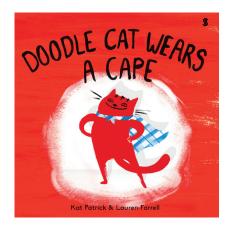
Teaching Notes



Title: Doodle Cat Wears A Cape

Doodle Cat Wears A Cape

Kat Patrick Lauren Farrell

PLOT

Doodle Cat is back! Can you see his cape?

He can perform all kinds of superhero acts, like catching humans when they fall from trees and firing furballs at top speed.

But will Doodle Cat's superpowers work when his friend is sad? Maybe he'll have to try something new.

Filled with Doodle Cat's signature exuberance and joy comes this hilarious and touching story of friendship, superheroes, love, and capes.

THEMES

Author: Kat Patrick

Author: Lauren Farrell

ISBN: 9781925713961

Publication: May 2019

- * Friendship
- ***** Empathy
- * Emotion
- * Patience
- * Teamwork

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Before you read the book, what do you think the story will be about?
- How do you feel after reading the book?
- How do you show that you are a good friend? What actions show support and kindness to your friends?
- What do you think Pangolin is sad about? Did you know that pangolins are an endangered species? You could do some research into pangolins!
- Why don't Doodle Cat's lively superpowers help Pangolin? What does Doodle Cat do to help Pangolin?
- Everyone has capes together! Why does it make you feel good to have lots of friends being super with you?



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AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Kat Patrick recently realised she never actually grew up, and so has been trying to make a living as a writer ever since. Originally from the UK, she has written her way around the world, and after stints in New Zealand, Australia, Iceland, Paris and Patagonia, she is now based in Glasgow.



ILLUSTRATOR BIOGRAPHY

Lauren Farrell is, above all things, a doodler. There was never any questioning her career path.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Design, majoring in illustration, she has made a successful living doodling. Endlessly.

ACTIVITIES

Draw a picture of you as a superhero Using pencil or paints draw a picture of you as a superhero. Don't forget your cape!

Pangolin Parade

Do some research into pangolins. They are a very curious creature. Why are they covered in scales? Where do pangolins live? You could make a poster, or a website about pangolins.

Lick the Milky Way

Pangolin can lick the Milky Way. Why don't you make a mural of the Milky Way with paints and glitter? Don't lick it!

Superpowers

Decide what superpowers everyone in your class or kinder room has. For example, Doodle Cat's superpower is HUGS. Wizard Susan eats all her vegies. Tell each other about your superpowers! You could write everybody's superpowers on the whiteboard.

Paper Rainbow of Kindness

Work together to create a long paper chain of kindness using coloured strips of paper and make a 'kindness corner' in your classroom.

- Get lots of sheets of coloured paper make sure to have lots of colours.
- Get the class to cut the paper into strips and mix them all up in a basket or a box.
- Have a group discussion about kindness things the children have done that were kind, or kind acts that they have witnessed.
- Get everyone to write these acts of kindness on the strips of paper.
- Make a long paper chain using all the strips and string them up in a corner of your classroom.

INTERVIEW WITH THE CREATORS

WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION FOR WRITING DOODLE CAT IS BORED?

KP: Super-cats and super-pangolins wearing tiny tea towel capes! But mostly, I wanted to communicate the idea that empathy is one of the most important superpowers you can use. It makes everyone into a super-friend.



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HOW DID YOU CREATE THE ILLUSTRATIONS?

LF: I try to do the illustrations as quickly as possible so that they have lots of energy. Painting can be quite messy but I think the mess really suits Doodle Cat. And I try not to worry about mistakes unless it's a big one, like spilling my tea all over the page!

CAN YOU TELL US HOW YOU FIRST BECAME A WRITER OR AN ILLUSTRATOR?

KP: Ever since I was small, I have been filling very top-secret notebooks with stories. As I got a little older I decided they didn't have to be top-secret and started sharing them with other people. It is always a bit scary but I think it's the best job on planet earth.

LF: I have always loved drawing, so I decided to study illustration at university and have been drawing ever since! I feel very lucky to be doing the thing I love most and making a living from it.

WHO ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE PICTURE BOOK CREATORS?

KP: My favourite person in the picture book world is Ursula Nordstrom, the editor who brought books like *Where The Wild Things Are, Goodnight Moon* and *Charlotte's Web* to life. She had a huge heart and was unafraid to push the boundaries of what a picture book could be (in a very moralistic, pursed-lip era!).

Then there's John Burningham because he seemed to remember perfectly what it's like to be a kid, and the wonderful way your imagination twists and turns and flips upside down.

Finally, there's Wolf Erlbruch who could handle topics like death and poo with the same beautiful, eloquent pragmatism.

LF: Richard Scarry. His Busytown books have heavily influenced my own work. I could see Doodle Cat happily driving a pickle car through the streets of Busytown and being perfectly at home.

Maurice Sendak is another old favourite. His illustrations are dark and moody, yet seem perfectly at home in a children's book.



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