

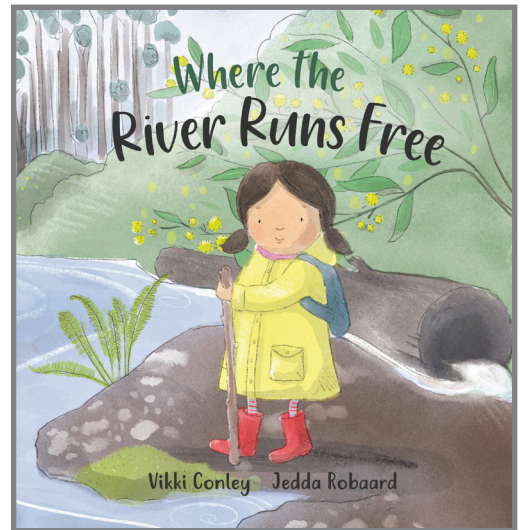
Where the River Runs Free

AUTHOR

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ILLUSTRATOR

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SYNOPSIS

Wibble-wobble over the rumble-tumble stones and past peek-a-boo trees to where the rainbows sing. You never know who's flip-flap-floating your way!

From the author of the CBCA award-winning book *Where the Lyrebird Lives* comes this delightful family adventure celebrating the magic, surprise and precious moments of a walk along the river.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vikki Conley's multi-award-winning books whisk young readers away to other worlds through curiosity, playfulness and wonder.

In 2023, *Where The Lyrebird Lives* won the CBCA Book of the Year, and *Amira's Suitcase* and *Little Puggle's Song* have earned Honour and Notable awards. *On The Way To School* was shortlisted for the 2023 Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year.

An intrepid traveller and nature lover, Vikki has explored the world's big adventures and tiny treasures as a writer and photographer, working with diverse communities in Africa, Asia and Australia for over 20 years.

Her stories connect budding minds to the experiences of people and creatures around the globe, inviting them to discover the magic in both the extraordinary and the ordinary. When she's not writing, Vikki loves cartwheeling through the wilderness, searching for platypus or splashing in rivers near her home in Eltham, Australia.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jedda Robaard is an Australian author, illustrator and designer, based in Southern Tasmania, Australia. She is known internationally for her sweet and whimsical style of illustration.

Jedda studied as a commercial artist in 1992 and after an initial career in graphic design moved her focus to illustration.

She has been illustrating and writing children's books since 2011 and has over 50 books published, many of them award-winning.

Her books are sold internationally and have been published in many languages

STUDY NOTES

VISUAL LITERACY

- What outdoor activity do you do with your family on the weekend? What fun things did you discover along the way?
 - Create a comic strip of your family's adventure.

POETRY & CREATIVE WRITING

- Have students write a poem or story from the perspective of a river creature, inspired by *Where The River Runs Free*, using descriptive language to capture the sights and sounds of the river.
- Focus on strong use of onomatopoeias (repurpose some of the below copy to insert for this section). Spot all the onomatopoeia in the story and write them on the board to inspire the children.
 - Use drama to experiment with these sounds e.g be a duck, move like a platypus, be a fish! What sounds could they make? Be creative and make up your own original onomatopoeia words.

ART

- This activity allows children to explore their creativity and express their understanding of rivers through art. It encourages experimentation, collaboration and appreciation for the natural world.
 - Objective: To encourage creative expression and explore the visual representation of rivers through art.
 - Materials:
 - Long roll of paper or several sheets taped together
 - Variety of art materials (paint, crayons, markers, coloured pencils, pastels, aquawash brushes and watercolour pencils)
 - Sponges, brushes, rollers or other tools for applying paint
 - Optional: natural materials like leaves, twigs and sand
 - Read aloud the story to inspire the artwork. You can also show images or videos of different rivers. Encourage students to experiment with different art materials and techniques to represent the flowing movement of a river. They can use long, sweeping strokes with brushes or create swirling patterns with sponges.
 - Adding texture: Introduce natural materials like leaves and twigs to create texture and depth in their artwork, the rocks, the edge, sandy islands. They can use these to print patterns, create outlines or build up layers in their river scene.
 - Collaborative mural: Have students work together on a large collaborative mural of a river. Each student can contribute a section of the river, showing different aspects of its journey or the creatures that live in and around it.
 - Once the artwork is complete, encourage students to share their creative choices and discuss what they were trying to express through their art. Discuss how the different colours, textures and techniques contribute to the overall feeling of the artwork.