Little Puggle's Christmas Teaching Notes

Written by Vikki Conley Illustrated by Hélène Magisson Published by New Frontier Publishing www.newfrontierpublishing.co.uk www.newfrontier.com.au





SYNOPSIS

Puggle the echidna wants to help prepare for Christmas Day. But every time he tries, nothing seems to work out. Will a Christmas wish help Puggle find a way to rescue all the presents on Christmas Eve? A magical story by award-winning creators, Vikki Conley and Hélène Magisson, about finding your place, never giving up and making dreams happen.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vikki is an award-winning author with multiple internationally published picture books. An intrepid traveller, nature lover and creative all-rounder, she has worked as a professional writer, with diverse communities in Africa, Asia and Australia, for over 20 years. Inspired by nature and her country childhood in Gippsland, Vikki writes and shares stories that celebrate the spirit of wonder, freedom and adventure that she wishes every child could enjoy. Her title *On the Way to School* is shortlisted for Speech Pathology Book of the Year 2023, Amira's Suitcase became a CBCA Honour Book in 2022 and *Little Puggle's Song* became a CBCA Notable Book in 2020. She is also the 2023 CBCA winner for her book, Where the Lyrebird Lives.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Hélène Magisson started her artistic career as a painting restorer in Paris, where she was also trained in the art of medieval illumination. Hélène has lived in Africa, France and India but has now settled down in Australia with her family. Her travels both inspire and enrich her work. In 2013, she started a new career in children's books illustration. Since then, she has illustrated several books, including classics like *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams Bianco and more contemporary stories like *Slowly! Slowly!* by TM Clark, CBCA 2018 Notable Picture Book of the Year.

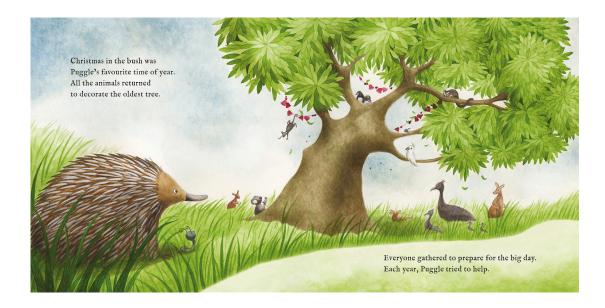
EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Little Puggle's Christmas takes the reader into a fantastical bush Christmas experience and reintroduces us to the loveable Little Puggle. Celebrating inclusivity and diversity, we know that Little Puggle feels loved and treasured in the end. This is a wonderful starting point for discussions about finding your place, never giving up and making dreams happen. There are stunning illustrations throughout by award-winning illustrator Hélène Magisson.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Before, during and after reading the book

- 1. Introduce Little Puggle's Christmas to the children and ask them what they think the story might be about.
- 2. Have the children read *Little Puggle's Song* the first book in the series. What do they think is similar and different about the two books?
- 3. What happens when Puggle tries to help his friends get ready for Christmas? What do Long Tail, Lacy Tail and Mama Grey say to him?
- 4. How does Little Puggle deal with the situation?
- 5. What happens after Little Puggle makes a Christmas wish? Who does he meet?
- 6. Does Father Christmas believe in Little Puggle's abilities? What does Father Christmas say to Little Puggle? Has anyone ever said similar something like this to you? How did it make you feel?
- 7. How does Little Puggle help? Can you remember a time when you helped like this? Does this remind you of a challenge that you have once faced?
- 8. If someone believes in you, if they really think you can do something right, does it make a difference to how you feel about yourself?
- 9. After reading the book, ask them what they thought about the story? Which was their favourite part and why?



ACTIVITY

WORDSEARCH

Find all the words in the Little Puggle's Christmas wordseach.

Name: Class: Date:



LITTLE PUGGLE'S CHRISTMAS

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BELIEVE CHRISTMAS FATHERCHRISTMAS GUMNUTS LACYTAIL LITTLEPUGGLE LONGTAIL MAMAGREY NECTAR PRESENTS REDBELLS SLEIGH STAR TREE WISH

word search www.edu-games.org



Answer Sheet

word search

LITTLE PUGGLE'S CHRISTMAS

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BELIEVE CHRISTMAS FATHERCHRISTMAS GUMNUTS LACYTAIL LITTLEPUGGLE LONGTAIL MAMAGREY NECTAR PRESENTS REDBELLS SLEIGH STAR TREE WISH

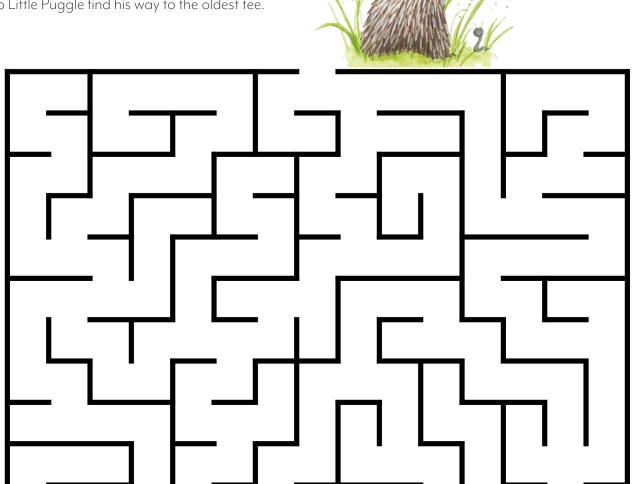
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ACTIVITY A-MAZE-ING LITTLE PUGGLE

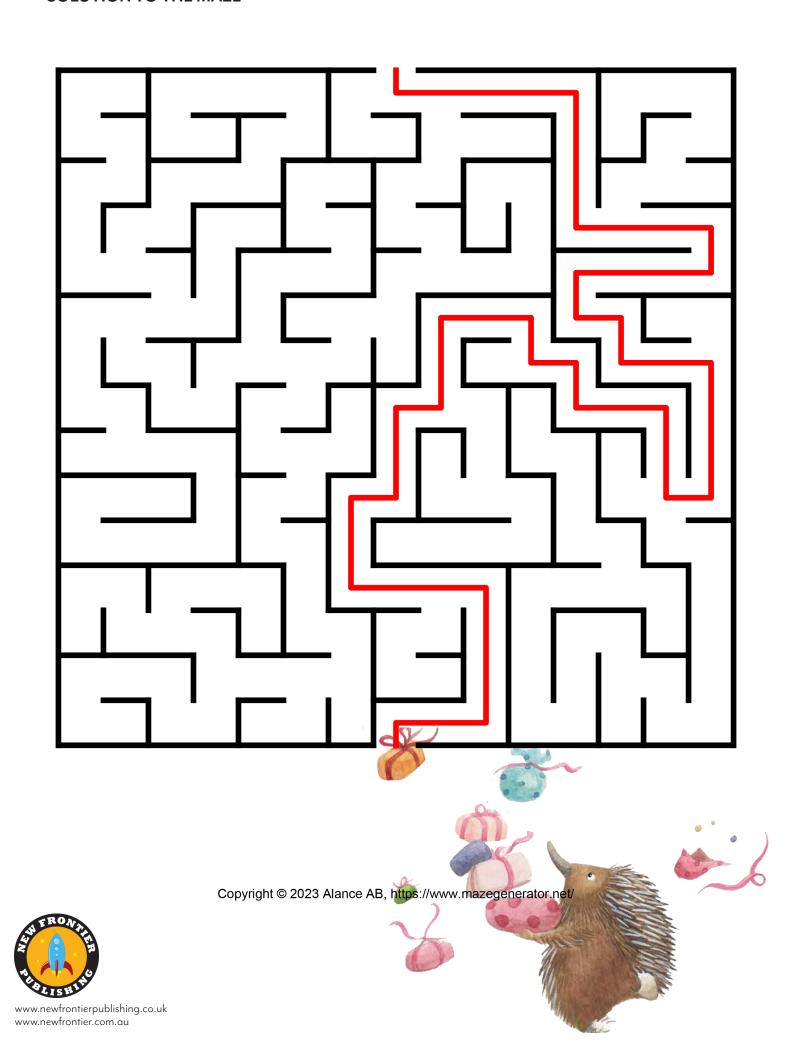
Help Little Puggle find his way to the oldest tee.



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SOLUTION TO THE MAZE



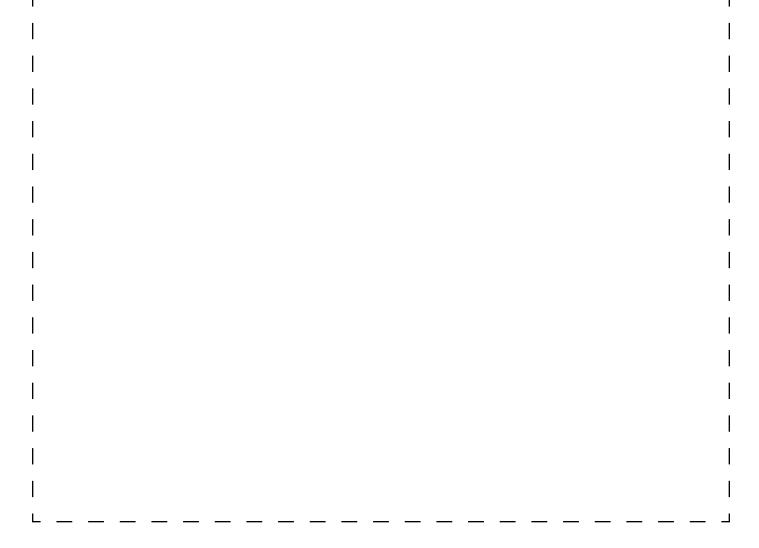
LITTLE PUGGLE'S CHRISTMAS CARD AND PRESENT TAGS

Copy this scene on to the space below. Then cut it out and stick it on to some card. Now you have your very own Little Puggle's Christmas card! On the next page, write and cut out the Little Puggle present tags and put them on

presents for your family and friends.











LITTLE PUGGLE'S CHRISTMAS COLOURING-IN

Colour in these gorgeous scenes from Little Puggle's Christmas.



