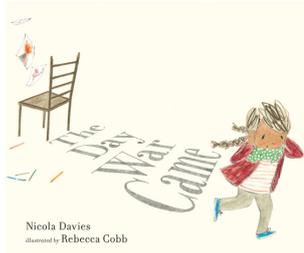




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



The Day War Came

Nicola Davies
Rebecca Cobb
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

Imagine if, on an ordinary day, war came. Imagine it turned your town to rubble. Imagine going on a long and difficult journey – all alone. Imagine finding no welcome at the end of it. Then imagine a child who gives you something small but very, very precious...

When the government refused to allow 3000 child refugees to enter this country in 2016, Nicola Davies was so angry she wrote a poem. It started a campaign for which artists contributed drawings of chairs, symbolising a seat in a classroom, education, kindness, the hope of a future. The poem has become this book, movingly illustrated by Rebecca Cobb, which should prove a powerful aid for explaining the ongoing refugee crisis to younger readers.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Nicola Davies is an award-winning author, whose many books for children include *The Promise*, *King of the Sky*, *A First Book of Nature*, *A First Book of Animals*, *Tiny: The Invisible World of Microbes*, *Lots: The Diversity of Life on Earth*, *Ice Bear*, *Big Blue Whale*, *Dolphin Baby*, *Bat Loves the Night*, *Just Ducks!*, *Animals Behaving Badly* and the *Heroes of the Wild* series. Nicola graduated in zoology, studied whales and bats and then worked for the BBC Natural History Unit. She makes regular visits to schools and festivals, and is very active on social media – she lives in Crickhowell, Wales.

Rebecca Cobb graduated from the Falmouth School of Art in 2004. She has collaborated with the Gruffalo author Julia Donaldson on picture books including *The Paper Dolls*, Orange Prize-winner Helen Dunmore on books including *The Lonely Sea Dragon* and popular film-maker Richard Curtis on Christmas titles including *The Empty Stocking*. Rebecca was the winner of the 2013 Waterstones Prize and has twice been shortlisted for the prestigious Kate Greenaway Award.

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 (all years)
- Ages 5-12

Key Learning Areas:

- English
- History

Example of:

- Picture Book
- Poetry

Themes/Ideas:

- War
- Safety
- Refugees
- Fear
- Change
- Kindness

