



Nora Notices

Educator Notes



Written and Illustrated
by Tegan Moss

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Recommended for: ages 3-6
ISBN (Aus): 978-1923141-13-1

Plot Summary

This enchanting picture book follows Nora, a curious girl whose unique perspective accentuates the magic hidden in everyday moments.

Nora Notices will be pored over for years to come, inspiring readers of all ages to slow down, look closer and find beauty in the smallest surprises life has to offer.

Themes

- Daily routine
- Home life
- Observation and perspective
- Imagination

Rich and interesting words: whistling, frightened, swirling, antennae, nudges

Key Curriculum Learning Areas

Early Years Learning Framework:

Learning Outcome 1.2 - Children develop their emerging autonomy, inter-dependence, resilience and agency

This story is solely focused on Nora's unique inner narrative, and how she perceives the world individually. By providing opportunities for children to engage independently with tasks and play, they are developing their emerging autonomy and agency.

Learning Outcome 4 - Children are confident and involved learners

Noticing and observational skills are necessary for children to express wonder and interest in their surroundings. Nora notices things using a range of senses, including sound, sight, and physical feeling. Encourage children to use all their senses when noticing and observing, not only what they can see.

Australian Curriculum

Learning Area: English

Foundation

<p>Language: Language for expressing and developing ideas</p>	<p>Explore different ways of using language to express preferences, likes and dislikes (AC9EFLA02)</p>
<p>Language: Language for expressing and developing ideas</p>	<p>Explore the contribution of image and words to meaning in stories and informative text (AC9EFLE07)</p>
<p>Literacy: Analysing, interpreting and evaluating</p>	<p>Use comprehension strategies such as visualising, predicting, connecting, summarising and questioning to understand and discuss texts listened to, viewed or read independently (AC9EFLY05)</p>



Conversation Starters

Before Reading

- This book is called *Nora Notices*. I wonder what she is noticing here? What do you notice about the front cover?
- Ask children to make predictions about what they think this book is about.
- The illustrations in this book have gentle green and purple tones throughout. You may like to ask children if they can look out for something green or purple on each page as you read the story.

While Reading

- Observational skills are a crucial aspect to developing critical thinking in children. Ask children to notice some of the background illustrations. What sort of things are in the background? What do you think the weather is like in this illustration?
- This book uses similes for explaining how Nora is feeling. “When Nora is feeling happy, she notices she feels light, like she is filled with helium.” Ask children how they can describe their feelings, without naming the emotion directly.

After Reading

- Nora visited a lot of places – the beach, the supermarket, the park. What are some other places you like to visit?
- Tegan Moss’ illustrations convey a sense of imagination and delight. You may like to engage children in an imaginative activity, closing their eyes like Nora in the book and asking them what they can ‘see’ with their eyes closed.
- Encourage children to practice their ‘noticing’ and observational skills with all their senses. Stepping outside and taking time to ask children what they see, smell, hear, taste or feel can be a powerful observational tool.



FURTHER ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS

"When Nora is at the beach, she notices the sea saying, 'shhh shhh shhh,' so she sits and listens." This provides an opportunity for children to notice all their senses. Go outside and ask children to observe not only what they see, but what they can hear, smell, taste, or feel.

Check out the activities on our website littlebookpress.com.au

About the Author

Tegan Moss is an artist based in Naarm, Melbourne, Australia, with a background in visual art from her university studies in both Melbourne and Scotland. She works primarily with watercolour and pencil, and has experience in illustration, including various commissions and book covers. Tegan is a massive book worm, and a collector of old children's books. *Nora Notices* is her debut picture book.

