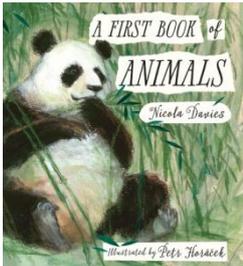


2018 Kate Greenaway Medal shortlist VISUAL LITERACY NOTES

Title: **Under the Same Sky**

Author/Illustrator: **Britta Teckentrup**

Publisher: **Caterpillar Books**

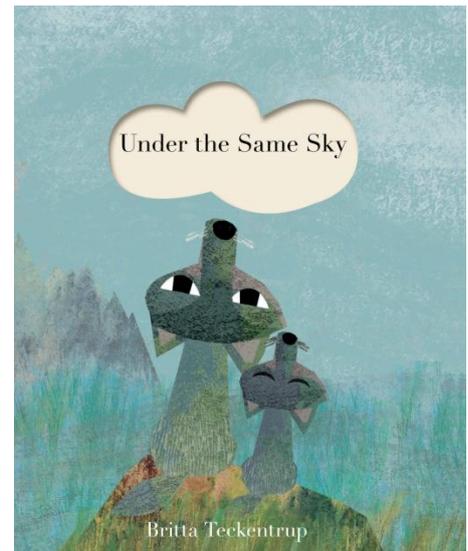


Title: **A First Book of Animals**

Illustrator: **Petr Horáček**

Author: **Nicola Davies**

Publisher: **Walker Books**



There are two books on the shortlist which both feature wild animals and are intended for younger readers. It may be helpful to consider some aspects of each book at the same time. However, it is important to look at **the qualities of the artwork** in both books separately.

First look

- Try to ensure that each member of the shadowing group has a chance to look through both books before working with them. We are not judging between the two books but using their shared qualities to explore the illustrations and designs of each one.
- In what ways do the artwork and design in each book reflect the fact that these are for very young children? What aspects do you consider positive or negative features of the design? Consider style of pictures, layout, size and weight of each book.
- Although they are both about animals, do they have the same purpose? Is there a narrative in either book? Are they fiction or non-fiction? If they are non-fiction, remember that non-fiction does not only give information. It comes in many different text-types; for example:
 - recounts, reports, reviews, reference, discussion, articles etc.
- And for different purposes:
 - inform, entertain, persuade, enlighten, argue etc.What sort of non-fiction are these books.
- Talk about all the visual aspects of the books i.e. end papers, font choices, title pages and layouts. How do these 'extras' contribute to the overall impact of the book?
- There are also many differences between the books; one is short, the other long; one is a reference book with a variety of written texts, the other has one written text which runs from page to page; one has cut out shapes in the pages to encourage interaction, the other has more conventional layouts.



The CILIP Carnegie
& Kate Greenaway
Children's Book
Awards

This sheet now continues to look more closely at: **Under the Same Sky**



The artist

Britta Teckentrup is both the author and the illustrator of *Under the Same Sky*. She is a highly admired illustrator with many award nominations for her work. Look closely at her illustrations; see if you can work out what techniques she has used to create them.

In an Interview given to www.youngwriters.co.uk in 2016, she said:

"My work is all based around collage, printmaking and digital collage. I create a large selection of textured papers and shapes using hand-made printing techniques. I will then start creating my collages by hand which I scan into the computer to manipulate them further. I guess that you could call it a combination of digital and hand-made collage."

Interpreting text

When studying a book, it is always beneficial, to use tasks which require imaginative or creative response. Using creative activities (e.g. art, drama, music etc.) will encourage students to engage fully with the text. The following suggestions may help get the group thinking about different aspects of this the book but remember, it is the impact of the artwork, not the written text, that is being judged for the Kate Greenaway Medal.

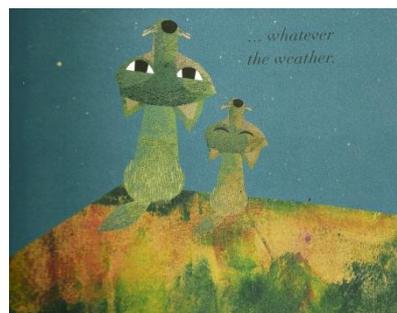
What is the 'message' to readers given by the written text? Look on the back cover for the sentence that starts: *We all live under the same sky* What do you think the poem is saying?

Discuss the suitability of Teckentrup's artistic style as an accompaniment to the 'message' of the book. Are the images realistic depictions of animals or stylised to appeal to an intended audience?

For whom is the 'message' intended? Is it really about animals?

Research

List all the animals you can see in the pictures. Choose one creature to learn more about. Make an A4 poster showing such things as: Where is their natural habitat? What sounds do they make? What do they eat? How do they move? What do you know about the true natures of your chosen creatures?



Draw and decorate

Make copies of the written text on A4 paper. Decorate around the poem with images of your choice or copied from the book.

Under the same sky

*We live under the same sky in lands near and far.
We live under the same sky wherever we are.*

*We feel the same love in the cold ice and snow.
We feel the same love where soft meadows grow.*

*We play the same games where the hills touch the sky.
We play the same games where the grass grows so high.*

*We sing the same songs across the same seas.
We sing the same songs caught on the breeze.*

*We face the same storms where dark forests grow.
We face the same storms where the wild rivers flow.*

*We dream the same dreams whatever the weather.
We dream the same dreams and we dream them together.*

By Britta Teckentrup

Performance

In pairs prepare a performance of the poem that is the written text of this book.

Your presentation can be a simple reading aloud or a full scale 'all singing, all dancing' production. It will depend on how much time you have and access to props, musical instruments etc. Share your efforts with the group or even wider audience.



The CILIP Carnegie
& Kate Greenaway
Children's Book
Awards