap whenever they see a speech/quotation mark.

Why do the characters’ names start with a capital letter? Identify examples of these in the book.

What do sentences begin and end with? Find examples of these in the book.

Illustration

Find three things that you like about the illustrations. Describe why you like each of these three things.

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

Further Activities

Write a story about the day you got your pet, or a special day you had with your pet, or an imaginative story about your dream pet. Include illustrations in your story.

Write a sequel to *Sad, the Dog*. What do Jack and Lucky do next? Some ideas are they could help another sad animal, Lucky could go missing or Mr and Mrs Cripps could come back and try to take Lucky away. Let your imagination go wild!

Sad is “an unwanted Christmas present from a friend.” Why is it a bad idea to give someone a pet as a surprise gift?

Dogs and other pets can take a lot of work to look after. Make a list of all the items you would need and time commitments you would have to make to look after a dog or another pet.

Other Great Titles From Walker Books:



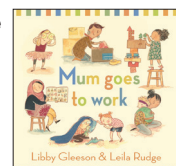
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