

Teaching Notes by Monica Reeve 2020, Bachelor of Education

BUG SOUP BEAT

Author: Monica Reeve

Illustrator: Monica Reeve

Author's Country of Origin:

Australia (Tasmania)

Publisher: 40 South Publishing,

Hobart - Tasmania

Ages: Pre-K to 10 years

Genre: Fiction / Information

Text Structure: Chronological - The story begins with the onset of

evening through to dawn.

Illustrations: Cut-paper collage (acrylic paint, recycled

components)

Content: Bug Soup Beat explores a variety of night time creatures, their movement, habitats and feeding

habits during the night.

Themes & Ideas: Time, science, nature, animals, insects, food chain, movement, mathematics, positional language, feasting

Language & Literary Features:

rhyme / chant

Sentence Complexity: Repetitive

chant and complex sentences

Core Vocabulary: evening, garden, shadows, tomorrow, bushes, trees, bugs, leaves, beat, dancing, creatures, creepy, flying, night, light, eating, dark, feast, soup, darkness, moon, dreaming

Rich Vocabulary: moonrise, dawn, spooky, shroud, shiver, rustle, scuttling, rustle, ghoulish, shuffling, flitting, bespoke, weaving, powdery, emerge, navigating, glimmers, camouflaged



SUMMARY

Have you ever wondered what creep-crawlies do at night?

Sliding, rolling, creeping, marching to the beat; one hundred bugs are dancing to the night-time bug soup beat.

Starting with sunset, this story explores a range of night-time creatures, their movement, diets, habits and habitats. The story ends with the whimsical dream of tomorrow's night-time feast as sunrise heralds the new day.

The story is written in verse with rich vocabulary. Every third page consists of a colourful bold chant, which develops through the course of the story - children LOVE reading participating in the chant!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Monica Reeve has always lived along the North-West Coast of Tasmania. For the past twenty years she has worked as a primary school teacher with a passion for early childhood education and the visual arts.



Bug Soup Beat (2019) was Monica's first published children's picture book, followed by Pecking Order? (2019). Monica has also written a number of other children's stories and is currently illustrating these.

The idea for Bug Soup Beat first popped into the author's head one summer's night after a very close encounter with a rather large huntsman spider in her backyard! Unable to sleep that night, the text came quickly to Monica, and by 2am the next morning Bug Soup Beat had arrived filled with hungry snails, spiders, scorpions, moths, and mosquitos all looking for food. Over the following months, Monica used "cut-paper collage" to create each illustration to make Bug Soup Beat come alive. The cut-paper collage process involves painting large sheets of paper various hues, along with collecting recycled scraps of paper and card. These pieces are then hand cut into the required shapes and pieced together to form a new illustration.

BEFORE READING - IDEAS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1) Look at the cover (front and back)
- 2) Discuss with your child / students the following questions;
- What are three things can you see?
- What is a question or wondering you have about this story?
- What clues does the blurb give?
- 3) Together, look through and discuss the illustrations first, before reading the text.

TALKING POINTS

- What creatures come out at night?
- What do we call creatures that are most active at night? (nocturnal)
- What is a 'food chain'?
- What elements of this story are fiction?
- What elements of this story are non-fiction?
- Where there any "tricky" words? (list and discuss meanings)

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The text and illustrations in Bug Soup Beat lend themselves to many rich learning experiences, here are a few ideas to get you started! - Monica

ENGLISH

- Create a list of words with the **-ing** suffix
- Create a list of rhyming words from the story
- Complete the "Word Detective" activity as you read through the story

MATHEMATICS / SCIENCE

- Create a Food Chain or Food Map diagram for creepy crawlies. (You may need to research 'food chains' first.)
- Create a graph to record how many of each animal you can find throughout the story. How many creatures are illustrated in the entire book?
- Investigate what creepy crawlies are in your backyard, woodpile, playground, local park. Take photos or notes to record your findings. (CAUTION always show respect for creepy crawlies look with your eyes and **don't touch**...some bite or sting!)

VISUAL ART

- Create your own illustrations using the "cut-paper collage" technique. (Collect paper and card to recycle, pre-paint sheets of paper with acrylic paints. Tear, cut and glue together to create.)
- Complete the Draw and Colour activity of the creatures from the story
- Draw a picture of the creepy crawlies' party at the end of the story. Now, draw a picture of a party you have been to. How do they compare?

MUSIC

• Collect instruments or household items to create sounds to represent the different creatures and their movement through the story. (Don't forget your voice is a fantastic instrument too!)



AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM LINKS

Bug Soup Beat and the above Learning Experiences successfully support many curriculum areas and year levels within the Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework.

https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/

https://www.education.gov.au/early-years-learning-framework-0

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CONTACT

You can contact Monica Reeve via <u>mydailydraw@gmail.com</u>

You can follow my journey on Instagram - pigment.monicareeve

Words with -ing 📏

The suffix -ing expresses the action of the verb. roll + ing = rolling

As you read through Bug Soup Beat, create a list of words with the **-ing** suffix.

- scuttling
- · sliding
- · rolling
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*BUG SOUP BEAT - Food Chain / Map

Think about the creatures in the story. What does each creature eat? Where do humans fit into the food chain? Draw a diagram to show your thinking.



Create a graph to record how many of each creepy-crawly you can find. How many creepy crawlies did you find?

Bug Soup Beat - Draw and Colour 🥒 🎨



snail	ants
mosquito	slug
scorpion	moths
owl	cat

BUG SOUP BEAT - rhyming word list 📏



- 1) Read through the story to find the rhyming words on each page.
- 2) Complete the rhyming word chart.
- 3) In the third column, "my word" write another word that rhymes (it doesn't have to be from the text)

	from the text	my word
lawn	dawn	fawn
trees		
in		
sticks		
night		
peek		
trails		
done		
lawn		
beat		



1) Read through Bug Soup Beat to complete the chart

another word for COVE	a word beginning with M	a word with 9 letters
a word that rhymes with leaves	Sliding, rolling, creeping, marching to the	a word beginning with Z
the creepy crawly with the most legs	What did the spiders write into their web?	3 words that describe eating
What are the worms hiding from?	3 words to describe snails	camouflage means
another word for feast	a word with 8 letters	What is the mosquito in the chair doing?

TEACHING NOTES Bug Soup Beat