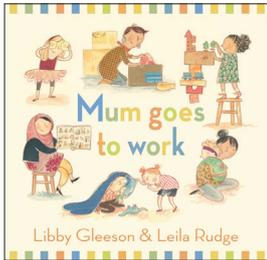


Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Mum Goes to Work

Author: Libby Gleeson
Illustrator: Leila Rudge
ISBN: 9781921529825
ARRP: \$24.95
NZRRP: \$27.99
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

It's early morning and everyone is arriving at the noisy childcare centre. Mum is going to work. "Bye, Mum." What do mums do at work? Are the children as busy as their mums?

A heart-warming look at the busy days of working mothers and their preschool-aged children.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Libby Gleeson AM is the award-winning author of more than 30 books for children and teenagers. She grew up in country towns in Australia and trained as a teacher, living in Europe and England before returning to Australia to write full-time. Her books have been acclaimed both internationally and in Australia. Her awards include thirteen short-listings in the Children's Book Council of Australia Awards, which she has won three times. *The Great Bear* (with Armin Greder) won the Bologna Ragazzi Award in 2000, the first time an Australian title has won this prestigious award, and *Red* won the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Children's Fiction in 2013. Libby has received the Lady Cutler Award for Services to Children's Literature (1997), the NSW Premier's Special Award (2011) and the Dromkeen Medal (2011). In 2007 she was made a Member of the Order of Australia.



Leila Rudge was born in England and grew up making mud pies with six siblings and Jeni from number 15. After completing an Illustration Degree at Bath Spa University, Leila headed to Australia to seek her fortune (and the sunshine). Creating tiny characters for books is her favourite part of illustrating. In 2012, her book *No Bears* (written by Meg McKinlay) was short-listed for the CBCA Picture Book of the Year award in both the Picture Book and Early Childhood categories. *Ted* was her first picture book as both author and illustrator.



How to use these notes:

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

These notes are for:

- Early Childhood
- Primary years
- F-1
- 3+

Key Learning Areas:

- English

Example of:

- Picture Book

Themes/ Ideas:

- Family
- Relationships
- Working Life

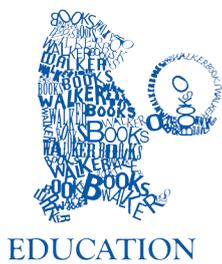
National Curriculum Focus:*

English content descriptions:

Foundation
ACELA1432
ACELA1786
ACELT1575
ACELT1783
ACELT1578
ACELY1646
ACELY1647

Year 1
ACELA1447
ACELA1449
ACELA1451
ACELT1581
ACELT1582
ACELY1655
ACELY1656
ACELY1657

*Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum. However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities

English

What is special about the way names and places are written? Why are names written like that? What does a sentence begin and end with? Find examples of this in the book.

Families

Draw and label a picture of your family. What does each member of your family do? Compare your picture with other students and discuss the similarities and differences.

As a class, write a definition of the word 'family'. The teacher can take notes on the board as students describe what family means to them. There can be more than one definition as family means different things to each person. Discuss how families can have a mum and a dad, just one or the other, two mums or two dads, one child or many children. People may also consider certain people part of their family even if they aren't related.

Work in small groups to find photos of families in magazines. Cut photos out and share your findings with the class, explaining why you chose each photo. Organise the photos to show different family groups, e.g. large families, small families, families where there is only one parent. Create a 'Families Collage' with the pictures and display on your classroom wall.

What does your mum do for work? Interview your mum, asking her where she works (i.e. in an office, at home, at a shop, etc.) and what she does there. Share what you find out with the class.

Make a list of the work that each mum in the book does. Brainstorm a list of other jobs or activities mums could do during the day.

Exploring the Text

There is a little dog on the title page, can you see him on other pages in the book? What is his story? Who does he belong to?

Examine the spread where everyone is having their lunch. There are no words on this page, only pictures. Take turns describing to the class what you think is happening in each image. There are lots of different types of lunches shown on this page. Tell the person sitting next to you about what you have in your lunchbox today.

What do you think Nadia's mother is studying?

Rosie and Jack's mother works at home. Make a list of all the jobs that need to be done at home to make sure the family is well looked after. Do you help with any of these jobs in your home?

Georgia and Louis water the vegetable patch after their sleep. Do you have a vegetable patch at your school/day care? What vegetables have been planted in it? How do you look after a vegetable patch to make sure the plants grow well?

What kind of work do you think Brigit's Mum does in her office?

Look at the endpapers of the book (the first and last pages that are stuck to the inside of the front and back covers). Why do you think the illustrator chose to include these pictures in the book? Draw your own version of these endpapers that features items that you use during your day and items that your mum uses during her day.

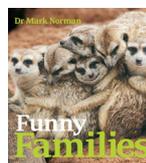
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