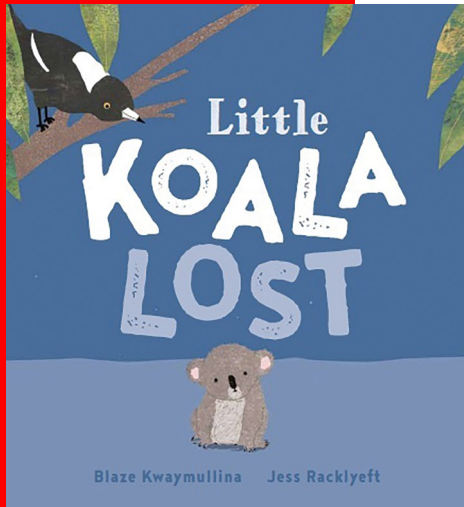


LITTLE KOALA LOST

BLAZE KWAYMULLINA | JESS RACKLYEFT (Illustrator)



ISBN: 9781742991283

RRP: \$19.99

One little koala is lost in the bush and just wants to find a home. He asks each animal he comes across whether he can live with them. He won't be safe without a shell to hide in, the turtles tell him; he won't be able to catch fish without a bill, say the pelicans ... and so all the animals tell him why he can't stay with them. Will this one little koala find somewhere he can live just as he is?

STUDY NOTES

- Look at the cover. How does the picture add to your understanding of the title? Look at the colour, the way characters are placed and the expressions on their faces.
- Before reading the book, identify all the animals featured on the endpapers.
- As a class, look closely at the art style the illustrator uses. How would you describe it? How do you think Jess Racklyeft has achieved these effects?
- After reading the spread with the dingoes, ask students how they think the story might end before you turn the page. Read the next couple of spreads. How does the story's end compare to students' expectations?
- Each set of animals is described using alliteration (when two or more words near each other start with the same letter), eg 'marvellous magpies' and 'tricky turtles'. What do students think of each alliterative description? Does each suit the animals it describes? As a class, see how many alliterative animal descriptions you can come up with.

Study notes written by
Chrysoula Aiello

 SCHOLASTIC

- What is the pattern of the story? Do students know any other stories that use 'counting to ten' as a framework? Consider reading some of these stories to the class.
- Draw a table on the board using the animals featured in the book as the headings. Underneath each heading, write what the class learned about that particular animal's habitat. Encourage them to look at the pictures as well as looking and listening to the text. Next, discuss the special feature each animal has and what it allows them to do. What special feature do they think koalas have?
- Look at the first spread again and then the final spread. What are the similarities and differences? Why do you think these illustrations are set up this way?
- What are the clues in the book that tell us this is an Australian setting?
- What do you think of when you think of the Australian bush? Write the word bush on the board in a circle and create a class mind map.
- Look at how the little koala is illustrated throughout the story. What are the clues that the koala might be lonely and sad?
- Pick an animal not included in the story. Create an artwork that shows your animal in its habitat. You can use acrylic paint, coloured paper, pencils, crayons etc.

