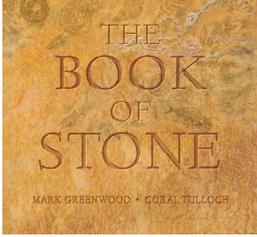




Walker Books Classroom Ideas



The Book of Stone

Mark Greenwood
Coral Tulloch
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

Every stone has its own unique story – and everybody needs a story stone and a book to collect it in! Mark has collected stones of all shapes and sizes since he was a kid and now he wants to share his passion in a book (unlike all other other rock and mineral books) that explains the special connection that can be enjoyed when one pays attention to the stones that are all around us and can mean so much, if we take the time to appreciate them. Together Mark and illustrator, Coral Tulloch, have created a book that allows them to share the theme of geological wonder, solitude, special memories and places through stone.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Mark Greenwood is a history hunter. His award-winning books include *The Legend of Lasseter's Reef* and *The Legend of Moondyne Joe*, both winners of the West Australian Premier's Book Award. Mark often teams with his wife, illustrator Frané Lessac, to produce titles such as *Midnight – The Story of a Light Horse*, *Ned Kelly & The Green Sash* and *Simpson and His Donkey*, a CBCA Honour Book and a USBBY Outstanding International Book. *Jandamarra*, illustrated by Terry Denton, was shortlisted for the CBCA Eve Pownall Award, the NSW Premier's Literary Awards Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature and the West Australian Young Readers' Book Awards. Mark's recent publications include the chapter book series, *History Mysteries and Moonwalkers* with Terry Denton. *The Happiness Box*, illustrated by Andrew McLean, was a 2019 CBCA Honour book. Mark's latest picture book for Walker Books is *The Book of Stone*, Illustrated by Coral Tulloch.

Coral Tulloch was born in Melbourne and currently lives in Tasmania. A history in promotion and illustration in newspapers led her to create a syndicated children's page, appearing for over 20 years in newspapers throughout Australia and internationally. Coral studied Fine Art and then animation in Sydney and had periods at studios, drawing in Florence, Italy and in lithography at The Academy of Applied Arts in Prague. She has worked in advertising, film, theatre and magazine production, but her main focus remains with children's literature. Coral has illustrated many fiction and nonfiction books for children. Her work *One Small Island*, with co-author/illustrator Alison Lester, has won many awards including the 2012 CBCA Eve Pownall Award for Information Books. *The Journey* was her first title with Walker.

How to Use These Notes:

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

These notes are for:

- Ages 5-11
- Years K-6

Key Learning Areas:

- English

Example of:

- Picture Book

Themes/Ideas:

- Science
- Nature
- Art
- English



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Use the line “every stone has a story” as a prompt for a creative writing/art project. Have students either find their own stone, or randomly hand out a variety of stones. Each student then writes and illustrates a creative story about the stone. It could be about how the stone came to be, where it came from, how it affected someone or something. Students should use interesting language to describe the stone’s colour, texture, size and shape. All of the stories can then be compiled into your class’s own Book of Stone.

Choose a stone and write a haiku, acrostic, or another type of poem inspired by it.

“Twelve stones for each sign of the zodiac, a birthstone for each month of the year”. What are the twelve stones that represent the zodiac? What is your birthstone? What does your birthstone symbolise? Where in the world can your birthstone be found in nature? Find these areas on a map or a globe.

Examine the spread that features the “miracles and marvels” made from stone. How many of the marvels can you identify? Which country are they from? What kind of stone are they made from? Make a list of other “miracles and marvels” made of stone.

Discuss the environmental idea collecting stone in a book, rather than in a collection that sits on a dusty shelf. Start a story with the words: “It begins reaching down returning the stone to where it was found...”

Write an imaginary story about a ‘stone collector’ who travels the world collecting magic stones and mystic stones.

Some stones have a special appeal. Can you remember looking down, seeing a stone, and then reaching down to pick it up. Where were you? What was it about the stone that attracted you in a way that said “Take me with you”?

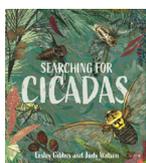
Research the geometry of crystals. What other shapes are there besides prisms and cubes?

Research the stones that the Ancient Greek and Roman civilizations used to make paint.

Write a story from the point of view of an extra-terrestrial stone from space that travelled all the way from beyond Mars.

“A stone is a ripple of remembrance.” Have you ever enjoyed skipping stones on glass-like water or crossed a creek without getting your feet wet by stepping from stone to stone. Where were you? Do you have a memory of the place? Write a story starting with: “Every stone has a story...”

Other Great Titles From Walker Books:



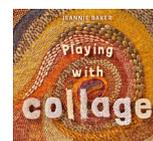
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Judy Watson
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Classroom ideas available



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