

Title: Crocs don't do Yoga

Author: Michelle Wilson

Illustrator: Catherine Suvorova

Publisher: Larrikin House

Target Age Group: 3-8 years

Key Curriculum Areas: English, The Arts, HASS, Health and Physical Education and Social & Emotional Learning (SEL).

SYNOPSIS

Crocs don't do yoga... or do they?

Connie the Croc from Constant Creek, was a spirited youngster with a stubborn streak.

Connie gets cranky easily and needs to find a way to calm her snappiness. With a little help from her friends, she learns to breathe, meditate and even learns some interesting yoga poses.

THEMES

Meditation, Yoga, Social and Emotional Learning, problem-solving, friendship, resilience, overcoming challenges.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michelle Wilson lives in Mackay, Queensland with her husband and two spirited children. When she isn't working as a primary school teacher, or wrangling her wild bunch at home, she's probably down at the beach or up a secret creek catching dinner. Michelle loves the lighter side of life and a good belly laugh. She delights in giving children the giggles through her silly antics and big personality. Michelle writes from the heart with a down-to-earth style, reflecting the quintessential Queensland way. Her stories spark curiosity and help children better understand themselves and the world around them.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Catherine Suvorova lives in Yekaterinburg, Russia with her lovely husband and bohemian cats: Milan and Salvador. Catherine has loved drawing since she was a little girl and recently chose to leave her private school business (developing after-school programs for kids) to pursue her destiny in children's illustration. When not drawing, Catherine can always be found laughing, singing or drawing something just for herself.

Stories with Humour & Heart

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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 to snap like a Croc and put up their hand when they notice the 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. How do you think the main character will solve her problem?
3. Have you ever tried breathing to calm down?
4. Have you ever tried yoga?
5. What do you know about crocodiles?
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. What was your favourite solution to staying calm? 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 name underneath each picture.
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. Mix and Match:** Connect the character and the solution to the problem using clues from the story.
Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACELT1580) (ACELT1831) (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACTDEP007) (ACTDEK004) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002)
- 8. Information Poster:** Create a poster about crocodiles or another animal or creature from the story.
Curriculum Links: (ACAMAM054) (ACELT1581) (ACELT1582) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002) (ACHASSI003)
- 9. Yoga practice with Connie - Activity:** Can you move your body like Connie the Croc?
Curriculum Links: (ACPPS007) (ACPMP008) (ACPMP010) (ACPMP012) (ACPMP014)
- 10. Smiling Mind - Meditation:** Access the website to find resources for meditation that can be used in the classroom: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>



FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Michelle Wilson: <https://www.facebook.com/michellewilsondreamweaver/>

Catherine Suvorova Website: <https://www.catherinesuv.com/>

Smiling Mind: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>

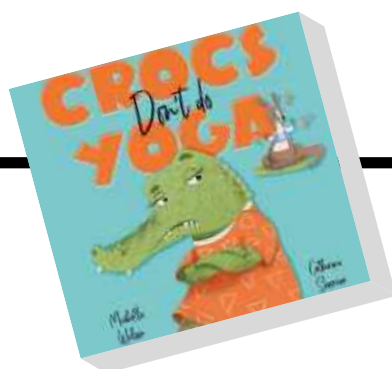
Further SEL resources: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/positive-behaviour-mental-health-and-wellbeing-approaches-in-our-schools/social-and-emotional-learning-approaches>



To order copies of this title visit: www.larrikinhouse.com

Yoga practice with Connie

Try some of Connie's poses below to help you stay calm today



CROCS DON'T DO YOGA

ISBN: 9781922503237

PUBLISHER: Larrikin House

ORDER FROM: larrikinhouse.com

WRITTEN BY: Michelle Wilson

 @michellewilsondreamweaver

ILLUSTRATED BY: Catherine Suvorova

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Word Search

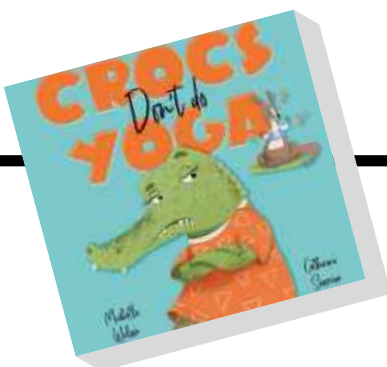
Find the hidden words and circle them

D T E E T H F B T A B D L R C
E T I N G I R Y H I D M E A A
T Z F C R E U V B S G H P R R
I G K J A Q S H C B T H D L I
R S R T A O T O Q E A Y T M N
I K H I B W R N G C O R E E G
P N P M N C A O R G K D C G N
S A A I U D T Y A O I R D A A
M H N Y T M I B T T B A N B L
U T S K X H O K A U E B H B O
S H O R T E N T P H O X U Y U
C B S S E N I P P A H P K T V
D N I K O O F C A L M S A W S
S B U S N E X O L B I N L W A
H M O I E T L X G Q W V D A O

CARING
FRUSTRATION
HAPPINESS
JAW
POUT
SPIRITED
THANKS
YOGA

BREATH
CRABBY
GABBY
HEAD
KIND
SHORTEN
STUBBORN
TIGHTEN

CALM
CROCS
GRIND
IGNITE
MEDITATION
SNAP
TEETH
TOGETHER



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