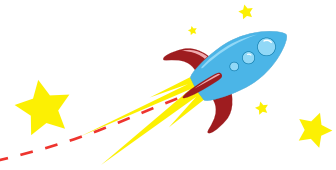


IS IT THE WAY YOU GIGGLE?

Written by Nicola Connelly

Illustrated by Annie White

Published by New Frontier Publishing



SYNOPSIS

All children are special in their own way. This book celebrates the uniqueness and individuality of children.

AUTHOR MOTIVATION

Nicola enjoys creating stories that are simple, heartwarming and encourage family bonding time. The motivation for Nicola was to write a simple yet descriptive story for young children to read and identify their own qualities that make them special. She enjoys writing text that is at an achievable level for young children to take ownership of their reading and develop confidence. Nicola has a firm belief in the importance of encouraging children to begin reading from a young age and to inspire children to find the joy in reading. The main inspiration for the story was the students that Nicola has taught of the years and her young nephews and niece.

AUTHOR BACKGROUND

Nicola Connelly is an emerging Australian author. The stories that she writes are based on real life experiences and those she likes to read now and when she was a child. She is a primary school teacher with a passion for writing children's books. Over the last seven years Nicola has been teaching primary school children in both Queensland and Victoria. Nicola loves working with children and very much enjoys reading rich literature to her students. She realised the potential children's book have for teaching and the positive learning effect they had on her students and so she began to study different authors, often as an author study with her students. With her students, she appreciated stories by Jeannie Baker, Mex Fox, Jackie French, Graeme Base, Alison Lester and Pamela Allen. Nicola's first book, *My Dad is a Bear* was published by New Frontier Publishing in 2014. This story of a very cuddly looking bear was listed as a Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Notable Book for 2015 and shortlisted for the Prime Minister Literary Awards 2015.

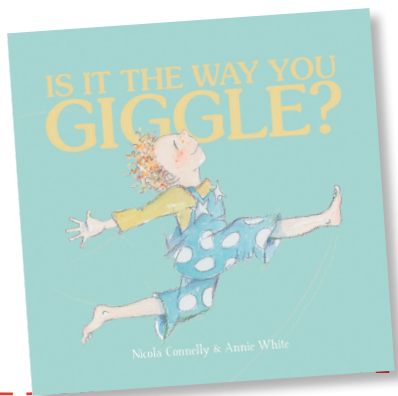
ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND

Annie grew up in Geelong. Her childhood was spent on the beaches along the Great Ocean Road, climbing very tall trees, delighting in the worlds of A. A. Milne, *The Magic Faraway Tree* and *Alice in Wonderland* and drawing endlessly at the kitchen table.

After studying Art and Design, she worked in advertising and then became a full time Illustrator.

Annie's favourite kind of work is illustrating books for children but her drawings have also been turned into jigsaw puzzles, stamps, stencils, magazines and murals.



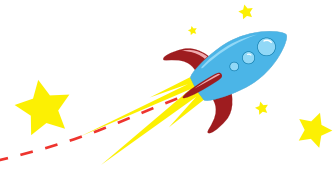


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Recently, Annie has also begun to write and her first book, *Clementine's Walk*, was shortlisted in the Speech Pathologist's Awards.

Two of her picture books, *Mbobo Tree* (Glenda Millard) and *My Dad Is A Bear* (Nicola Connelly), have been listed as CBCA Notable books. *My Dad Is A Bear* was also shortlisted in the Prime Minister's Literary Awards.

ILLUSTRATOR STYLE OR MEDIUM

Annie has used watercolour and pencil to illustrate the story of *Is It The Way You Giggle*.

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

The key themes in this book is descriptive language and personal qualities. It has great potential as a writing prompt to have students write about what they believe makes them special.

MARKETING AND SELLING POINTS

- *Is It The Way You Giggle?* is worded simply for early readers.
- Great story for a teaching resource.
- Annie White is a highly regarded illustrator; she brings the children to life with endearing illustrations.
- Harmony Day - this book would be a great resource to help celebrate diversity.

ILLUSTRATOR/AUTHOR STUDY:

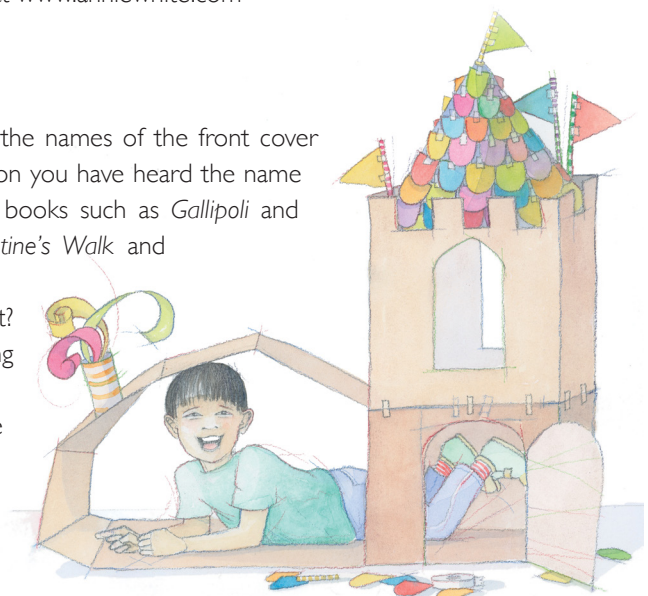
If you are studying an author or looking for illustration inspirations, find some other books illustrated and written by Annie White in your school library. Ask prompting questions such as:

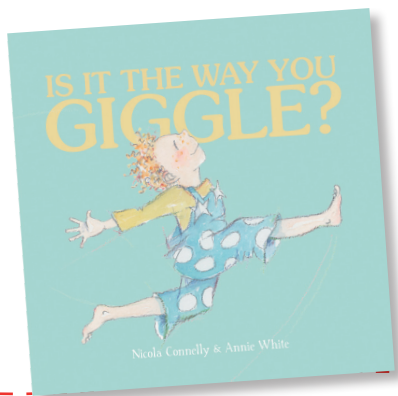
- Are the illustrations similar to her other books?
- What medium does Annie White use to create her images?
- Explore some of the books she has written. Take a look at www.anniewhite.com

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Before and during reading the book:

1. Introduce the book – read the title and ask who may the names of the front cover represent. Read the author and illustrator's name. Mention you have heard the name Annie White before because she has illustrated other books such as *Gallipoli* and authored and illustrated other books such as *Clementine's Walk* and *Clementine's Bath*. Take a look at www.anniewhite.com
2. Ask students what they think this book may be about? How do you think the child on the front cover is feeling and why? What other predictions can you make?
3. As you read the book emphasise the descriptive language used.



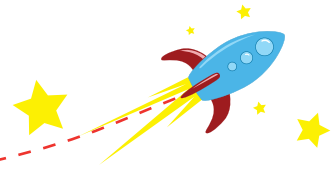


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After reading the book:

1. Ask children if they enjoyed the story? Would they recommend it to someone else? Out of five stars, what would they rate it?
2. Ask students if they could identify with any of the children in the book? Do they look or do anything similar to the characters in the book?
3. What were some the words used to describe the way the characters looked? What activities did the children like to do?

ACTIVITIES

Writing Prompts

Is It The Way You Giggle? is a great writing prompt to encourage children to write about themselves. Written below are some examples of sentence starters to get students writing. These prompts are more likely suited for lower primary years.

- *I am special because...*
- *I am good at...*
- *My face has...*



Writing Ideas

Ask students to draw a picture of themselves with all their unique features. Have students write interesting adjectives around the picture about themselves.

Is It The Way You Giggle?

See how many words you can find.

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

GIGGLE
SKIN
EARS
FEET
FINGERS
CHEEKY
LAUGH

COLOUR
CHEEKS
FRONT
DANCE
DINOSAURS
FAMILY
CHEER

FRECKLES
CHIN
TEETH
COUNT
SPECIAL
JOKES
DIFFERENT

Have fun colouring the picture. Don't forget the freckles!

What makes you special?

Is it the colour of your eyes? Is it the colour of your skin? Is it the freckles on your cheeks? Or your pointy little chin?



from *Is It The Way You Giggles?* written by Nicola Connelly and illustrated by Annie White,
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www.newfrontier.com.au

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