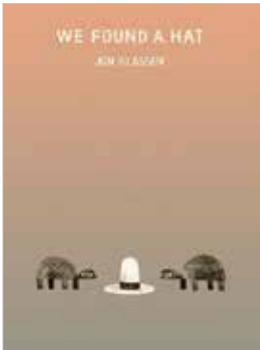




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



We Found a Hat

by Jon Klassen
ISBN: 9781406347517
ARRP: \$24.99
NZRRP: \$27.99
October 2016

*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

Hold on to your hats! From the Kate Greenaway-winning creator of *I Want My Hat Back* and *This Is Not My Hat* comes the much-anticipated conclusion to the celebrated hat trilogy. Two turtles have found a hat. The hat looks good on both of them. But there are two turtles. And there is only one hat... Evoking hilarity and sympathy, the shifting eyes tell the tale in this perfectly paced story in three parts, highlighting Jon Klassen's visual comedy, deceptive simplicity and deliciously deadpan humour.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Jon Klassen is the author-illustrator of *I Want My Hat Back* and *This Is Not My Hat*, the only book to ever win both the Kate Greenaway and Caldecott Medal. He also illustrated *Extra Yarn* and the Caldecott Honor book *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole*, both written by Mac Barnett, as well as Ted Kooser's *House Held Up By Trees*. Before making picture books, he served as an illustrator on the animated feature film, *Coraline*. Originally from Niagara Falls, Canada, Jon now lives in Los Angeles, California with his wife. Find Jon online at www.burstofbeaden.com, on Twitter as @burstofbeaden, and on Instagram as @jonklassen.

How to Use These Notes:

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

These notes are for:

- Primary years 1-3
- Ages 7+

Key Learning Areas:

- English
- Art

Example of:

- Picture book
- Fiction

Themes/Ideas:

- Friendship
- Sharing
- Greed
- Loyalty/Betrayal

National Curriculum Focus:*

English

Year 1

ACELA1444
ACELA1787
ACELA1447
ACELA1449
ACELA1453
ACELT1581
ACELT1582
ACELT1583

ACELT1584
ACELY1655
ACELY1657
ACELY1658
ACELY1661

Year 2

ACELA1460
ACELA1461
ACELA1462
ACELA1463
ACELA1465
ACELA1469
ACELT1587
ACELT1589

ACELT1591
ACELT1593
ACELT1833
ACELY1665
ACELY1667
ACELY1671

Year 3

ACELA1483
ACELT1594
ACELT1596
ACELT1598
ACELT1601
ACELY1677

*Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum. However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.



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Discussion Questions and Activities:

Before Reading

Before reading *We Found a Hat*, examine the cover of the book. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author/illustrator
- The publisher
- The blurb.

What do you think the story might be about from hearing the title only? Do your ideas change after seeing the cover? Write your own story using the title *We Found a Hat*.

Exploring the Book

Jon Klassen uses both words and illustrations to tell stories and in some instances, the words and illustrations are telling different stories, i.e. a narrator is unreliable. Find examples of instances where the text and illustrations don't match in *We Found a Hat*. Have a class discussion on the different stories the text and illustrations are telling. Why do you think Jon Klassen has created his story this way? Find examples of this in his other hat books; *I Want My Hat Back* and *This is Not My Hat*.

What do you think makes the turtle change its mind about stealing the hat while the other turtle sleeps? How can you tell?

The book is narrated using a plural first person pronoun (i.e. "We found a hat."). Why do you think Jon Klassen wrote the story using "we" instead of "I". How might the story have been different if told just from one turtle's point of view? What does it say about the relationship between the turtles?

Rewrite the story from the point of view of either the turtle who thinks about stealing the hat or the turtle that dreams about the hat.

Rewrite the story as a play script, including dialogue and stage directions. Are there any parts of the story you find difficult to translate into a play script? Why? Perform the play for other classes.

The story is divided into three parts. For each part, create a mind map of different words that could describe how each turtle is feeling and the thoughts that might be in their head.

Write a sequel to the book. What do the two turtles do next? Are they still thinking about the hat? Or have they found something else that they like?

What are some options the turtles could have used when they found the hat that would have been fair to both of them?

Compare *We Found a Hat* to Jon Klassen's other hat books, *I Want My Hat Back* and *This is Not My Hat*. How are they similar or different? Do these books have a moral, i.e. a message for readers to take away from reading the book? What is the moral of each of the stories? Which of the three stories do you prefer? Why?

Is *We Found a Hat* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? What is the purpose of this text? Is it giving information, telling a story or giving instructions? Who do you think is the intended audience for this book? How can you tell?

Find other books about turtles in your school library. Pick one of the books and compare it to *We Found a Hat*. How is it similar? How is it different? Think about the story, the illustrations, the message/ moral, etc.

Is this book a real or imagined story? What would you expect in a non-fiction book about turtles?

Create a book display of books about turtles in your classroom or library.

Other books from Jon Klassen



I Want My Hat Back
Jon Klassen
HB 9780763655983
PB 9781406338539



This is Not My Hat
Jon Klassen
HB 9780763655990
PB 9781406353433



Sam and Dave Dig a Hole
Mac Barnett
Jon Klassen
HB 9781406357769
PB 9781406360981



Extra Yarn
Mac Barnett
Jon Klassen
HB 9781406342314
PB 9781406352481

Classroom ideas available



House Held up by Trees
Ted Kooser
Jon Klassen
PB 9781406359923

Classroom ideas available