



Black Dog Books An imprint of Walker Books Australia

Classroom Ideas



Our Stories: Ten Pound Pom

Carole Wilkinson
Liz Anelli
ISBN: 9781925381214
October 2017

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

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Outline:

I don't want to go to Australia. I have just started grammar school. My best friend Sally goes there too. But it looks like there could be another war and Dad has convinced Mum to go. Because we're migrants, the voyage is costing Mum and Dad only £10 each. My brother Brian and I are travelling free. It's a long way to Australia. What if we never come back to England?

In the 1950s and 60s Australia welcomed thousands of British immigrants as part of the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme. *Ten Pound Pom* is the true story of award-winning author Carole Wilkinson's immigration to Australia.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Carole Wilkinson is an award-winning and much loved author of books for children. She has a long-standing fascination with dragons and is interested in the history of everything. Though Carole has written over 30 books, she did not write her first book until she was nearly 40. Before that she had worked as a laboratory assistant and as a film and television writer and editor.

Liz Anelli has recently come to live in Newcastle, NSW, having previously lived and worked as an illustrator in England. She has a huge passion for drawing and keeps rows of sketchbooks in her studio. Alongside books and other illustration commissions Liz has been a key activist for "The Campaign For Drawing", facilitating numerous international "Big Draws" for the past thirteen years. She also has been much involved with creative child learning in schools and community settings. Liz's latest book with Walker is *Desert Lake*, written by Pamela Freeman.

<p>These notes are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 9+ • Primary years 4-6 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • History 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture Book • Narrative nonfiction 	<p>Themes/Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian History • Belonging • Immigration • Emotional and Physical Journeys
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National Curriculum Focus:*

ENGLISH

YEAR 4
ACELA1489
ACELA1490
ACELA1496
ACELA1498
ACELT1602
ACELT1603
ACELY1692

YEAR 5
ACELA1502
ACELA1504
ACELA1797
ACELT1608
ACELT1609
ACELT1610
ACELY1698
ACELY1703

YEAR 6
ACELA1517
ACELA1518
ACELT1613
ACELT1614
ACELT1616
ACELY1708

HASS INQUIRY AND SKILLS

YEAR 4
ACHASSI073
ACHASSI074
ACHASSI076
ACHASSI077

YEAR 5
ACHASSI094
ACHASSI095
ACHASSI097
ACHASSI098
ACHASSI099

YEAR 6
ACHASSI122
ACHASSI123
ACHASSI125
ACHASSI126

HISTORY

YEAR 6
ACHASSK135
ACHASSK136
ACHASSK137

GEOGRAPHY

YEAR 4
ACHASSK087

YEAR 5
ACHASSK111

YEAR 6
ACHASSK141

*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.



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Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities:

ENGLISH

Using this list as a starting point, keep a vocab journal while reading this book. Make a note of unfamiliar words and find their definition in the glossary or other research:

- Migrants (5)
- Emigrate (5)
- Gangplank (10)
- Porthole (10)
- Berths (12)
- Neapolitan (13)
- Longitude and Latitude (13)
- Equator (19)
- Penfriends (20)

From the front and back cover what information can you learn about the book? What do you think this book is about? What information do you think will be covered in this book? What type of book is this and where would you expect to find it in your library?

Find the glossary and index in *Ten Pound Pom* and explain their purpose. In what kind of books might you find these sections? What is the purpose of each? How could you identify these sections in other books? Find several other books that include these sections and discuss what they have in common.

Who is the audience for this book? What makes you think that? Who do you think might enjoy this book other than the intended audience?

Ten Pound Pom is narrative non-fiction written in first person. Why do you think Carole Wilkinson decided to write in this style? Take a section of the book and rewrite it as a non-fiction and narrative non-fiction in third person. Compare the original text with your two rewritten sections and think about the similarities and differences between the three styles of writing. Find other books in your school library that are examples of each of these styles of writing.

Carole Wilkinson based this book on her own experience as a child coming to Australia on board the *Arcadia*. How do you think personal experience shaped this book? How might it have been different if Wilkinson didn't have personal experience as a ten pound pom?

In the story Carole has a physical journey from England to Australia, but she also experiences an emotional journey at the same time. What is an emotional journey? Read through the book and discuss the emotions Carole is feeling at each stage. How does the journey to Australia help Carole to grow/change emotionally?

ILLUSTRATIONS

Examine the endpapers at the beginning and end of the book. Why do you think these images were included in the endpapers?

What research might Liz Anelli have done in preparation for illustrating this book? Imagine you were an illustrator given the job of illustrating this book. Make a list of all the things you think you'd do to complete your task.

Look at the illustration on page 9. Examine how Liz Anelli has collaged words onto the buildings either side of the family. What words can you make out in the collage? Where do you think this text came from? Why do you think Liz Anelli included it in her illustrations?

Examine the colour palettes that Liz Anelli uses throughout the book. Compare the palette of England early in the book to Australia later in the book. Why do you think these colours were chosen? How do they make you feel?

GEOGRAPHY

Use the map on pages 2-3 to trace the *Arcadia's* journey from Derby to Adelaide using the information found in the text.

Liz Anelli has drawn images on the countries on the world map (pages 2-3). What do each of the images represent? Why do you think she included these? What other images would you like to add to the map?

HISTORY

Read pages 28-29 about The £10 Migration Scheme. Why do you think Arthur Calwell and other politicians at the time created the White Australia Policy? Do you think this is right or wrong? The White Australia Policy ended in 1982, but what consequences or effects do you think the policy still has on Australia today?

Locate other sources of information about The £10 Migration Scheme in your school library or online. What other information can you find? Does anyone in your class know someone or have a family member who was part of the The £10 Migration Scheme? Write a report on the scheme based on your research.

Create a timeline of events based on the activities in this book and other research. Include dates of the implementation and abolishment of the White Australia policy, along with the journey of the *Arcadia*.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

How does the layout of this book affect the readability of the text? Consider the size of the illustrations and the text layout and how they work together to draw the reader's attention to certain parts of the book.

What are the reasons the narrator's family decided to immigrate to Australia? What are some other reasons a person or family could have for wanting to leave their own country and immigrate to Australia?