

# Classroom Resources



Written by

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Illustrated by

Sylvia Morris

Suitable for

Ages 3-7

Themes

Playing games

Feeling worried

Working together

## Contents of this pack

- Overview of *The Best Hiding Place*
- Key themes
- Questions to ask before we begin reading
- Main discussion in key curriculum areas
- Final reflections
- Two activities

## Description

One, two, three,  
four, five, six,  
seven, eight, nine, ten ...  
Coming, ready or not!

Archie has found the best hiding place.  
But after a while, it feels too quiet.  
Is the game still on?  
Has Archie been forgotten?

From bestselling author Jane Godwin and emerging illustrator Sylvia Morris comes a rich and atmospheric story that captures the highs and lows of hide-and-seek, and the joy of being found.

## About the author

Jane Godwin is an Australian children's book publisher, and also the highly acclaimed author of over twenty books for young people, across all styles and ages. Her work is published internationally and she has received many commendations, including the Queensland Premier's Award, the Aurealis Award and the Animal Welfare Award, and shortlistings in the CBCA Book of the Year Awards. Jane often works in schools and the community, running various literature and writing programs, making books and encouraging students in their own creative ventures.

## About the illustrator

Sylvia Morris grew up in Adelaide and studied mathematics at university. She only started drawing as a 22 year-old grad student in Perth where she found observational drawing to be a useful meditative exercise. Illustration quickly took over her life as it combined her analytical and creative puzzle solving with her love of reading. *The Best Hiding Place* is her debut picture book.

Find this book at our website:

<https://affirmpress.com.au/publishing/the-best-hiding-place/>

## Key themes

### Playing games

*The Best Hiding Place* focuses on the fun and excitement of playing hide-and-seek with your friends and family. As soon as Winnie starts counting down, everyone rushes off to find the perfect hiding place and waits for Winnie to come find them. This is a great opportunity to talk about the different games we play at home or at school.

### Feeling worried

When Archie is the last one to be found, he begins to worry that he has been forgotten and no one will be able to find him. This book can be used to discuss feelings like worry and fear, especially when these feelings arise in social settings.

### Working together

An important part of hide-and-seek is working together. Once someone is found, their job is to help Winnie find the rest of the hiders. When Archie is the last one to be found, everyone joins in to find him. You might like to use this book as an opportunity to chat about collaboration and teamwork.

## Questions to ask before we begin reading

- Have a look at the front cover; what do you think this book will be about?
- The title of this book is, *The Best Hiding Place*. What do you think this means? Does this give you a hint about what the book will be about?
- Take a look at all the different rooms on the cover. Do you recognise any of these rooms from your own house?





## Main discussion

### Key curriculum areas:

Comprehension

Social and emotional development

Knowledge and understanding of the world

- In the beginning of the book, Winnie covers her eyes and starts counting. Why is she doing this? Do you know what game they are playing?
- What is the phrase that the seeker uses when they're ready to start seeking?
- Have you played hide-and-seek before? Do you prefer being the hider or the seeker?
- Who is the first person that Winnie finds? Where are they hiding?
- Who is the next person that Winnie finds? Where are they hiding? Do you recognise what room they are in?
- Who are the two last people waiting to be found? Does anyone accidentally give themselves away?
- Where is Tilda hiding? How does Winnie find her?
- Take a look inside the cupboard that Archie hides in. What can you spot?
- How do you think Archie is feeling in the cupboard? Does he look sad or worried? How do you know?
- Have you ever felt forgotten or left out? Did anyone help you feel better?
- What sounds can Archie hear while he is sitting inside the cupboard?
- Why is the house empty when Archie peeks out of the cupboard? Where has everyone gone?
- How would you describe how Archie is feeling once Winnie finds him? Does he look happy or sad that he has been found?
- Flip back to the start of the book. Do you notice anything similar about the first and last lines of the book?
- On the last page of the book, Sam is trying to find a hiding spot. Do you notice anything funny about where Sam is hiding?
- Think about all the different hiding spots in the book. Which was your favourite one? Can you think of any other good hiding spots?
- Take another look at the cover of the book. Can you match the rooms on the cover with the pages in the book?

## Main discussion

### Key curriculum area:

Literacy

Vocabulary

Make a list of these words and phrases, which may be unfamiliar to young readers, and find out what they mean:

- |             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| • Quick     | • Shudder   | • Forgotten |
| • Different | • Rattle    | • Ringing   |
| • Cupboard  | • Numb      | • Shadow    |
| • Squeak    | • Scrunched | • Slides    |

### Key curriculum area:

Numeracy

- What number do Winnie and Archie count to when they are the seekers?
- At the beginning of the book, how many hidiers are there and how many seekers?
- How many times can you spot the cat throughout the book?

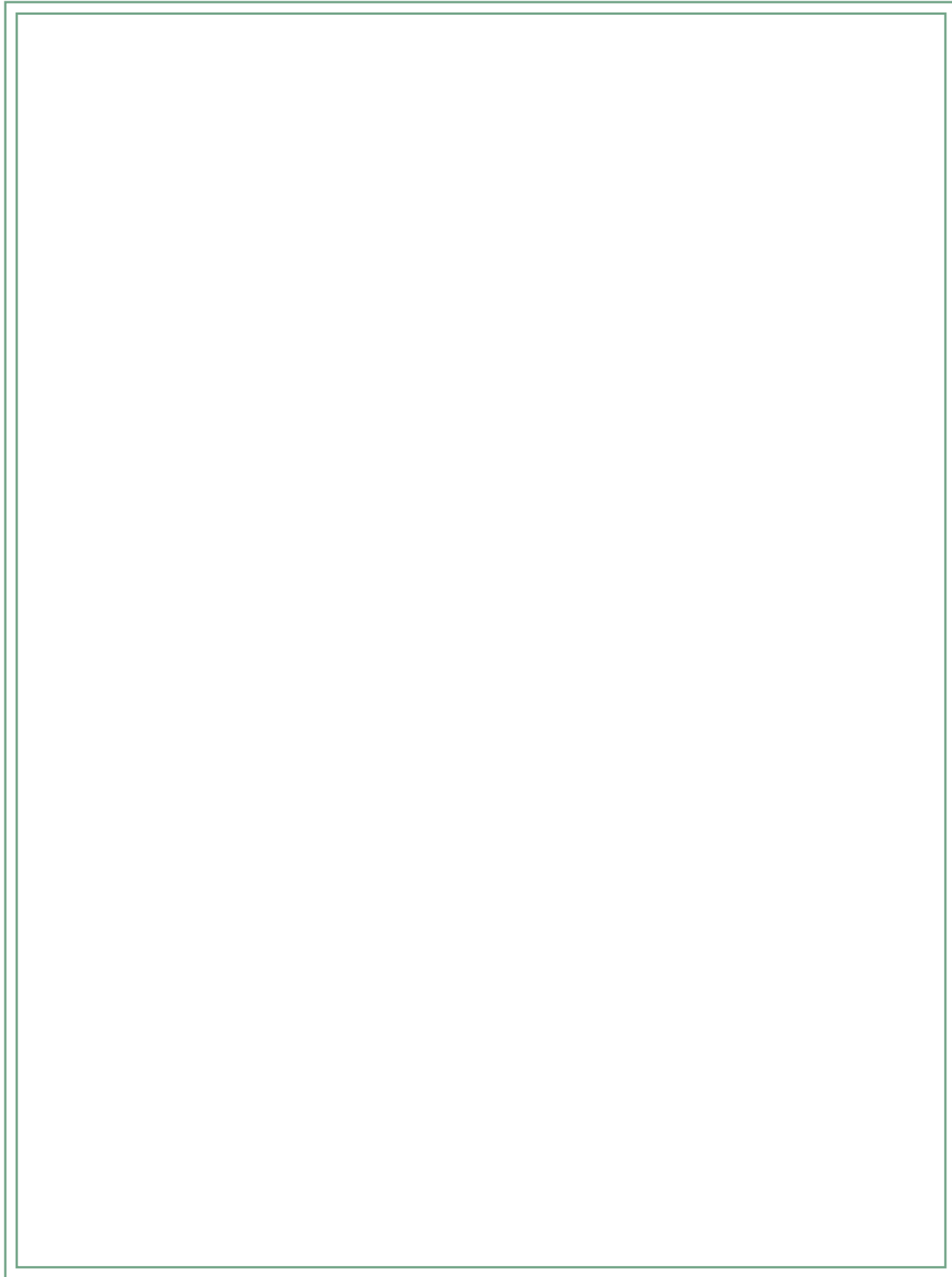
## Final Reflections

- What was your favourite part of this book? Why?
- What do you think is the message of this book?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why/why not?



## Activity One: Draw your own hiding place!

Where would you hide if you were playing hide-and-seek with Archie? Pick a spot from the book to be your hiding place. It could be somewhere that one of the children uses as a hiding place, or it could be somewhere different!



## Activity Two: Word-search!

Find and circle each of the words from the list below! The words may appear forwards or backwards, horizontally, vertically or diagonally across the grid.

J S Y Q W W Z Z P G Q D O V K  
Q N E T X W Q Q D E I N N I W  
F T N U O C H D C K T F T H D  
E D I H D D E A E E S C E E S  
H J K W N S L E I H H R B B N  
L A V N U P S U Y E E Y T G O  
A V N O O R Q H N Q D J X A I  
U K H I F M H E O A R D E M S  
N C F A A E T Y E G A Z L E E  
D I D S L T P R E N O Y A M I  
R U Y P O I R N I I B W E X M  
Y Q N G P V B U H M P I N W H  
E G R T I L D A C O U R X J W  
Y O K B V H E A R C C J Z H W  
F G R E R E H X A G H S Y U F

Hide    Seek    Ready    Found    Quiet    Cupboard    Game  
Place    Coming    Archie    Tilda    Winnie    Alex    Sam  
Ten    Quick    Here    Help    Forgotten    Hear    Count    Where  
Noise    Curtain    Laundry    Kitchen    House    Bed