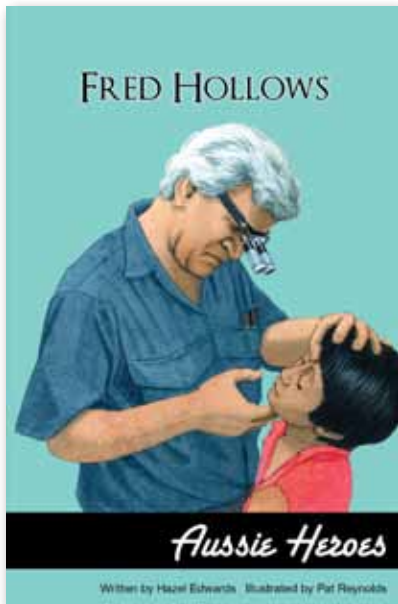


TEACHERS' NOTES

www.newfrontier.com.au/resources.htm



Fred Hollows

Written by Hazel Edwards
Illustrated by Pat Reynolds

Synopsis

Professor Fred Hollows is the third book in the Aussie Heroes series.

Professor Fred Hollows was born in 1929. Even as a small boy growing up with his brothers in rural New Zealand, Fred wanted to make a difference. He was an ideas person with a 'can do' attitude.

He became an eye doctor. He was passionate about treating preventable and curable eye diseases amongst the poorest people in Asia, Africa and the Australian outback. It was his dream to restore sight to those who could least afford or access health care.

He operated on many groups of patients who could not afford to pay or who lived in remote places. He started travelling hospitals, trained staff and worked with locals to develop lens factories and eye clinics.

Now there is the Fred Hollows Foundation, and other medical staff continue his work in outback communities, in Australia and overseas. Gabi Hollows, his wife continues their partnership to improve health in remote areas.

As a surgeon, operating on the eye, is a risky operation. Fred had the skill to remove cataracts, which are growths in the eye, blocking sight. But he also inspired others and was involved with indigenous medical services.

Professor Frederick Cossom Hollows was a man who received many awards before and after his death, but his greatest achievement was giving 'vision' to more than one million people around the world. He died in 1993.

'Fred Hollows' sounds like a place rather than a person, but now many places are named in honour of this man who took risks on behalf of others. Bourke in outback NSW has a memorial on Fred's grave, as this place had special significance for him.



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Themes

The Aussie Heroes series introduces primary-aged children to heroes who have made a contribution to Australian society.

Each hero has helped others and in turn shaped history.

This series gives children an insight into the fascinating lives of great Australians.

Each book is written as a narrative with coloured illustrations throughout.

SCIENCE

Science as a Human Endeavour

Fred Hollows influence on the development of medical knowledge and understanding.

As an eye doctor, Fred Hollows operated, restoring sight and giving respect back to those formerly dependent upon their communities. He also started mobile eye clinics, which went to the patients, and trained staff. He initiated lens factories, skilling locals and keeping costs down. His bush surgical skills inspired others.

HISTORY

Historical people and events.

Knowledge of the past and the impact it has had on Australian society.

Sequence of events.

Timelines. At the end of the book there is a chronological timeline representing the important events in Fred Hollows life. Students can go back through the text to pick out the events in the timeline.

ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Different cultures have different ways of coping. Importance of leaders within indigenous communities e.g. Mum (Shirl) Smith and elders working together to solve problems.

Students can examine indigenous communities values and medical issues and priorities about health care funding. The importance of interpreters being used to reassure nervous patients, in their own language. Fred's inspirational leadership to make surgery affordable and accessible for all, even when challenged by bureaucracies.

English/Literacy/Critical Thinking

This is a narrative that evokes feeling. It is ideal to be read aloud. Students can participate in the multi model text discussing the illustrations and timelines. Students can look up sources including current Internet material on the Fred Hollows Foundation, medical aid and indigenous health issues

WRITING STYLE

The text is simple narrative. It reads as a story rather than a textbook with coloured illustrations throughout to encourage students' interest.



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Author/ Illustrator Background

Best known for 'There's a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake', Hazel writes across media, as well as history for junior readers such as 'Sir Edward Weary Dunlop' and 'Antarctic Closeup'. Her web site www.hazeledwards.com has details of her Antarctic expedition publications including YA novel, scripts and picture book Antarctic Dad. Hazel runs Non Boring Writing workshops for genealogists and web-chats about stories like 'f2m; the boy within' crossing media with audio, book trailers etc. A 2012 Year of Reading National Ambassador, Hazel is a director on the Australian Society of Authors' committee. Her 200 books have been translated into many languages and across media into theatre, TV and film.

Editorial Comment

Dr Fred Hollows has been thoroughly researched.

Research by Gail Arkins

Content has also been read by Gabi Hollows.

Teacher Activities/Notes

1. Project-based activities where students read/listen to a class reading of the book, but then find out current facts and experiment with presenting in varied formats: e.g. Apart from this bus stop, how many places or projects are named after Fred Hollows? Create a map showing Fred Hollow sites.
2. Devise a TV or online quiz program of questions and answers about issues such as:
 - Biographical facts about Fred Hollows e.g. Where born?
 - Indigenous health e.g. diabetes impact
 - Medical aid for developing countries & training local staff
 - Who should pay for health care? The patient? The developed world drug company? Charity? Local community?
 - The Fred Hollows Foundation
3. Find out 10 facts about one of these, and share with the rest of the class. Can use visuals.
 - Diabetes
 - Cataracts
 - Glaucoma
 - Trachoma (bacterial infection of the eye)
 - Clinics on wheels
 - B.E.D. s (Basic Eye Doctors)
 - Australian of the Year



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4. You've been invited to give a 10-minute presentation on the work and legacy of Dr Fred Hollows in countries other than Australia. You may use maps, visuals and text in any medium. The audience will be peopling your age or potential sponsors.
5. Utilise new media and invite individuals or student groups to devise their own short presentations using audio, computer skills or graphics
 - e.g. A day in the life of....a person who is blind, an eye doctor, a lens factory producing parts for eyes, a carer of someone who is blind, a patient, an interpreter,
 - e.g. design a mobile eye clinic for outback
6. Research: What was the importance of the Aboriginal Medical Service, started in 1971 in suburban Redfern in Sydney? In what ways were Mum (Shirl) Smith, the elders and Fred Hollows involved? In what ways might an interpreter who speaks the local language, be important in a doctor-patient relationship in a remote community? Gabi Hollows trained as an orthoptist, specializing in disorders of eye movements. In what ways were her skills important? List five facts about her contributions.
What does an eye doctor do?
What kind of training is needed?
7. Q & A Often you are asked a question and expected to give an answer. This is the other way around. If each of these is the answer, what might the question have been?
 - Dr Fred Hollows
 - Lens Factory
 - Cataracts
 - Gabi Hollows
 - Australian of the Year
8. Famous Partnerships: Fred and Gabi Hollows are an example of medical professionals who have worked together but also had a family. What are some of the benefits and problems of being part of a family or partnership where others/outsideers need help more than you do? Find out about other Australian medical or scientific partnerships.
9. Role Models: Who or what is a role model? What are some of the actions which you found most inspiring in the Hollows story, and why?



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10. DESIGN:

Making Models: use any medium such as paper, clay, animation.

- Construct a healthy eye
- A bush hospital clinic
- Map of areas in which Fred Hollows clinics now work
- Equipment needed by an eye doctor.
- A hospital on wheels

DESIGN:

Various bus shelters display this request to donate to an eye operation via the Fred Hollow Foundation and save a Life. Design your own poster.

PRODUCE your own YouTube clip to encourage involvement in a Fred Hollow Project

11. DRAMA:

What is a Charity? Is it different from helping people help themselves? Fred Hollows was keen on training locals to help themselves. Have three students role-play:

- Fred Hollows,
- a government official
- a local.

They are discussing/arguing about how to solve a local problem and must come to a practical solution within 2 minutes.

12. GEOGRAPHY:

Multi- media presentation of where Fred Hollows projects are now

13. MATHS:

You have been asked to work out the budget for one of the following projects:

A mobile hospital with an eye clinic that can travel for at least a week in rough country.

A lens factory employing 20 staff in a developing country.

How much does it cost to train an eye doctor?

Providing 24 hour care for a person who cannot see.

14. Hypothetical:

A Hypothetical is where you say 'What if?' and play with ideas as a way of solving future problems.

Often it's done in a group, with a MC (Master or Mistress of Ceremonies) acting like a DJ and pulling the ideas together. Participants can all have different views.

USE THESE AS STARTING IDEAS

What's a philosophy? It's why you think something is worth doing,.

If you can use your skill to improve another's life, that's worth doing. Isn't it?



Donations:

What is a donation?

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How do you work out the best way to spend money which is donated?

What if people donate 'in kind' with skills instead of money?

What if you don't want what they are offering?

What if they want lots of praise for helping?

What if people feel embarrassed about being helped?

Legacy: A legacy is something you leave behind when you die.

What legacy did Fred Hollows leave?

What legacy would you like to leave and why?



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DISCUSSION ACTIVITY: WHAT MAKES A HERO?

Who is your hero?

(Today the word 'hero' is used for males or females.)

Q & A

'Is being a 'celeb' the same as being a hero?'

'No.'

A 'celeb' or 'celebrity', is famous only for getting their photo in the media or being 'fashionable'.. Being a 'celeb' is NOT the same as being known for your heroic achievements or solving problems for others.

A 'hero' may be in the news , but it's for what they have done, not what they are wearing or for misbehaving .

- Some heroes act bravely in an emergency. This is fast courage.
- Others persist and do things a little better each day. Long term, their actions may influence many people..
- Some heroes are role models, without even realising. Others are inspired to copy what they do.

Heroes are not perfect, but they can inspire.

A hero inspires others to do their best, even under difficult circumstances. Heroes are not perfect. Like all of us, they have strengths and weaknesses but heroes try hard and are passionate about what they do.

Discuss: What makes a hero?

- Is it what you do?
- How you do it ?
- Or why

...that may make you a hero?

Perhaps timing matters too?

Maybe it's all of those?

In what way might you consider Dr Fred Hollows to be a hero?



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