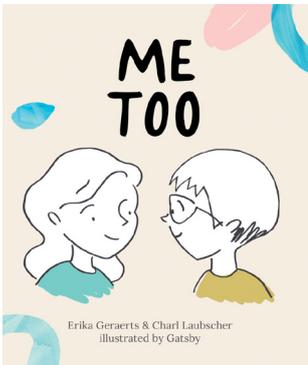




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Me Too

Erika Geraerts and Charl Laubscher
Me Too
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

Walker Books Australia
Locked Bag 22
Newtown, N.S.W., 2042

Ph +61 2 9517 9577
Fax +61 2 9517 9997

These notes were created by Steve Spargo.
For enquiries please contact:
educationwba@walkerbooks.com.au

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Outline:

Two little friends discuss the someones they want to find when they grow up. Perhaps they've met them already.

Me Too is a picture book about best friends, written by best friends, who wanted to write a story about "discovering what you want by realising what you have." It's about friendship, love, and loving your friends.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Erika Geraerts co-founded content agency Willow & Blake, co-directing the company for five years. She has worked with local brands Peter Alexander, Lee Jeans, Red Earth and Bardot Australia, plus international brands Dirty Lemon and Credo Beauty. In 2016, Erika left Willow & Blake to pursue an individual endeavour. She currently owns a cafe in Abbotsford with four friends, called Little Big Sugar Salt. Erika likes to spend her time between Melbourne and NYC, where she spends equal amounts of time around plants, dogs, good friends, and good food and coffee.

Charl Laubscher is the creative director and owner of Melbourne-based digital agency Love + Money, working with global brands, government agencies, start-ups and SMBs to bring their brands and businesses into the digital age. As well as dealing with other people's problems, he also owns a cafe and a venture-backed tech business. Charl is currently building a plush toy that teaches kids how to read, and looking to start a cosmetics brand. In past lives he's worked in branding and advertising at big and small shops in New Zealand and Australia, and written a column on feminism for a national newspaper. Charl likes writing almost as much reading, and cooking almost as much as eating. He still gets up and practises his scales on his guitar(s) every morning.

Gatsby is an artist and illustrator from Melbourne, Australia. *Me Too* is his debut children's book.

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 F-1
- Ages 3+

Key Learning Areas:

- English

Example of:

- Fiction
- Picture Book

Themes/Ideas:

- Friendship
- Hobbies



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Discussion Questions and Activities:

View the cover and title of the book. Identify the following:

- The title
- 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 *Me Too*.

Is *Me Too* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? Is it a combination of more than one of these types of texts? How can you tell? Who do you think the book was created for?

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?

Choose a page and discuss how the words and images convey what emotions the characters are feeling. Look at their body language, facial expressions and the language.

Find someone in your class that you don't know very well. Take turns asking each other questions to get to know each other.

Take turns telling the class about a time you made a new friend. How did you meet? Was it difficult or scary to introduce yourself to your new friend?

Choose a spread and examine the colours used on the page. What do those colours make you think? How do they make you feel? Why do you think the illustrator chose to use those colours?

Using information found in the text and illustrations, write a character sheet for the boy and girl. Consider the following questions when creating your character sheet:

- How old are they?
- What do you think they like doing?
- What skills do they have?
- What are they scared of?

Write your own version of *Me Too*, include statements about what you hope to find in a someone, or about what you like about a friend your already have.

This book was written by two authors. Why do you think they wrote the book together?

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