

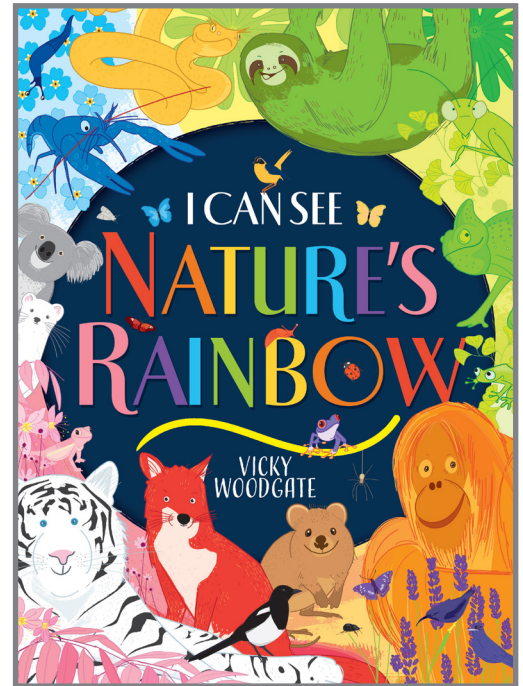
I Can See Nature's Rainbow

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower Primary



SYNOPSIS

Explore all the incredible colours in the natural world! Why is the sky blue? What makes the grass green? Why is purple so rare in nature? With fascinating and rarely heard facts on gemstones, sea life, human beings, wildlife and more, *I Can See Nature's Rainbow* is a visual feast for both young and old. Bold, beautiful art covering ten colours of the vibrant natural world. Learn all about colour in nature, from pigment and light to plants and habitats.

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Vicky Woodgate has been drawing since she was a toddler! This passion for scribbling led her to a career in commercial art for 20 years. After graduating from Chelsea College of Art in London, she worked all over the planet on fun interesting projects in TV, Film and Theme Parks, painting huge murals, backdrops and sets, she then moved into illustrating and publishing.

In 2016 she signed her first book deal to write and illustrate books for children and has been having fun ever since! Her very first book *Urban Jungle* was all about animals in cities around the world, the idea coming from a trip to Athens where she spotted tortoise living in the centre of the city! Next up was *A World Of Birds* and *A World of Dinosaurs*.

Her new book which she is SUPER proud of is called *The Magic Of Sleep* published by DK—its PAWSOME and Yawnsome! She currently lives on the south coast of England with her husband and sleep expert Moka cat, a demanding old Siamese who has a love for fish, smooths and sleeps.

STUDY NOTES

- Before reading the story, as a class discuss the book cover and title. Some things to include in your discussion could be:
 - What do you think might be Nature's Rainbow?
 - What colours are there in a rainbow?
 - What do you think this book might be about?
 - What can you see happening on the cover of this book?
 - Based on the cover artwork and title, what do you predict happening in the pages of this book?
- Accept the challenge on the first page and see if you can find all the hidden chameleons in the pages of the story. How many did you find? Which student in the class found the most? Which chameleon was the best hidden? Which chameleon was the easiest to spot?
- Create a picture of your own that has at least five chameleons hidden in it.

- How many different colours have their own section of the book? (Hint: count the different chapter headings on the title page). Why do you think the author chose these colours to talk about?
- Look up the definition of what a 'basic colour term' is, and see how many we have in English. What are some other ways that different languages can talk about colour and divide them up into different groups? Have a class discussion about whether pink should really be called 'light red', or if maybe we should think of new names for light green and light blue.
- Read the instructions on p 31, then go for a walk around your local area or schoolyard as described, and use your finds to create a Nature's Rainbow of your own!
- Go for a walk around your local area or the school grounds, and see how many different colours you can see in nature. How many shades of green can you see? How many shades of blue, brown, or orange? Take a photo of each item with a distinct shade of its own, and when you return to class attempt to recreate all the subtle variations of colours you spotted using paints. Then, create a painting based on one or more of your photos, using your mixed paint colours. Write a brief reflection piece about the exercise, being sure to comment on what you liked the most, and what was the most challenging aspect.
- Nature's Rainbow contains more distinct colours than the rainbow you can see in the sky. Paint a picture of a scene with a rainbow in the background, and different animals, birds and plants in rainbow colours in the foreground, using only the seven rainbow colours. How realistic does your scene look? Why do you think this is the case?
- There are many interesting facts on every page of the book. Choose your favourite fact from the book, and use it to inspire a colourful artwork. Caption your artwork with the fact as presented in the story.
- Make a spinning colour wheel to see how white light is made from different colours using the following instructions:
 - On a piece of stiff white card draw a circle approximately 10cm in diameter, then cut it out.
 - Divide your circle into six equal segments by drawing three straight lines from one side of the circle to the other, with all of them passing through the centre point in the middle.
 - Colour the first segment bright red. Then going clockwise around the wedge, colour the remainder of the wedges orange, yellow, green, blue and purple.
 - Use the tip of a pencil or skewer to punch two small holes on opposite sides of the midpoint of the circle, approximately 1cm apart from each other—a bit like the holes in a button.
 - Thread a 60cm length of string or wool through one of the holes, then back through the other and tie a knot in it making a loop.
 - Put your hands through the two ends of the loop and allow the disc to hang down between them, keeping it as vertical as possible.
 - Gently at first move your hands away from each other, and then back together again, until your disc is spinning faster and faster.
 - Once it is spinning fast enough it should appear white again.
- Research online to learn more about colour and light. Why do different colours of light make white when they are mixed together, while the same mix of different coloured paint will make a mucky brown? Which of the animals that appear in the book are local to your area? Which animals are ones you can only see at a zoo or animal park? Visit your local zoo, and see how many of the different animals, birds and insects in the book are at the zoo.
- What is your favourite colour? Paint a picture that uses different shades and hues of your favourite colour for all the figures and background. Look carefully at how the artwork in the book has been crafted, so that details are still clear even when a double page spread uses only one colour for both the foreground figures and the background. You might like to experiment with using mixed media such as crayons and dye, watercolour pencils, collage, and oil pastels and pencils.
- Borrow a prism from your school's science supplies, and experiment with shining white light through it. What happens? Why do you think this happens?
- The chameleon is not the only creature in the book which changes colour! What other animal can you find in the pages of this story which changes colour? What triggers the colour change, and what colours does it change between?

AUTHOR OF NOTES
RAE CARLYLE