

# Finding You

AUTHOR

**ROBERT VESCIO**

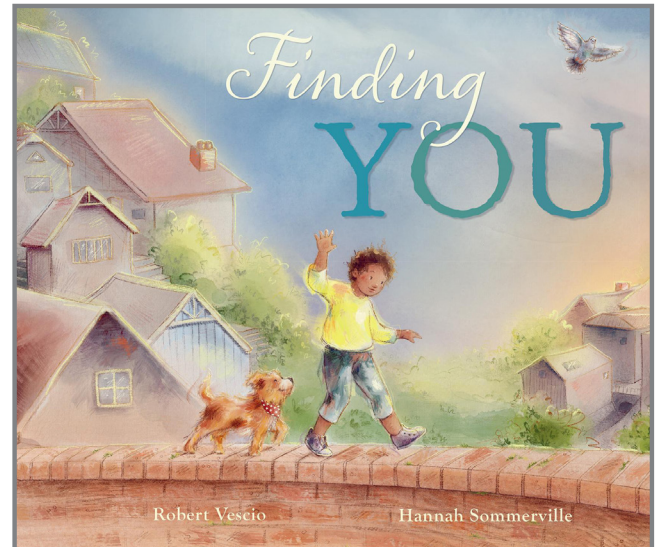
ILLUSTRATOR

**HANNAH SOMMERVILLE**

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**RECOMMENDED FOR:** Lower Primary



## SYNOPSIS

When a boy and a dog meet, an unbreakable and life-changing bond is created. A touching and timely story about welcoming newcomers and those in need.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Robert Vescio is an award-winning children's author. He is dedicated to inspiring children with his passion for stories. When he is not writing, he enjoys visiting schools to share his imaginative tales. Robert lives in Sydney and enjoys spending time with his children, who are an endless source of inspiration.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Hannah Sommerville is a best-selling picture book illustrator who creates enchanting watercolour, gouache and digital illustrations in her studio on the south coast of New South Wales. Hannah received a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Arts and Graphic Design) at the University of Wollongong in 2006. She began illustrating in 2010 after the arrival of her young children from whom she draws lots of inspiration. A storyteller by heart, Hannah enjoys creating picture books that capture the imagination, tenderness and playfulness that surround children and family life. She has illustrated nine picture books, including two CBCA notable books.

## THEMES

- Loss
- Kindness
- Hope

## STUDY NOTES

- Introduce *Finding YOU* to the children and ask them what they think the story might be about.
- Where do the boy and dog go on their adventures? Are other people pleased to see them or not?
- What is the connection between the boy and the dog? How do they relate to each other? Ask the children to think of a name for the boy and the dog. What name would the dog call his human? And what name would the boy call the dog?
- Ask the children what 'kindness' means. This can then move on to talking about empathy and compassion. This book

offers a good opportunity to talk about homelessness and those less fortunate.

- What's the twist at the end of the story? Did anyone guess the twist earlier on?
- Ask the children if they have a close bond with a pet/animals? What sort of relationship is it? Playful, comforting, fun, etc?
- How do you think the boy feels at the end of the story? What do you think might happen next?
- Can you think of another title for this book?
- After reading the book, ask them what they thought of the story. Which was their favourite part and why?
- Draw a picture of the boy and the dog. What adventure are they having together? You could use an idea from the story or make up your own adventure.
- Design a card to give to a friend to show them how much you care about them. Think about different reasons why you could give them a card. It could be after you've had a disagreement as a way of making up to them or just because you want them to know that you think they are a fabulous friend.