

Teaching Notes

In My Dreams



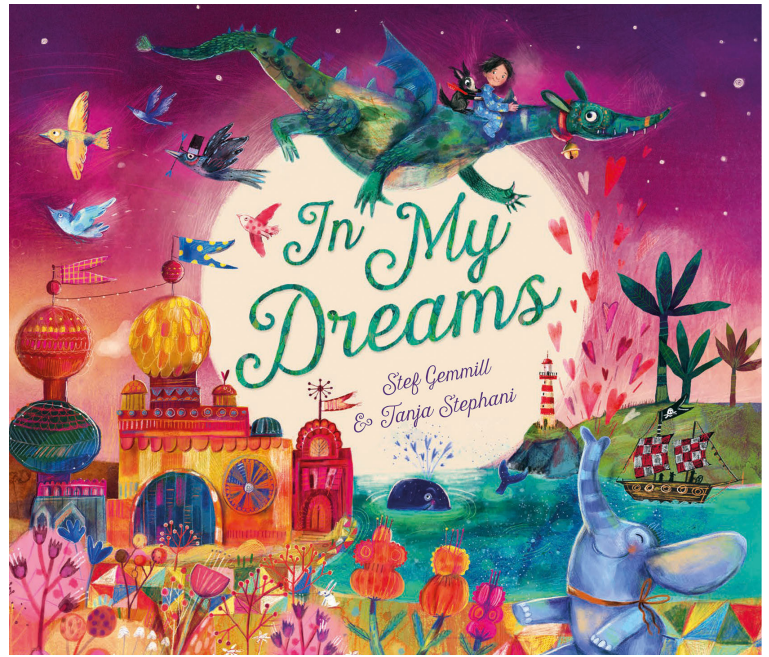
In My Dreams

Synopsis

A child's imagination takes him on a fantastic dream journey as he sleeps at night. He finds fruit flavoured rainbows, makes mischief with monkeys, flies his dragon to faraway places and chases the night shadows away. A magical tale to delight all ages.

About the Author

Stef's love for writing began in the music industry, where she interviewed musicians and reviewed albums and gigs for music magazines in the UK, Australia and New Zealand. Later, she swapped the music mosh pit for toys and tantrums and turned her pen to writing children's books. Stef is the author of several picture books including *A Home For Luna* and *In My Dreams* and continues to write imaginative and topical stories of peril and hope with heart.



About the Illutrator

Tanja is a freelance illustrator, a sculptor, an artist and a bluegrass bass player, living and working in an old farmhouse, on a mountain in Switzerland, with her pets, husband, children and a fabulous grand-mother. She trained as a graphic designer, in the early eighties without a computer, and that's how she learned everything by hand. Her work steps are to first imagine a character, second to illustrate it on paper, and third bring it to life in three dimensional paperclay. She uses all kind of materials, and loves to explore new media to create too. The magic of giving life to her characters, in illustrations or as three-dimensional figures, gives her a wonderful feeling. When she is not drawing, you can find her in a huge garden, in the forest, on the ground playing with her pets, or sitting together with family and friends playing music.

Another book by Stef Gemmill:



Title: A Home for Luna
UK ISBN: 978-1-912858-12-5
AUS ISBN: 978-1-925594-84-3
UK Price: £11.99
AUS Price: \$24.99

Discussion Topics and Writing Activities

Discussion Topics

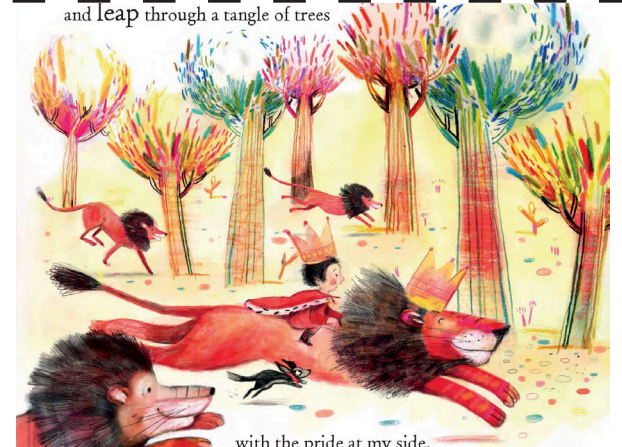
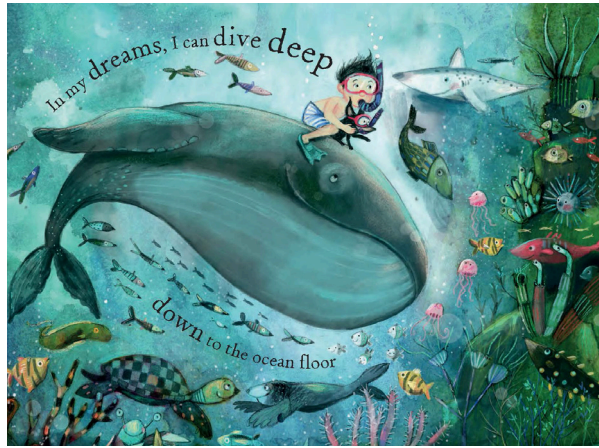
1. Show the children the front and back cover of the book. Ask them if they can read the title and the blurb.
2. After reading the book to the children, ask them what they thought of the story.
3. Ask the children to create a timeline of events for the story. Introduce the idea of the story coming full circle as their timeline should show that the story starts and ends in the same place.
4. From the various magnificent places that the boy in the book visits, ask the children which one is their favourite and why? Ask them to look at the way in which their favourite setting is illustrated and to describe the illustrations.
5. Explain that even adults do not know exactly why people dream. However, there are many different theories, some schools of research claim that dreams help to understand emotions, while others theorise that dreams aid memory or increase creativity. Emphasising that there is no right or wrong answer, ask the children to come up with some ideas as to why we might dream.

Writing Activity

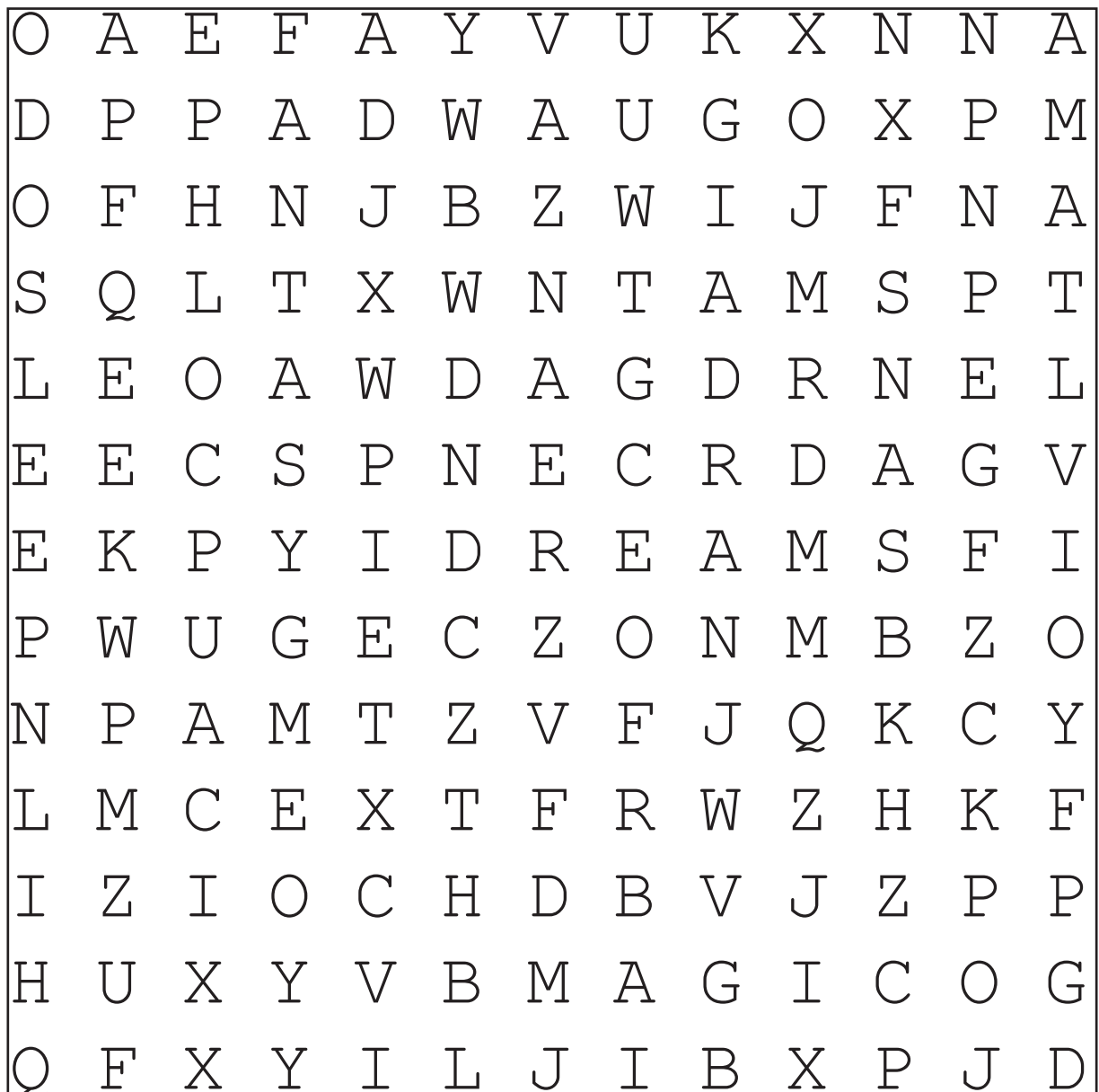
In the space below, ask the children to write a brief description of one of their own dreams. They can look back at the story and use some of the new words they've learnt to help them.

Memory Game

The pictures show different moments within the story, but they are jumbled up. Ask the children to cut them out and arrange them in the correct order. Ask them to describe what is happening in the different pictures to help them retell sections of the story in their own words.



Word Search



Can you find these words:

Dreams

Imagination

Fantasy

Magic

Faraway

Sleep

Quiet

Word Search Solution

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