

# Tiny Tradies

AUTHOR

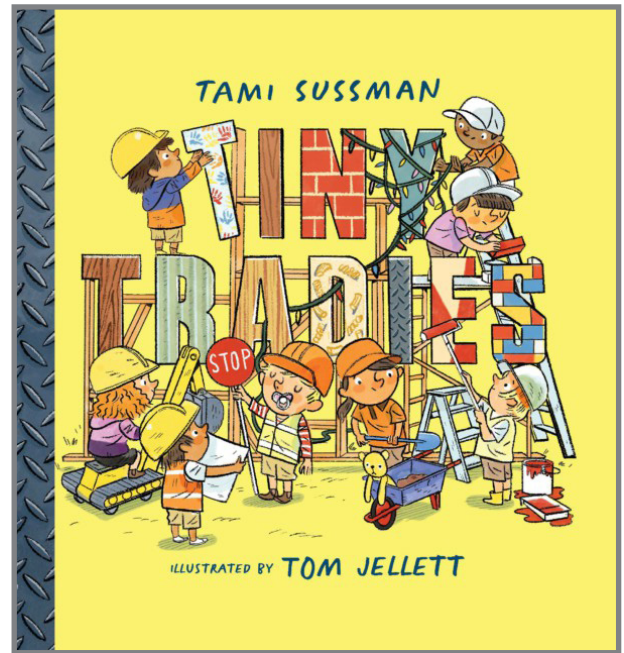
**TAMI SUSSMAN**

ILLUSTRATOR

**TOM JELLETT**

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## SYNOPSIS

Every busy preschooler is a Tiny Tradie at heart!

Crikey! Tiny Tradies have a lot of work to do. That's why they wake up early, have a big brekkie, say g'day to their mates, and get stuck in.

Join the adorable Tiny Tradies as they clock on for their shift, work hard all day, and then wind down for bedtime.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tami Sussman is an Australian-based author with a background in theatre, comedy, spoken word poetry and copywriting. She spent her twenties facilitating creative writing workshops for primary and high school students and her early thirties contributing humorous opinion pieces for online and print magazines. Tami is also a celebrant, the most sarcastic participant in your group chat and a loyal servant to the little creatures in her home.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Tom Jellett is a Sydney based illustrator. For over twenty years he has illustrated a number of books for children including *My Dad Thinks He's Funny* by Katrina Germein, *Why I Love Footy* by Michael Wagner, *Whale in the Bath* by Kylie Westaway and the Besties series with Sporty Kids author Felice Arena. His work can also be seen in a number of magazines and newspapers, including editorial illustrations for *The Australian* and *The Weekend Australian*.

## THEMES

- Play and curiosity
- Preschool life and routines
- Jobs and tools
- Australian slang

## STUDY NOTES

### BEFORE READING

- Have a look at the front cover. What do you think this book will be about?
- Can you describe what some of the characters on the cover are doing?

- If you were one of the characters on the cover, which activity would you like to be doing?
- Each of the characters has a job. What kinds of jobs would you like to do when you grow up? Are any of the jobs pictured here?
- This book is called *Tiny Tradies*. Do you know what 'tiny' means? Do you know what 'tradie' means? Do you know what these words together might mean?
- Describe the colours used on the cover. Which is your favourite?
- How do you feel when you look at this book? Are you excited to read it?

## AFTER READING

### Comprehension

- The children wake up very early because they have somewhere to go. Where do the children go during the day? Did you go to daycare? What did you do there?
- The children are wearing lots of different types of clothes. Can you describe some of the clothes they're wearing? Do the children dress like any of the grown-ups in this book?
- The children in this book are called 'Tiny Tradies'. That's because they look like tradespeople, who do important jobs like building and painting and plumbing. Do you know someone who is a tradie?
- Building, painting and plumbing are three jobs shown in this book. Can you list all of the jobs that the Tiny Tradies are doing? Which would you be doing, if you were in this book?
- Tools like hammers and paintbrushes are shown in this book. Can you find any other tools?
- Can you spot the Tiny Tradie who has had an accident? What do you think happened here? How is the accident being fixed?
- What do the Tiny Tradies eat for lunch? Is this similar or different to your lunchtime foods?
- Who stole half a sausage roll from one unlucky Tiny Tradie? Can you name this type of bird?
- What do the Tiny Tradies do after lunch?
- The Tiny Tradies are taken to and from daycare by their parents. Can you describe some of the ways that the Tiny Tradies travel home?
- When the Tiny Tradies get home, they still have lots of work to do! Can you list all the things that they're doing at home? What do you do in the evenings in your home?

### Literacy

- There are lots of verbs in this book, like 'push' and 'dig'. Can you find any other verbs?
- Some Tiny Tradies are 'happy'. Some are 'grumpy'. These are adjectives. Can you find other adjectives that describe how the Tiny Tradies feel?
- This book compares the play and activities that Tiny Tradies do with the real work that grown-up tradies do. Go through the words listed below, and see if students can guess what these words mean in the context of the book. Then, talk about how these words have different meanings for real grown-up work.
  - Protective gear
  - Sanding
  - Bookkeeping
  - Safety Hazards
  - Overtime.
- Australian slang is a big feature in this book. The opening spread shows the Tiny Tradies eating 'brekkie', which is one example of Australian slang. As a class, go through the book and find all the Australian slang. Then, have a discussion about what each of these words and phrases mean. Can the students guess the meaning from the context? Do they or their parents use these words at home?

### Numeracy

- Pick your favourite Tiny Tradie. Now flip through the book and count how many times this character appears in the book.

- How many grown-ups are in this book? What types of clothes are the grown-ups wearing?
- There are lots of trucks in this book! Can you count them all? How many trucks are toys, and how many are real vehicles?
- Can you count how many Tiny Tradies are wearing orange hats? What other colour hats are they wearing?
- How many toilets are shown? How many Tiny Tradies have their hands in a toilet?
- Can you find the wheelbarrow? What colour is it? Is it always the same Tradie pushing it?
- Look closely and you will spot some animals in this book. How many are there?
- Lots of the Tiny Tradies are painting. How many are painting, and what types of painting are they doing?
- How many Tiny Tradies are crying? Why are these children crying? Do you think they stayed upset, or would they feel happier once their problems are solved?
- Tiny Tradies are shown sleeping at the end of this book. How many are asleep and how many stay awake? Is the Tradie who stays awake the same or different to the Tradie who stayed up during the daytime nap?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Which was your favourite part of this story and why?
- If you were a Tiny Tradie in this book, which would you be and why?
- Have you learned any new words from this book? Which words did you like best?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend?
- If you're anything like the Tiny Tradies, you love playing with toys and having fun outdoors. Why don't you draw yourself as a Tiny Tradie? You could be painting, digging, building, pushing a wheelbarrow, driving a truck or doing something else! To look just like a Tiny Tradie, draw yourself with a hard hat, a high-vis jacket, shorts and boots.