



TEACHERS' RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED FOR

Pre-school/ Lower primary
(ages 3+)

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KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- English: Literacy and writing, critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability
- Sustainability: The Environment, Biological Sciences; Geology, Living things
- Art: Visual Artworks and Design
- Science: Living creatures, life cycles; creatures and their environments

REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To discuss new vocabulary and respond to texts
- To share feelings and thoughts about the events and characters in texts
- To learn more about our relationships with each other
- To use the text as a springboard for cross curricular teaching such as science and natural history
- To learn alphabet skills

THEMES

- English – storytelling, communication and non-fiction
- Relationships – friends and family connections, making friends
- Dinosaurs – history, fossilisation and life of

PUBLICATION DETAILS

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FRANKIE AND THE FOSSIL

Jess McGeachin



PLOT SUMMARY

A sweet and funny picture book for anyone who loves dinosaur fossils, friends and cheese sandwiches, by the acclaimed creator of *Fly* and *The Lost Library*.

Frankie knows everything there is to know about dinosaurs. But when she ignores a sign at the museum and is followed home by a friendly fossil, Frankie finds there's more to dinosaurs than she ever imagined. *Frankie and the Fossil* is an irresistible story about being heard . . . and finding your herd.

A gorgeous read-aloud about friendship and finding the people you connect with, and a love song to museums and the power of imagination.



ABOUT THE CREATOR

Jess McGeachin is a writer/illustrator/designer based in Melbourne. He loves telling stories about hidden worlds just outside our own, and hiding clues in them for small eyes to find.

Drawing on a love of natural history (and a day job at Melbourne Museum) Jess hopes that his stories inspire the reader to explore both real and imaginary places and meet the characters that live in them.

<http://www.jessmcgeachin.com/about/>
<https://drawthemoon.com/about>.

CREATORS' INSPIRATION

I've spent a lot of time in museums. My mum worked at the museum as a scientific illustrator (meaning she got to draw lots of weird looking fish), and as a kid I got to come along. Whenever I visited I wondered what all of the dinosaurs did when the people had gone home.

Many years later, this idea became the inspiration for *Frankie and the Fossil*. I now work at a museum too, and even though I work with people who know HEAPS about dinosaurs they'll always tell you there's lots they don't. What colour were they? What noises did they make? Did they like cheese sandwiches? Asking questions is always a good idea, even if nobody knows the answer.

KEY STUDY TOPICS

English

- Read the writing on the back of the book (the blurb). What do you expect the book will be about? Do you have any questions? Are those questions answered in the story?
- How many characters are in this story? Do you think things other than people can be powerful characters in a story? How? Can you think of other stories that have non-human characters?
- Find three words in the book that are new to you. Try to work out what they mean from the context (the way they are used and the words and pictures that surround them).
- Make your own ABC chart using a subject you know lots about. It could be animals, planets, or vegetables, even Pokemons!

Storytelling

- Think about your best friends. How did you meet them and why did you make friends with them? Did you have something in common?
- Have you ever owned a pet? How did you look after it? Did you buy it, adopt it or did it follow you home like the diplodocus? Frankie looks after the diplodocus by feeding him, taking him for a walk and playing with him. Write a short instructional text about how to find and look after a pet.
- Do you have a hobby or an interest that you know absolutely everything about? Create a poster that summarising what you know. Find someone in class that has a similar interest and share.
- Have you ever lost a pet and made a lost and found poster? Write and design the lost and found poster that the palaeontologist might have made to find the diplodocus.
- 'Dialogue' refers to the words characters say in books and plays. Mum doesn't look happy to see the palaeontologist at the door! What do you think she is saying here? What do you think Frankie is saying? Break into groups of three and script a scene between the characters.



- Compare the scenes in the museum from the beginning and the end of the book. Look carefully at the exhibits. What's different? Draw and script a comic showing what happens next!
- What is the 'moral of the story' or the message here? If you wrote a book, what would be your message?
- Write a diary entry as if you were the diplodocus the night after he was returned to the museum. How do you think he was feeling?
- Have you ever been to a museum? If you could have one exhibit come alive, what would it be?

Science and nature

- Some museums let you visit you're your classroom or your home!
<https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/>
Tour the British Museum and tell us about your favourite exhibit. What did you learn?
- Do you know anything about dinosaurs? Pair up with another student and interview each other about your top three dinos and what you know. Where could you go to find out more?



FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



Fly

Fly is a beautiful story of determination no matter the odds, and love in the face of loss.

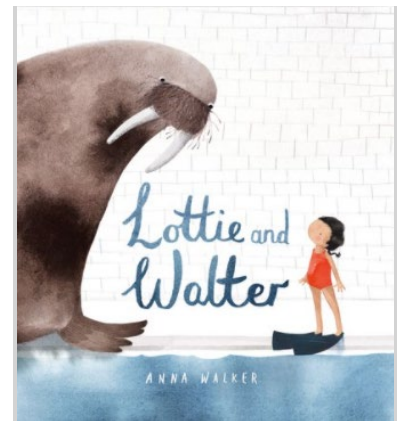
Lucy had always been good at fixing things, and Dad needed a bit of help. It was just the two of them after all. So when Lucy finds a bird with a broken wing, she's sure she can fix him too. But not everything that's broken can be fixed.



The Lost Library

The Lost Library is a magical tale of friendship, the joy of reading and the power of the imagination.

When Oliver finds a lost library book in his new bedroom, he decides to return it. But how do you find a mysterious hidden library? With the help of a new friend, of course . . .



Lottie and Walter

A warm, funny and empowering story about overcoming fear, and the unique friendship between one little girl and her own secret, flippered companion.

Lottie doesn't want to be afraid, but no matter what she does, she just can't go in the water. Until she finds a surprising friend, who turns out to be more helpful than Lottie could ever have imagined.



ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	AGE	RRP	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Frankie and the Fossil	Jess McGeachin	9781760898847	3+	\$24.99		
Fly	Jess McGeachin	9781760892562	3+	\$24.99		
The Lost Library	Jess McGeachin	9781760892715	3+	\$24.99		
Herman and Rosie	Gus Gordon	9780143507277	3+	\$14.99		
Lottie and Walter	Anna Walker	9780143787181	3+	\$24.99		
TOTAL						

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