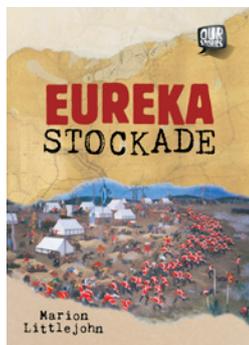




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Our Stories: Eureka Stockade

Marion Littlejohn
ISBN: 9781922179111
ARRP: \$17.95
NZRRP: \$19.99
August 2013

Outline:

On 3 December 1854, well-armed British soldiers and police stormed a crude wooden stockade that had been built by defiant miners fighting for their rights. The battle lasted just twenty minutes but it changed Australia forever. Some say the Eureka Stockade marks the birth of democracy in Australia.

Author/Illustrator Information:

For as long as Marion Littlejohn can remember history has been a passion of hers. She grew up on stories of war time adventures and was one of the first students to enrol at La Trobe University, graduating with a Diploma in Education and a major in History. Marion has taught History, English and Art to secondary students in Melbourne, Darwin, Dimboola and Rochester. In 1995 she made the move from the classroom to the museum world and began working as an Education Officer at the Sovereign Hill outdoor museum in Ballarat. *Our Stories: Eureka Stockade* is her first Walker title.

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.

*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.
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These notes are for:

- Primary year 5
- Ages 8+

Key Learning Areas:

- English
- History

Example of:

- Non-fiction

Themes/ Ideas:

- Gold
- Democracy
- Civil rights
- Australian history

National Curriculum Focus:*
English content descriptions include:

English Year 5	History Year 5
ACELA1500	ACHHK093
ACELA1502	ACHHK094
ACELA1504	ACHHK095
ACELA1797	ACHHK096
ACELT1608	ACHHK097
	ACHHS098
	ACHHS099
ACELY1698	ACHHS100
ACELY1701	ACHHS101
ACELY1703	ACHHS102
ACELY1704	ACHHS103
	ACHHS104
	ACHHS105
	ACHHS106

*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

View the cover and title. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author
- The publisher

Discuss the following: What is the role of the author? What is the role of the publisher?

From the front and back cover what information can you learn about the book? What do you think this book is about? What information do you think will be covered in this book? What type of book is this and where would you expect to find it in your library?

How does the layout of this book affect the readability of the text? Consider the large illustrations and photos, small blocks of text, and bold and coloured sections of text.

A glossary is a collection of words from the book that lists their definitions. Turn to page 32 to view the glossary for *Eureka Stockade*. Are there any extra words in the book that aren't in the glossary that you don't know the meaning of? List these words then research their meaning or ask the class if anyone knows.

In what order is a glossary set out? How does this help when using it?

What is the purpose of an index? In what sort of books would you find one?

Who is the audience for this book? What makes you think that? Who do you think might enjoy this book other than the intended audience?

How do you think this book would be different if the intended audience were:

- Adults with some knowledge of the Eureka Stockade
- Tourists visiting the area
- Anti-war activists

What is gold? What is it used for? Why did the prospect of finding gold bring so many people from all over the world to Australia?

Imagine you are a friend of James "Scottie" Scobie and you have just heard about his murder (see page 15). Write

a diary entry about how you would be feeling about this.

This activity can be extended based on skill level; you could include diary entries before and after the murder and following the subsequent legal battles.

Build a timeline of the build up to the Eureka Stockade. Use pictures and facts to illustrate your timeline. Visit your school or local library to find other books on the topic or search for information on the internet. Use an online interactive timeline creator such as Time Toast (www.timetoast.com) or Tiki Toki (www.tiki-toki.com).

As a class have a discussion on the reliability of information found online. Are all websites reliable? Discuss how addresses ending in .gov or .edu are generally reliable, but other addresses ending in .com need to be used with caution. Why can some websites feature unreliable information?

What is insurrection? When can it occur? Can you think of any other period of social unrest that led to insurrection?

Find Eureka on a map. What is located there now?

Look at the posters on pages 19 and 23. What are these posters persuading the reader to do? Are they effective? Imagine you are either a digger or a government official and create your own persuasive poster to convince readers to agree with your side of the argument.

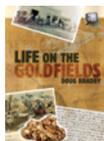
The diggers lost the fight at the Eureka Stockade, but were their efforts in vain? Why or why not?

Even though the battle at the Eureka Stockade was over very quickly, the results can still be felt today. What effect has the Eureka Stockade had on the development of human rights in Australia?

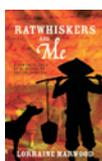
Write a short story based on one of the photos or drawings in *Eureka Stockade*. Look for visual clues in the image for an idea of who these people are, what they are doing, whether they are successful or not. Your story can be from the perspective of any of the people in the image.

Divide the class into groups to make a podcast based on a section of the book. This podcast should have students explaining their understanding of the subject, not just reading from the book.

Other books about the Victorian goldfields



Our Stories: Life on the Goldfields
Doug Bradby
9781742032139
AU\$17.95/NZ\$19.99
Classroom ideas available



Ratwhiskers and Me
Lorraine Marwood
9781921150395
AU\$15.95/NZ\$17.99
Classroom ideas available



The Adventures of Nelly Nolan: The Nelly Gang
Stephen Axelsen
9781921977916
AU\$19.95/NZ\$24.99
Classroom ideas available



The Night We Made the Flag
Carole Wilkinson and Sebastian Ciaffaglione (illus)
9781922179159
AU\$16.95/NZ\$18.99
Classroom ideas available