

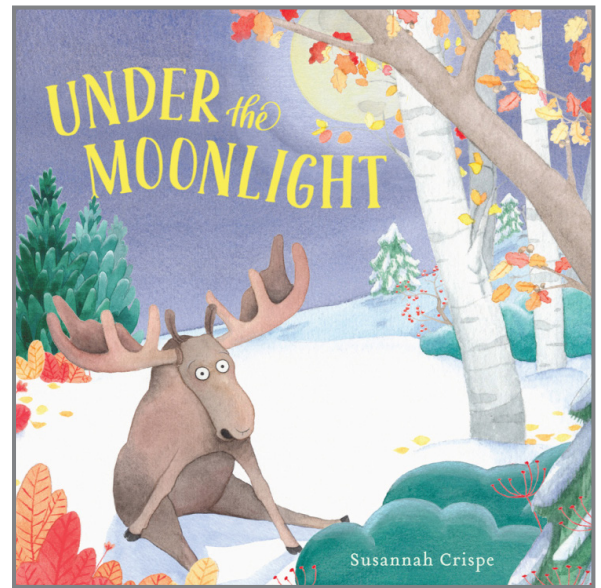
# Under the Moonlight

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR  
**SUSANNAH CRISPE**

SCIS: 5399537

ISBN: 9780734421159

RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower Primary



## SYNOPSIS

Meet Moose, an enormous, brave and solitary moose, with nothing to fear. Unfortunately for Moose, his tranquil sleep is about to be shattered by a fright in the night.

Follow Moose as he shows great bravery in facing his fears and investigating the source of the night-time fright.

A gentle bedtime story that is sure to be a hit with parents and little readers everywhere.

## ABOUT THE CREATOR

Susannah Crispe is a Canberra-based children's book author and illustrator, with a background in zoology and a passion for beautifully crafted books. She won the 2019 Australian Society of Authors Style File Illustration Award Mentorship and came first in the Creative Kids Tales 2020 Writing Competition. See more of her work on Instagram @oh.susannah.illustration or on her website [www.ohsusannah.com.au](http://www.ohsusannah.com.au).

## STUDY NOTES

### SCIENCE

- Make a list of the animals you observe in this book. Research one of them further.
- Moose are found in the sub-arctic regions of North America and Europe. What aspects of their environment are revealed in these images? (For example, the snow indicates the season is winter.)
- What plants can you identify?

### HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (HASS)

#### Sub-topic: Fear

- The moose learns that sometimes we are frightened when there is no reason to be. Discuss fears with students and how they have overcome a particular fear.
  - Make a list of fears and the strategies you have discussed.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

- *Under the Moonlight* is a rhyming text. Choose any rhyme in the book and invite students to create further rhyming words to match that pair, eg, rose-nose, night-fright, grim-him etc.

- Write a short story about a further adventure with Moose and Mouse.
- On pp 10–11 the collective noun is used: ‘a pack of wolves’. Invite students to discover a collective noun for each of the animals depicted in this book, eg ‘A herd of moose’.

### VISUAL LITERACY

- The cover of a book is an important part of its message. This cover depicts Moose looking very alarmed in a comical sitting position in the snow. The back cover contains images of some of the forest creatures who appear in the book. Do you think the cover works well with the story? If so why? If not, why not?
  - Create your own cover for this book.
- The endpapers depict forest scenes in which Moose appears. On the front endpaper he is on the left, foraging for food, with images of trees in the background. On the back endpaper he is on the right, with his head turned to ‘speak’ to the mouse who is riding on his back. In contrast to other illustrations in the book, the endpapers show daytime scenes in the forest, with many small birds. Invite students to interpret what is occurring on these endpapers.
- The title page depicts the mouse with two toadstools, two leaves and two acorns. What does this image suggest to your students about the story to follow?
- The format of the book is varied, including single page illustrations, double page spreads and one graphic page containing three comic panels. How does the layout of the storyboard and the format and design of the book influence your reading of it?
- Creating characters entails studying facial expressions and ‘body language’. The moose is depicted in a range of funny positions with his four legs in a variety of configurations. Draw an image of the moose which tells the reader what he is feeling.
- The double page spread (pp 12–13) contains an image of a scary creature. The creature also appears on pp 22–23. What do you think it is?
- Prediction is an important part of picture book reading. The reader’s perspective in observing strong left to right movement across a double page spread is also important in a picture book, encouraging the reader to follow the action sequentially in a filmic way. Try to predict what might be going to happen before turning a particular page.