Goodbye House, Hello House
Author: Margaret Wild
Illustrator: Ann James
Publisher: Allen & Unwin
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Synopsis
This is the last time I'll fish in this river.
This is the last time I'll run through these trees.
This is the last time I'll dream by this fire ... Goodbye, old house. Goodbye.

A heartwarming story of letting go and starting anew, of moving from the country to the city, with a unique illustration style that allows room and space for the reader's imagination. Hello, new house. Hello!

Author Bio
Margaret Wild was born in 1948 in Eschew, a small town in South Africa, and came to Australia in 1972. Before becoming a full-time writer, Margaret was a journalist for newspapers and magazines and then she worked for sixteen years as a book editor in children's publishing. Margaret's books explore a diverse range of themes, but she is particularly noted for exploring issues of identity, trust, and death.

Many of her books have appeared in foreign editions. All have been highly acclaimed. Jenny Angel (which was inspired by her brother's death at the age of seven), illustrated by Anne Spudvilas, Fox, illustrated by Ron Brooks, and The Very Best of Friends, illustrated by Julie Vivas are all winners of the CBCA Picture Book of the Year Award, while Lucy Goosey and Little Humpty, both illustrated by Ann James, were named honour books.

Illustrator Bio
Ann James was a secondary art teacher before she took up children's book illustration over twenty years ago. She has illustrated more than 50 books since then. Some well-loved favourites include the Penny Pollard series by Robin Klein, The Midnight Gang and The Midnight Feast by Margaret Wild, the Hannah series by Libby Gleeson, The Butterfly by Roger Vaughan Carr and most recently Little Humpty by Margaret Wild and Shutting the Chooks In by Libby Gleeson. Ann has written and illustrated two picture books of her own, One Day and Finding Jack. Most of her illustrations feature her own animals and she delights in being playful and experimental with the materials she chooses to work with. She and her friend Ann Haddon run Books Illustrated, a bookshop and gallery for book illustrations in Albert Park. Ann lives right opposite the dog beach in Melbourne, where she spends time thinking and walking with her dogs, Ollie and Kip.
Curriculum Links

HASS - Foundation   ACHASSK015   ACHASSK017
HASS - Year 1       ACHASSK031
English - Literature - Foundation
Health and Physical Education - Foundation   ACPPS005

Themes
	First Experiences
	Moving House

Pre-Reading Questions

Look at the front cover of the book.
Read the title together.
Look at the names on the book. What are they there for?
Identify the author and the illustrator. What do the author and illustrator do?

What do you think the story will be about?
Read the blurb at the back of the book.
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, look 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?)

Discussion Questions

After reading the story, ask the children what they think the story is about.

What are the clues in the text or illustrations that help us know what is going on in the story.

Emma is moving house. From the country to the city. How do you think she feels.

Ask the class if anyone has moved house. How did they feel? Happy? Excited? Sad?
Nervous?
Or all of these things?

Why would you feel Happy/Excited/Sad/Nervous? Can you feel happy and sad at the same time?

Talk about other new experiences that have made us feel:

Happy
Excited
Nervous
Sad

Home

Ask the class what the word 'home' means to them.
Write the responses on the board.

Ask if they think there is a difference between a house and a home, and what are those differences.

Some other books about 'home' and moving house