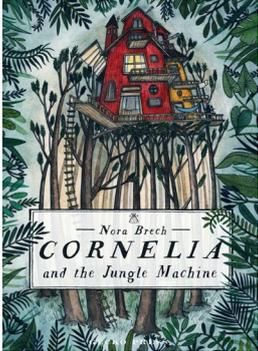




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Cornelia and the Jungle Machine

Nora Brech
ISBN: 9781776572595
October 2019



*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

Notes © 2019 Walker Books Australia Pty. Ltd.
All Rights Reserved

Outline:

Cornelia and her parents move in to a new house. Bored, she is sent to play “outside.” She discovers a hidden tree house and a boy her own age...

“Do you really live here all alone?” she asks.

“No I live here with my inventions. Come and take a look inside.”

Inside Cornelia is introduced to a magical machine. A jungle machine!

Nora Brech’s gothic illustrations are packed with imaginative details and perspectives. Her pictures play with references to classical children’s literature, and the book’s large format is fully utilized when Cornelia climbs up the tall trees; the drawings quite simply give the reader butterflies.

Through an extreme wide-angle lens, the reader is sucked in to a powerfully detailed world.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Nora Brech (b. 1988) works as an illustrator and has a degree in art drawing. She has illustrated children’s books and covers. *Cornelia and the Jungle Machine* is her first book. She lives in Oslo.

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:

- Ages 5-8
- Years F-2

Key Learning Areas:

- English

Example of:

- Picture Book

Themes/Ideas:

- Loneliness
- Imagination
- Friendship
- Change



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities:

Reading the Story

Much of *Cornelia and the Jungle Machine* is either wordless or has very sparse text. Reading a wordless picture book to a group is a different experience to reading a regular picture book. Journey, Quest and Return author/illustrator Aaron Becker says “you’re not about to tell your audience a story. You’re about to discover one – together. And if all goes well, they’ll be telling one to you!”

Tips for reading *Cornelia and the Jungle Machine*:

- Invite the group to sit close to the book so they can see the detail in the illustrations
- Read the text, but also ask the group what they see – prompt students to look past the obvious as there is often more going on in the detail that enriches the story
- Get involved – share your own thoughts about the story with the group
- Go slowly – it can be tempting to rush through a wordless or nearly-wordless book, but it can be very rewarding to spend time on each page, discovering the story

Exploring the Text

How does Cornelia feel at the beginning of the story? Why do you think that? How does this change throughout the story? What causes the change?

Cornelia has just had a big change in her life, she has moved into a new house and doesn’t have any friends around. Think of a time you had a big change in your life, such as moving house, starting school, changing schools, etc. How did that make you feel? If it made you feel sad, scared, worried or any other negative emotions, what helped you feel better?

Many of the pages have no, or little, text. Write your interpretation of the story in words only. What information is in the illustrations that needs to be included in the text? Use language devices to make your story as interesting as possible.

Exploring the illustrations

Nora Brech uses colour to convey emotion in her illustrations. Compare the following two elements and discuss their similarities and differences and how the colours make you feel:

- Cornelia when we first see her – Cornelia sitting at the table at the end of the story. She is wearing the same outfit, but do the colours look different somehow?
- Cornelia’s house – Fredrik’s house
- Cornelia’s house at the beginning of the story – Cornelia’s house when she returns home at the end of the story

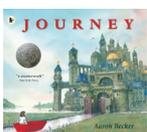
Examine the illustrations of the inside of Cornelia’s house at the beginning of the story. What do you notice about the paintings, rug and animal heads? Why do you think Nora Brech illustrated them this way?

Responding to the story

Fredrik has lots of inventions in his house. Choose one that looks interesting to you and explain to the class what it does and how it works.

Imagine you are Fredrik and design a new invention. What will it do? What will it be made of? Draw a picture and a short description.

Other Great Titles From Walker Books:



Journey
Aaron Becker
9781406355345 PB
Classroom ideas available



A Stone for Sascha
Aaron Becker
9780763665968 HB
Classroom ideas available



Mirror
Jeannie Baker
9781406309140 HB
Classroom ideas available



La La La
Kate DiCamillo
9781406379884 PB
Classroom ideas available