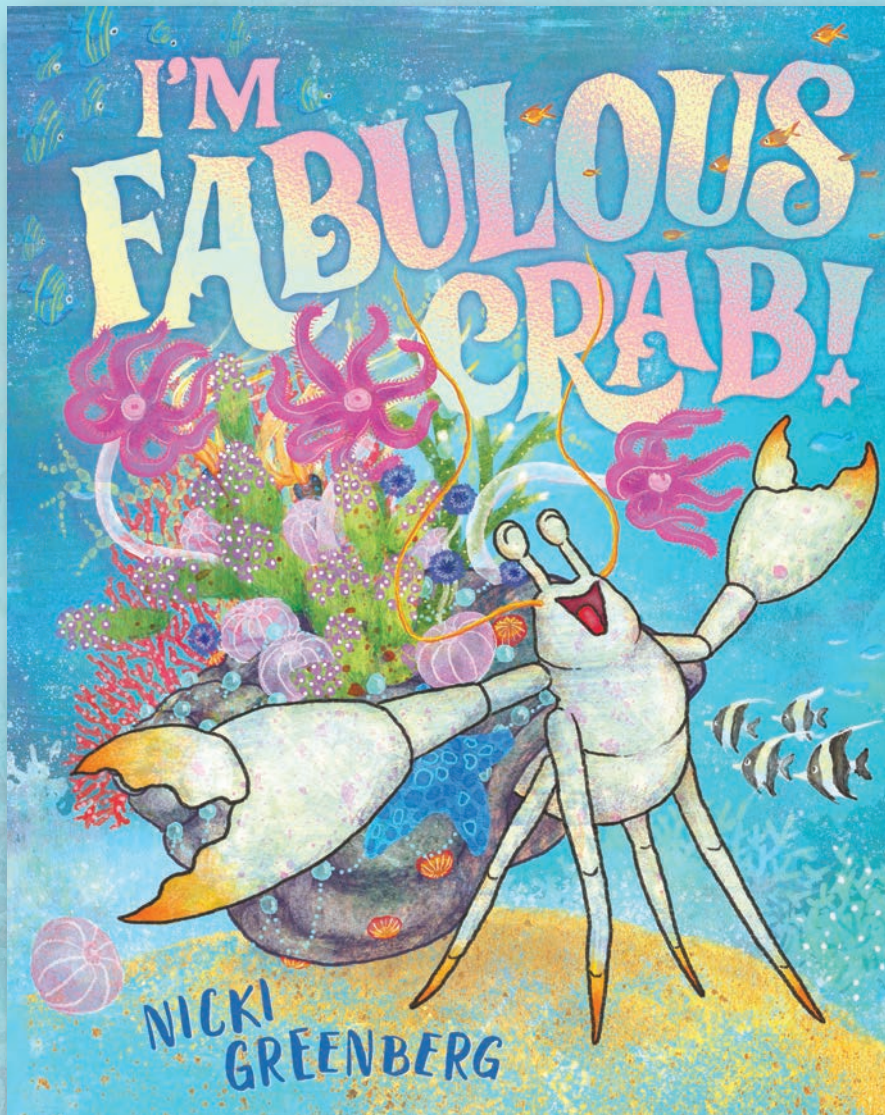


TEACHERS NOTES



Written and illustrated by
Nicki Greenberg

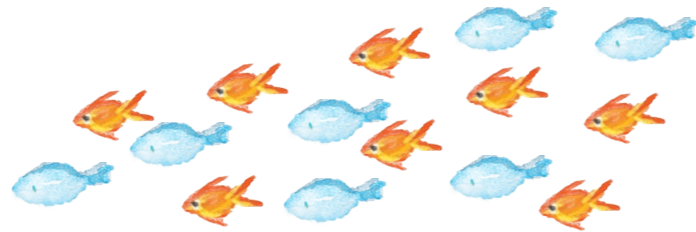
Suitable for
Ages 3+

Themes

- Discovering your identity
- Having courage to be different
- Feeling a sense of belonging
- Embracing our differences

Contents of this pack

- Overview of *I'm Fabulous Crab!*
- Questions to ask before reading
- Key themes
- Questions to ask while we are reading: Comprehension, Literacy, Numeracy, Knowledge and Understanding of the world
- Questions to ask when we've finished reading
- Activities



Description

Henry the hermit crab is done with his dull life on the dim ocean floor. He wants glamour and drama! He wants dazzle and splash! He wants to be known as Fabulous Crab! But when Fab bedazzles himself in a bit too much bling, he might have landed himself in deep water ...

I'm Fabulous Crab! is a sparkling spectacle of a story about embracing who you are and wearing your true colours (and a touch of glitter) with pride.

About the author-illustrator

Nicki Greenberg is a writer and illustrator based in Melbourne, Australia. Her first books, The Digits series, were published when she was fifteen years old. She later spent ten years disguised as a lawyer, while maintaining a not-so-secret Other Life as a comics artist and children's book author. In 2008 Nicki's innovative graphic adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* was selected as a White Raven at the Bologna Book Fair. She then went on to tackle *Hamlet* in a lavish 425-page 'staging on the page'. *Hamlet* was joint winner of the 2011 Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year award. Inspired by her own young children, Nicki now dedicates most of her ink to books for younger readers. Her favourite activity is making books, but when she does manage to tear herself away from the desk Nicki loves to crochet bizarre sea creatures.

Find this book at our website: www.affirmpress.com.au

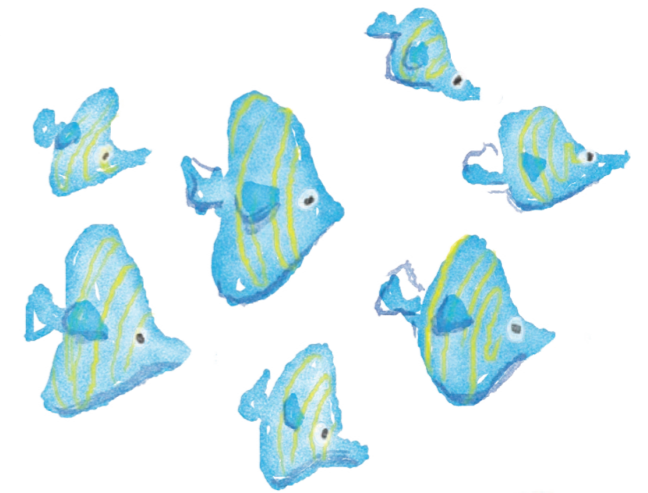


Questions to ask before reading

- Have a look at the front cover, what do you think this book will be about?
- List all the things you can name on the front cover.
- Do you know what the word 'fabulous' means?
- Tell the class something fabulous about you!

Key themes

- Discovering your identity
- Having courage to be different
- Feeling a sense of belonging
- Embracing our differences



Questions to ask while we are reading

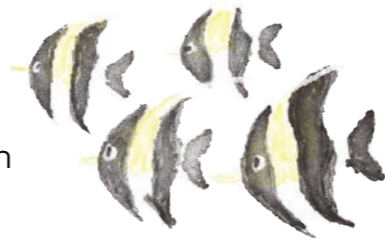
Comprehension

- Henry thinks that being a hermit crab is rather drab and dreary. What does Henry do to make himself feel more 'fabulous'?
- Have you ever wanted to do something different to your family or friends?
- We follow Fab as he swims away from home and finds a shipwreck full of treasure. He's not a bit scared. In fact, we could describe him as *determined*. What other words (adjectives) can you use to describe Fab?
- How do the other crabs respond when Henry says he is now called 'Fabulous Crab' (Fab for short!)? What do you think about their reactions to Fab? What would you have said to Fab if you were one of his friends?
- What are the hermit crabs scared of? Why do you think they prefer to hide away rather than draw attention to themselves?
- Fab looks around for help when he gets stuck, but his friends have all scurried away. Is this what a good friend should do? Why not?

- The hermit crabs' motto is 'unnoticed is best'. What do you think a 'motto' means? Can you think of any others? Perhaps you can develop a 'class motto'?
- The shark thought Fab was an art installation! Do you know what an art installation is? Have you ever seen one? Why do you think the shark thought that Fab was an artwork instead of an animal?

Literacy

- Rhyme:** Rhyme is very important in this book. Can you find some rhyming words? Pick a page and discuss which words in rhyme. Which page was your favourite to read aloud?
- Alliteration:** Many words in this book have the same first sounds, like 'snivelling snail' and 'treasure or trash'. Can you find other examples of this? (See page X for an alliteration activity!)
- Adjectives:** Adjectives like 'fabulous' are describing words. What are some other adjectives you can find in this book? (See page X for an activity about adjectives!)
- Reading out loud:** Re-read the first eight pages, from 'Shy in their shells' to 'I'm Fabulous Crab!', out loud, and reflect on how your expression changed while you were reading. Did you get faster and more energetic as you were reading? Which words helped you to change your voice and delivery? How did you say 'I'm Fabulous Crab!' compared to how you said the first line?
- New words:** There are some long and potentially unfamiliar words in this book, such as 'calamitous', 'plunder', 'ensemble' and 'unabashed'. Ask the students to pick some new words and discuss what these words mean. Can they guess at any meanings?



Numeracy

- Look at the first two pages. How many crabs are there? Can you find any other scenes where the crabs are all together again?
- How many suckers does the Octopus have?
- How many different types of fish can you count in this book? Which is your favourite fish?
- How many teeth does the shark have?

Knowledge and understanding of the world

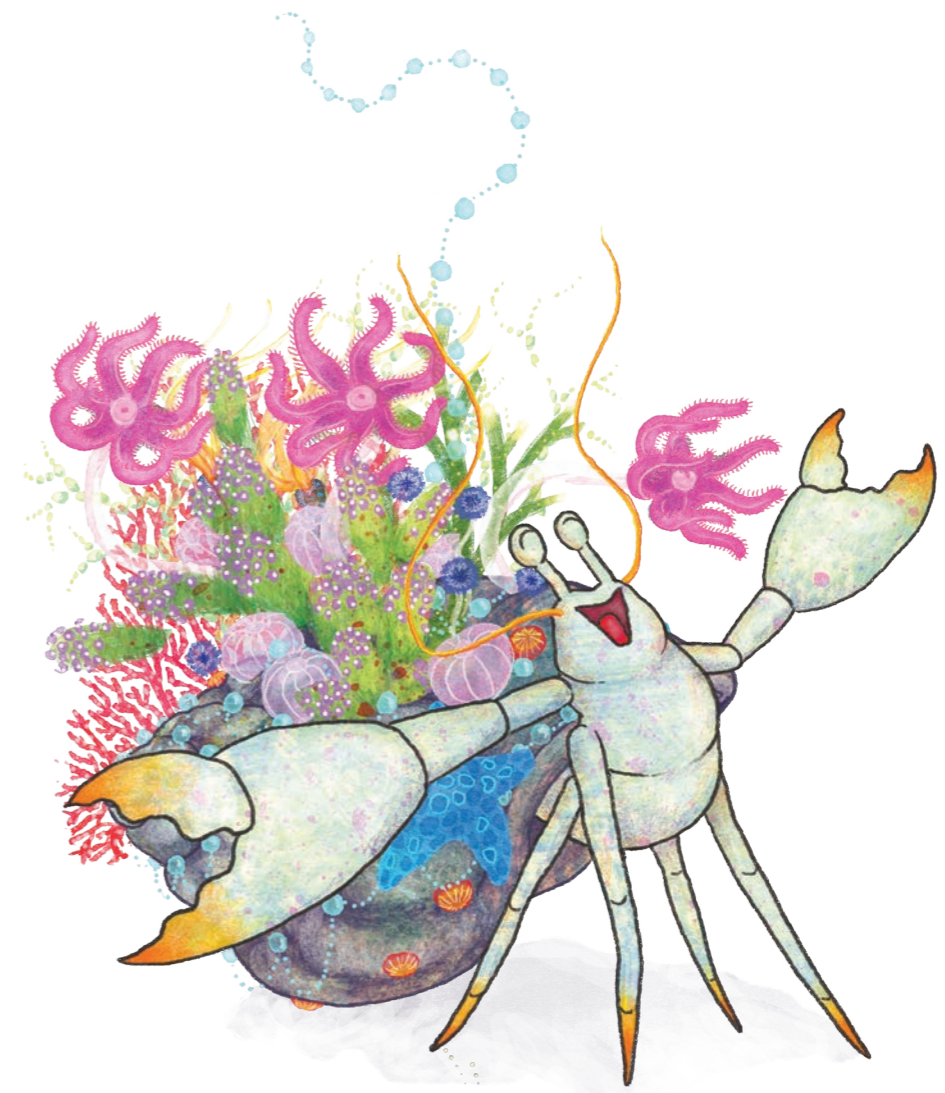
- The octopus is about to eat Fab when the shark stops it! The octopus is a predator because it eats other animals like crabs. What other predators can you think of? Are there any other

predators in this book?

- We see lots of fish swimming together in the background in this book. Do you know the word that describes a group of fish? How about a group of sharks?
- At the beginning of the story, we learn that the crabs are on the 'dim ocean floor'. Do you know what 'dim' means? Why might the ocean floor be 'dim'?

Questions to ask when we've finished reading

- Do you think Fab is happier at the end of the book compared to how he is at the beginning? Why do you think this is?
- Which picture in the book is most beautiful to you? Why?
- What have you learned from reading *I'm Fabulous Crab!*?





Activity one: Match the alliteration!

Alliteration occurs when two or more words start with the same sound. Can you create a phrase using alliteration from the examples below? *E.g. The snoopy snail snoozes.*

The ...

snoopy	prawn	shivers
cranky	snail	plays
practical	squid	cruises
shy	plankton	prowls
placid	crayfish	snoozes
squinting	shark	squeals



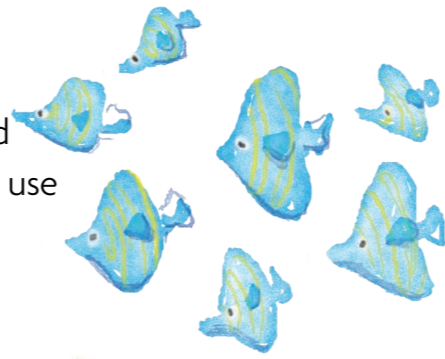
Activity two: Draw a friend for Fab!

Can you create an equally fabulous friend for Fabulous Crab? Draw your special character in the underwater image below, and don't forget to make it look dazzling! If you're feeling stuck, draw one of the animals from activity one.



Activity three: Adjectives for everyone!

There is a recurring adjective in this book: fabulous!
What are some adjectives you'd use to describe yourself and your friends? Write these down below. For some extra fun, try to use alliteration!



Adjective:

Name:

Adventurous

Adrian

Activity four: Find the patterns!

There are lots of patterns in *I'm Fabulous Crab!* Look at the patterns below and see if you can find them within the book.

