

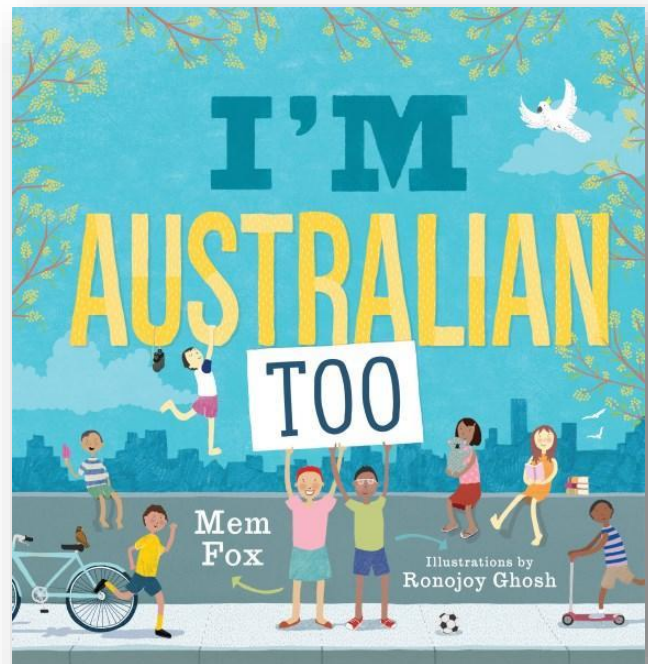
I'm Australian Too

Author

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Illustrator

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I'm Australian Too shares some of the many and varied stories of Australia and the places that Australians, their parents and their grandparents have come from. It is a celebration of multiculturalism and an exploration of the cultural diversity that is modern Australia. Every child (with one exception) in the pages is 'Australian too', whether their ancestors have been here for 40 000 years, their grandparents arrived from Europe decades ago, or if they themselves have arrived only recently. *I'm Australian Too* recognises the importance of knowing one's origins and validates the fact that regardless of where we or our ancestors have come from, we are all equally Australian. The book highlights that there are others who one day will also be Australian too, but are still waiting and hoping to be allowed to join in the journey that our nation is taking.

RECOMMENDED READING LEVEL: Lower to Mid Primary

TEACHER NOTES

- The children in *I'm Australian Too* all live in different parts of Australia and their parents and grandparents were born in different places all over Australia and the rest of the world.
- Where were you, your parents and your grandparents born? As a class, discuss all the places where classmates and their family members were born.
- As a class, mark on a world map all of these places. In pairs or small groups, choose one of the marked places on the map and research online to find a photo from that place and some facts to include in a brief informative paragraph about it. Attach the photos and paragraphs to the map to make a class display.
- How many Australian cities and towns are mentioned in the book? Where are they? Locate all the places in Australia on a map and mark the place where you live as well!
- As a class, discuss who has visited any of the places mentioned in the book. Maybe you all live in one of the Australian cities mentioned or can recognise a landmark that appears in the illustrations.
- There is one character in the story who isn't Australian. Why do you think they want to be an Australian? Where do you think they are living now? What do you think it feels like to be living their life? As a class, discuss the picture of the refugee child and what might have happened in their life for them to become a refugee. How many of the other characters in the story have parents or grandparents who used to be refugees or were refugees themselves?
- Write a short story from the point of view of the refugee child in the book, sharing their feelings, hopes, and dreams.
- Have a class discussion about the Australian national anthem. What do you think the words in the song mean? How do the lyrics of 'Advance Australia Fair' relate to *I'm Australian Too*?