



**Title:** My Shadow is Purple

**Author & Illustrator:** Scott Stuart

**Publisher:** Larrikin House

**Target Age Group:** 3-8 years

**Key Curriculum Areas:** English, HPE, The Arts, Social & Emotional Learning (SEL).

## KEY CURRICULUM LINKS

English:

Foundation: ACELA1439, ACELT1580, ACELT1570, ACELY1646, ACELT1575.

Years 1&2: ACELT1585, ACELT1582, ACELT1581.

HPE:

Foundation: ACPPS003, ACPPS004, ACPPS006.

Years 1&2: ACPPS018, ACPPS019, ACPPS020.

The Arts:

Foundation: ACAMAM054, ACAMAM056, ACAVAM108.

Years 1&2: ACAMAM054, ACAMAM056, ACAVAM108.

## THEMES

Gender  
Stereotypes  
Non-binary  
Identity  
Acceptance  
Being true to yourself  
Self-acceptance  
Equality  
Social & Emotional Learning

## SYNOPSIS

My Dad has a shadow that's blue as a berry.  
And my Mum's is as pink as a blossoming cherry.  
There's only those choices, a 2 or a 1.  
But mine is quite different, it's both and it's none.

A heartwarming and inspiring book about being true to yourself, by best-selling children's book creator Scott Stuart. This story considers gender beyond binary in a vibrant spectrum of colour.

## USING THESE NOTES

These teachers notes and suggested activities have been organised under the Australian Curriculum and are based on themes explored in the story *My Shadow is Purple*. Activity sheets are provided for classroom use and are best suited to years F to 2.

Further resources and activities are available from [larrikinhouse.com.au](http://larrikinhouse.com.au)





## ACTIVITIES

### BEFORE READING

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this story might be about?
2. Can you point out the following features of the book?  
(Spine, title, illustration, front page, back page, blurb, end papers).

### DURING READING

Recognising rhyming words - Ask students put up their hand when they notice any rhyming words on a selected page. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Recognising alliteration - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice any alliteration used in the story. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Clap the rhythm - On a selected page, students clap their hands along to the beat of the words. (ACELT1585)

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think will happen next?
2. Do you think the character in the story will ever be able to fit in?
3. Have you ever been worried about being yourself?
4. Have you or someone in your family felt different to others?
5. What do you know about gender?
6. Can you make any connections to the story so far?  
(ACELT1575) (ACELY1646) (ACELT1582) (ACPPS020) (ACPPS004)

### AFTER READING

Questions to ask:

1. What did you enjoy most about the story?
2. Who was your favourite character? Why?  
(ACELY1646) (ACELT1581)





## SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

**1. Cloze passages:** Choose a section of text and omit words. Students to fill in the blanks.

Curriculum Links: (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELY1650) (ACELA1447) (ACELA1448)

**2. Character Profile:** Students draw the characters in the story and write their attributes under the pictures.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACELA1586)

**3. Word Search:** Create a word search using words from the text.

Curriculum links: (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007) (ACELY1653)

### 4. Retell Activities:

a. Create a table with the following headings: Setting (Where?) - Characters (Who?) - Problem (What?) - 1. In the beginning - 2. Next - 3. Then - 4. Finally - 5. Solution - 6. Lastly. Ask students to write or draw the order of events in the story.

b. Write short sentences which retell the story and jumble them up. Ask students to put them in the correct order.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007)

**5. Acrostic Poem:** Students choose a character from the story and write an acrostic poem.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM056)

**6. Write a blurb:** Explore the existing blurb on the back cover. Explain the purpose of the blurb to the students and ask them to create their own blurb.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACELA1586)

**7. Pronouns:** Create pronoun posters for the classroom.

Curriculum Links: (ACAMAM054) (ACELT1581) (ACELT1582) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002) (ACHASSI003)

**8. My shadow is...:** Making connections. Have students colour in the lego character as themselves then their shadow in their colour of choice. Ask students to outline theirs and/or others shadows in coloured chalk on the concrete on a sunny day.

Curriculum Links: (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056)

**9. Shadowy Similes:** Explore similes and show the examples in the story. Students can complete the worksheet and create their own simile.

Curriculum Links: (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELY1650) (ACELA1447) (ACELA1448)

**10. Bitmoji Bookmarks:** Create a Bitmoji with each student in the class. Allow students to choose their own hair style, eye colour, accessories, outfits and more! Create a bookmark for each student using Canva which features their personal Bitmoji. Print and laminate for each student.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007)

**11. Wear It Purple Day:** Celebrate *Wear It Purple* day in your classroom or as a whole school.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Scott Stuart is a best-selling children's book author who is committed to creating content that empowers kids. His books have appeared on numerous best-seller lists, as well as being shortlisted for ABIA Children's Book of the Year and CBCA Notable Picture Book of the Year.

His empowering messages have been seen over 100 million times on Social Media, and he is a leading voice on fully accepting and empowering our children, exactly as they are.



## FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Scott Stuart Website: [scottstuart.co](http://scottstuart.co)

Scott Stuart Instagram: [instagram.com/scottcreates](https://www.instagram.com/scottcreates)

Also by Scott Stuart - *My Shadow is Pink* available from: [larrikinhouse.com.au](http://larrikinhouse.com.au)

ISBN:

9781922503817 (Hardback)

Further resources:

<https://www.pgdc.org.au>

<https://transcend.org.au>

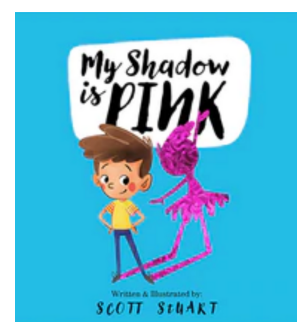
<https://raisingchildren.net.au>

<https://www.becausewhy.org.au>

<https://strongsafefabulous.online>

<https://www.minus18.org.au>

<https://www.wearitpurple.org>



To order copies of this title visit: [www.larrikinhouse.com.au](http://www.larrikinhouse.com.au)

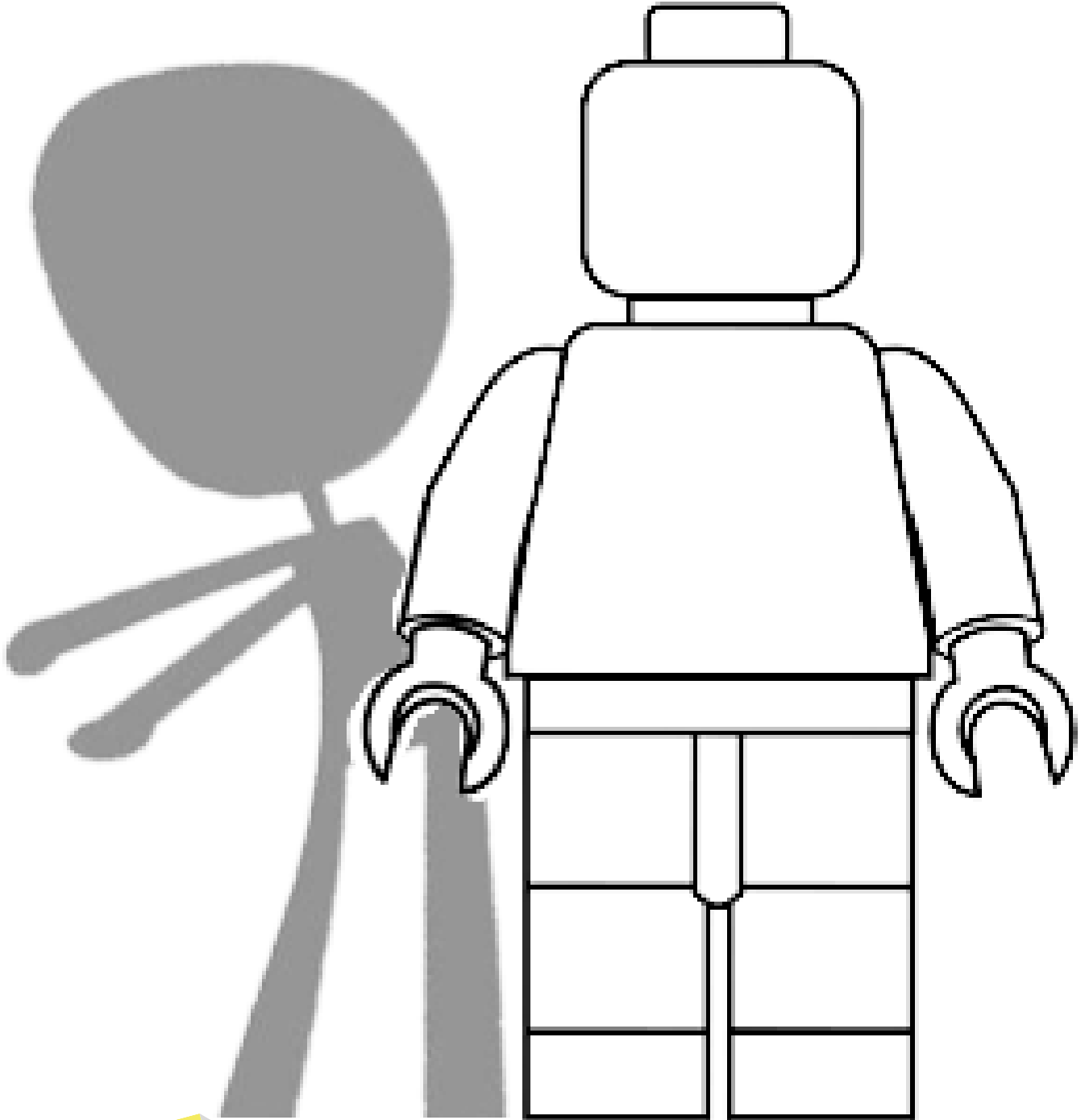
*Stories with Humour & Heart*

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# My shadow is...

Today my shadow is \_\_\_\_\_.



**MY SHADOW IS PURPLE**  
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ORDER FROM: [larrikinhouse.com.au](http://larrikinhouse.com.au)

**WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY:**  
Scott Stuart  
[@scottcreates](https://twitter.com/scottcreates)

## Shadowy Similes

Research: What is a simile?

Can you complete the similes from the story and come up with one of your own?

As blue as a

-----.

As pink as a  
blossoming

-----.

As brown  
as a big

-----  
bear!

As \_\_\_\_\_  
as a

\_\_\_\_\_!



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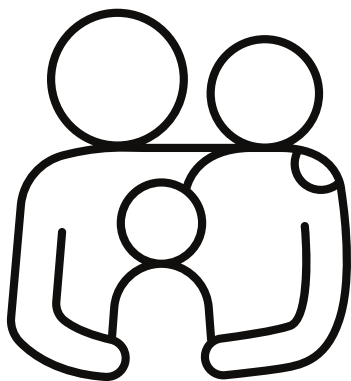
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# Gender Identity & Pronouns

Pronouns help us talk to people with respect.

Pronouns are words used to refer to a person rather than using their name. Some pronouns are gendered like she/her/hers or he/him/his and some are gender neutral, like they/them/theirs. You cannot tell what pronouns people use by looking at them. Using the right pronouns for someone is super important because it affirms the way that person sees themselves.

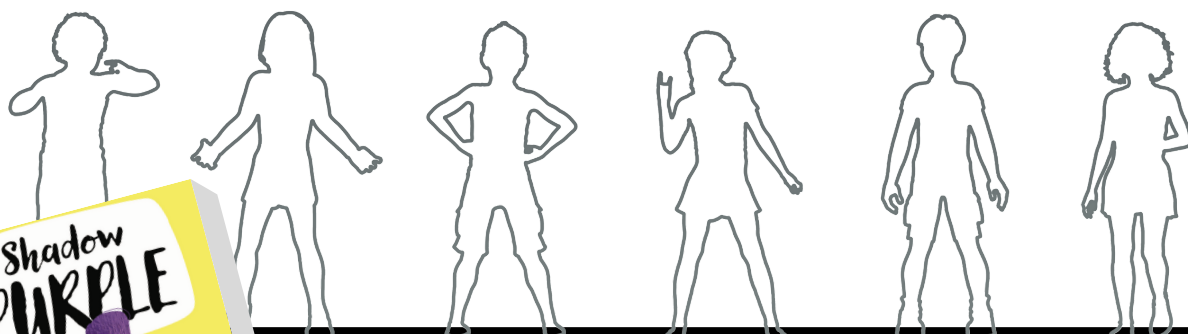
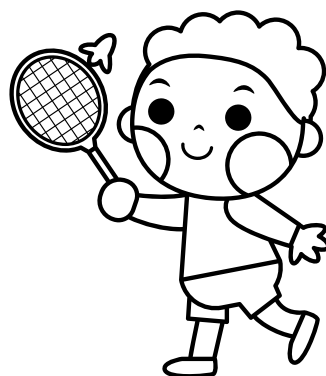
## Be You!



She likes her hair short  
He likes his hair long  
Both think that they're right  
And neither are wrong

It's okay to be different  
It's okay to be same  
What matters most is  
No one feels shamed

So be who you are  
Be she, he or they  
Be you, just be you  
Come on - Let's go and play!



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# Pronouns

Create a poster using some pronouns that you know.



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