CUB AND BROWN

Cub and Brown

AUTHOR EDWINA WYATT

ILLUSTRATOR EVIE BARROW

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Mid Primary

SYNOPSIS

Cub loves exploring the Great Outdoors—he is prepared for everything. Well, he tries to be. There are plenty of things to learn and tips to follow. However, he isn't quite sure what he would do if he ever met a bear in the woods. So, when he does, Cub finds that the outdoors, and the indoors, are full of surprises. And the best surprise of all is friendship.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edwina Wyatt is an award-winning Australian children's author. She grew up in Sydney, and worked as a lawyer and a high school teacher before becoming a writer of books for young readers. Her debut junior fiction novel was *The Secrets of Magnolia Moon*.

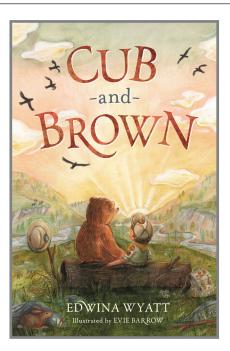
Edwina lives in the Victorian High Country with her husband and two children. She has a passion for horses, paddocks and pine trees, and is an 'aspiring' vegetable gardener and pianist (although she cannot read music . . .). Some of her favourite authors include David Almond, Arnold Lobel, Virginia Woolf, Astrid Lindgren, Michelle Cuevas, Kate DiCamillo and A. A. Milne.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Evie Barrow is an artist and illustrator, living in Melbourne. In 2019 her debut picture book, Horatio Squeak, written by Karen Foxlee was published. In 2020, Evie will be publishing three new picture books with authors, Penny Harrison, Kat Patrick and Maggie Hutchinson. Along with children's book work, her illustrations have featured in frankie magazine, Broadsheet press, Flow magazine and in the book Shout Out to the Girls.

STUDY NOTES BEFORE READING

- Before reading the novel, view the cover and title of the book and identify the following:
 - The title of the book
 - The author
 - The publisher
 - The blurb.
- Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about? How do you think it will begin/end? Revisit your answer after reading the story to see if your predictions were correct.
- Discuss the title of the book. Do you think this is a good title? Why or why not? If you were asked to choose an



alternative title for the book, what would it be? Remember, a good title should capture the audience's attention and give them some idea of what the book is about.

WHILE READING

Orientation

- The orientation sets the scene, mood and introduces the characters. In the opening scene of the novel, which character/s are we introduced to? What mood is the author setting?
- Write what you think could happen in the story based on how the writer has set the story up.

Complications

- It is the author's job to make it difficult for the characters to achieve their goals. What trouble (complications) does the author create to make it difficult for the main character to achieve their goal/s?
- Can you identify the climax of the story, the moment of highest tension?

Characterisation

- Characterisation is how the characters in a novel are described physically, their point of view, their personalities, their private thoughts and their actions. Create a mindmap of a character in the story with all the words you can think of to describe their character. Write a paragraph describing how you imagine the character would be.
- Compare your ideas of that character with other people in your class. Did you imagine the same person?

Setting and World-building

- Consider the world the author has created in this novel. And answer the following questions:
 - Can you describe it?
 - How is it different to the world you live in?
 - Which elements of the world seem realistic, and which seems fantastical?

Resolution

- How does the story conclude (resolution)?
- Compare the ending of the story with how you imagined it ending at the end of the first chapter. Were you surprised by where the story went?

AFTER READING

- Design your own cover for the book with new imagery and a new tagline that will persuade and interest people in reading the book.
- Choose a scene in the novel and rewrite it from the perspective of another character. Focus particularly on the character's attitudes and feelings, rather than simply recounting events. How might another character see and experience events differently to the character in the novel?
- Choose your favourite character from the novel. Draw a picture of how you think they look or find images in a magazine/online.
 - Write a letter from this character to another character in the book. Make sure you use some of the language or expressions that they use in the novel.

