

# Teacher's Notes



## Now That's a Hat!

Author / Illustrator:  
Heath McKenzie

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### Synopsis:

That hat is too BIG! That hat is too SMALL! That hat is too SHORT! That hat is too TALL! That one's too CRAZY! And that one might BITE! How hard can it be to find a hat that's JUST RIGHT?!

### Author / Illustrator Bio:

Heath McKenzie lives and works in a very small suburb in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia and has worked with numerous clients and publishers worldwide\*.

His work is entirely freehand while also being entirely digital. He does his very best to keep it as 'real' as possible and tends to be successful at that more often than not.

Along with illustration (which he's been doing professionally since 2003) and writing (which he's been getting away with since 2013) he's managed to sneak in the odd bit of design work along the way.

When not drawing he's busily helping raise a little family with his lovely wife, collecting an unnecessary amount of toys, books and dvds, indulging in a spot of Doctor Who and attempting occasionally ambitious culinary feats in the kitchen.

He also enjoys possibly a bit too much tea.

<https://www.heathmck.com/>



## Curriculum Links

Foundation—Science Chemical Science

[ACSSU003](#)

English

[ACELT1575](#)

[ACELT1577](#)

The Arts—Visual Arts

[ACAVAM107](#)

## Themes:

Rhyme

Humour

Hats

## PRE-READING QUESTIONS

Look at the front cover of the book.

Read the title together.

Look at the other names on the book. What are they there for.

Identify the author and the illustrator. What do the author and illustrator do.

\*There's only one name on this book. What does that mean?

- What do you think the story will be about?
- Read the blurb at the back of the book. What do you feel about it? What kind of things are you now expecting to see inside the book? What questions do you have?
- Just inside the cover, before the title pages and the start of the story, are some illustrated pages. These are called 'endpapers'. What do the endpapers in the front of the book show you? What do they add to what you've already guessed about the story?
- (When you've finished reading the book, try looking at the front and back endpapers together. Are they the same?
- If not, what is different about them. How does that tie in with the story?)
- The end papers in this books are almost identical.

## Hats

There are hats for all sorts of purposes.

Ask why people wear hats, and what are some hats specifically designed for?

- **Sun hats**—to protect our face from the sun in summer
- **Beanies**—to keep our heads warm in winter
- **Bike Helmet**—to protect our head in case of a fall
- **Hard Hat**—for safety on a construction site
- **Beekeeping Hat**—to avoid being stung by bees

Can you think of any other kind of hat/headware that people need to do their jobs?

Some hats are just for fun: and most of the hats in this story fall into the 'just for fun' category

### Design your own hat:

Either drawing or making, create a hat that celebrates something you love: It could be a sport, a colour, a hobby, flowers, kittens, dinosaurs... anything...the more creative the better.

