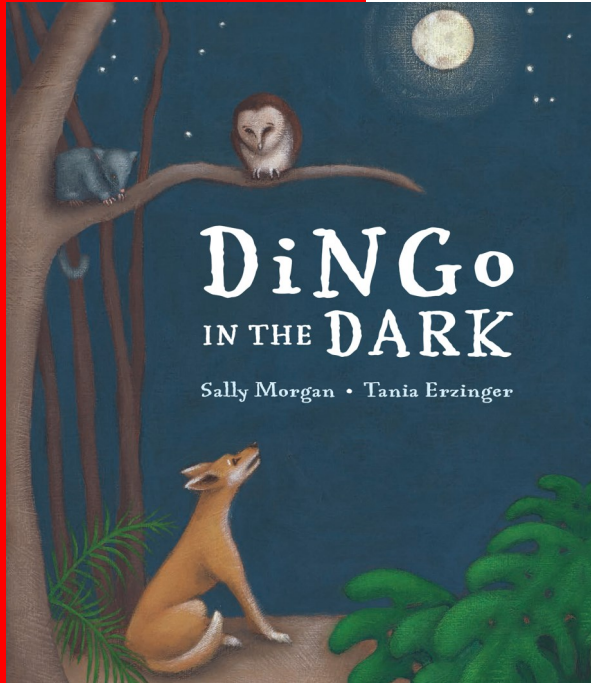


DINGO IN THE DARK

SALLY MORGAN | TANIA ERZINGER (Illustrator)



Dingo is afraid of the dark. He can't sleep if Sun is not there to watch over him. 'If I caught Sun and made him shine all the time, then I could sleep ...' But though Dingo chases Sun across beaches and up rocky hills, every night, Sun slips away to sleep, and Dingo is left in the dark.

Can his friends find a way to make him feel safe when night falls?

About the author: Sally Morgan was born in Perth, Western Australia in 1951. She is a full-time painter and writer. Her books, paintings and screenprints have earned awards and wide-spread popularity.

About the illustrator: Tania Erzinger is Australian artist and illustrator who loves to draw, paint and collage things. She has a Bachelor Degree and Graduate Diploma in Illustration and is inspired by nature, travel and the people I meet.

ISBN: 9781742990972

RRP: \$19.99

Study notes written by
Radhiah Chowdhury

 SCHOLASTIC

STUDY NOTES

- Have you ever been afraid of the dark? Why do you think the dark might be a scary thing? What sorts of things could help someone who is afraid of the dark to overcome their fear?
- As a class, talk about some other things you are afraid of. Do you have any fears in common? Share the reasons why you find particular things frightening. Does it make you feel better to talk about your fears? Why/why not? Discuss some strategies you can use to overcome your fear.
- Some of the animals in **Dingo in the Dark** are nocturnal. This means that they sleep throughout the day and work during the night. As a class, list ten animals on the board that are diurnal (sleep at night and work in the day) and ten that are nocturnal. Divide the class into pairs and assign each pair one of the animals from your lists. Have students answer the following questions:
 - ◇ Why do you think your animal is nocturnal/diurnal?
 - ◇ What special traits does your animal have that help its lifestyle?
 - ◇ Where in the world does your animal live and in what kind of habitat?
- Why can't Dingo catch the sun? Using a globe and two torches — one dim, to represent the moon, and one bright, to represent the sun — demonstrate to the class how the sun and moon cross the sky. Are they moving around the Earth, or are we moving around them?



- Do some research into dingoes. Where in Australia do they live? What do they eat? Do they often howl at the moon? Why do you think they do this?
- Why do you think Dingo is too tired to play with his friends? Why is getting a good night's sleep so important to our day?
- What different landscapes are illustrated in **Dingo in the Dark**? Where in Australia might you find these different landscapes? Can you think of any other Australia landscapes that have not been included in the book?
- Why do you think Sally Morgan has used capital letters for Sun and Moon? Are they characters in **Dingo in the Dark**? Explain your answer.
- On the first spread of the story, the moon is a thin crescent in the sky. As the story progresses, however, you can see the moon changing shape until it is a full circle. Talk about the different phases of the moon. Why does the moon make different shapes every night? How long is a full lunar cycle? Based on what you have learned about the phases of the moon, can you estimate how much time passes within the pages of the book?
- Tania Erzinger used acrylic paint on oil sketch paper to create the artwork of **Dingo in the Dark**. Oil sketch paper has a canvas-like grain. Go through **Dingo in the Dark** and make note of how Tania used the oil sketch paper to add depth, shadow and texture to her illustrations.

