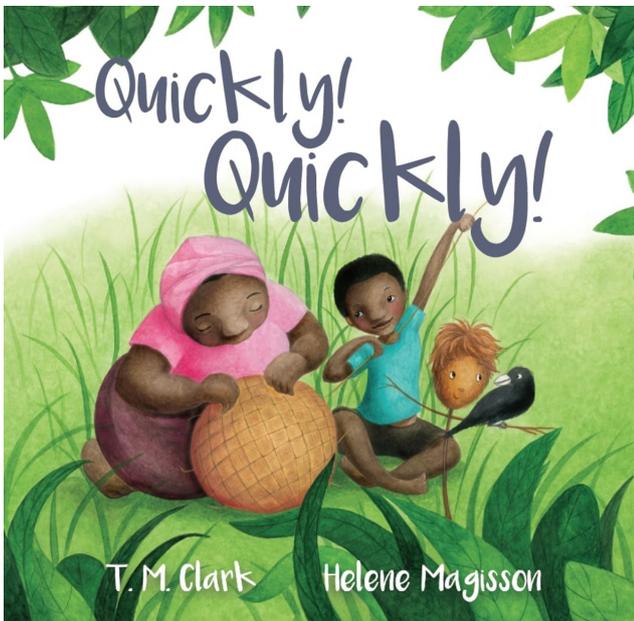




Wombat Books
Stories you'll want to share

Teachers' Notes



Quickly, Quickly

T.M. Clark/Helene Magisson
ISBN: 9781761110832
Recommended retail: \$24.99
Reading level: 4-7

Book Summary

Quickly! Quickly! catch a crow.

Bongani has accepted he's too small to attend school just yet. But he also doesn't want to be chasing the animals away on his own either. He decides he needs a scared crow to help him do this important job.

Luckily his family are there to school him in the lessons of the difference between being quick and being clever to catch a crow.

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Reasons For Studying This Book

Bongani is growing older, but there are many things he can't control, like his environment and the rate at which he grows. He needs to learn everything about his home and how to live where he does: planting crops, protecting them, and learning about the animals that share that space with him and his beautiful family. But also needs to check in with his grandmother, how she is, and spend some time with her too and learn what skills she had to pass onto him. Keeping in touch with family is an important part of growing up.

Themes

Acceptance Problem-solving Intergenerational Memories Animal Intelligence
Love & Compassion Persistence Learning Never Stops

About the Author:



Zimbabwean born T.M. Clark combines her passion for storytelling, different cultures and wildlife with her love for the wild in her multicultural books. Writing for adults and children, she has been nominated for a Queensland Literary Award and is a Children's Book Council Notable. When not writing, Tina Marie coordinates the CYA Conference, providing professional development for new and established writers and illustrators. She loves mentoring emerging writers, eating chocolate biscuits and collecting books for creating libraries in Papua New Guinea.

Author Note:

After *Slowly! Slowly!* came out, everyone one was asking, what next? Quickly? And it sparked the idea for Bongani continuing his journey of growing up - learning another life lesson. When I started writing *Quickly! Quickly!* I was already researching how to protect crops from elephants, for an adult book, so I had to bring them it to this book too. (Yes, I have a huge soft-spot for elephants.)

I remember when I was younger, I had an underappreciation for my environment and the knowledge of the people, family and friends, around me. Now as an adult I look back and go, I wish I had learnt more from them all, listen to them more, not only about the amazing place I lived, but their stories they could tell me too.

I hope children's takeaway is that their older generations have knowledge that they can learn from, and they need patience, understanding and time with them to get to know them and appreciate the value of that knowledge.

I hope that the learn a little about where food comes from, that someone has to plant and protect it, and that not all food comes out of a tin off the shelf in a supermarket.

Mostly, life is full of problem solving. No matter how many problems you solve, there is always another one waiting to be solved. And you can never give up.

Growing up in Zimbabwe, I always thought everyone had all the African animals in their lives. It was only when I got to Australia that I learnt that not everyone had baby cheetahs, baby lions and elephants to name a few as 'pets'.

Key Curriculum Areas:

CURRICULUM AREAS AND KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year Four

English, Humanities and Social Science, Health and Physical Education

ACELA1488	ACELT1603	ACELY1687	ACELY1675
ACHASSIO77	ACHASSIO81	ACHASSK072	
ACPPSO33	ACPPSO37	ACPPSO38	

Year Five

English, Humanities and Social Science, Health and Physical Education

ACELT1608	ACELT1609	ACELT1610	ACELA1525
ACHASSIO94	ACHASSIO99		
ACPPSO51	ACPPSO60	ACPPSO57	

Year Six

English, Humanities and Social Science, Health and Physical Education

ACELT1613	ACELY1709	ACELY1801	
ACHASSI127			
ACPPSO51	ACPPSO57	ACPPSO60	

Year Seven

English

ACELT1619	ACELT1620	ACELT1622	
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Teaching Points and Activities

This book may be used in whole class, small group or independent learning activities in schools.

Please note, the following suggestions and activities are suited to a variety of year levels spanning Foundation to Year 6 primary aged children. Some activities may be applicable to early secondary school students, as well.

Knowledge and Literal Understanding

Pre-reading Questions

1. Show the cover to the class and ask the students what they think the book might be about.
2. Read the back cover blurb. Does this give them more of an idea of what the book could be about?

After-reading Questions

3. Ask students if Bongani reminds them of anyone they know: a friend, a sibling, themselves perhaps.
4. What is their first impression of Bongani?
5. How does Bongani change over the course of the story?
6. Ask students how they perceive Bongani's situation. Does she come through in the end?

Discussion Questions

General

- Find where Bongani accepts that there are some things he can't change.
- Find 3 places where words can mean more than one thing.
- Find the place where Bongani checks on his grandmother's memory.
- Discuss why you think he does this?
- Problem solving happens a lot in Bongani's world – can you think of the last problem you had, and how you solved it?
- Using the pictures, Bongani has many African animals in his environment and backyard. Can you recognise any other animals in Bongani's environment other than that crafty-crow?
- What animals do you have in your home environment? Are there any the same?

Acceptance

- There are some things in this world you can't change, like growing taller faster, what are some things that you've had to accept in your life? Maybe you've had to accept sharing your clothes or toys with a sibling, or having to be old enough to sit in the front seat.
- What can make accepting something harder? Is it having patience, or seeing other people do something you want to do? How can we practice acceptance?

Problem-Solving

- Bongani captured and released a monkey in the first book (*Slowly! Slowly!*) and now a crow in *Quickly! Quickly!*. How could he approach his next problem, the elephants? Brainstorm some ideas.
- When you're faced with a problem like Bongani is with the crows how do you solve it? Do you also talk to people in your life like your parents, grandparents, or teachers? Do you experiment and come up with new ideas?

Intergenerational Memories

- Learning through stories and conversations with older generations, like our grandparents, can help us understand the world in new and exciting ways. What are some things you learned from your grandparents? How did they teach you?
- What importance do stories and sharing memories between older generations and younger generations hold? What happens if we lose the knowledge that older generations have?

Animal Intelligence

- Have you ever been surprised by how smart an animal around you is? How have they surprised you? Bongani is taken aback when the crow outsmarts him, and is also able to mimic his voice.
- What are some special skills that animals have that you know about? Share them with your classmates. For example, dolphins can locate things and work out where they are using sounds they make! This is called echolocation.

Love & Compassion

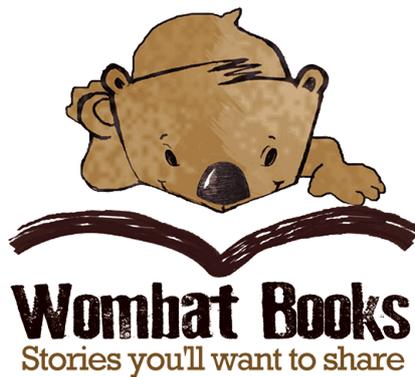
- The closeness of Bongani and his grandma is evident throughout the story. How does Bongani's love for his grandma show in his actions?
- Bongani doesn't like the crow being hurt. Why is compassion important when we interact with the people and animals around us? What difference does it make to have compassion for others?

Persistence

- Bongani fails a few times to capture the crow, but he keeps trying. His persistence is rewarded. Why is it a good thing to keep trying after you fail? What is the importance of persistence?
- Have you ever had a similar situation where you've tried to do something but come up against failures? How did you cope with those failures, and did you develop persistence?

Learning Never Stops

- Bongani learns many things during this story - new words, how to craft a basket, how to catch a bird, the intelligence of crows. During the first book he learns similarly from his interactions with the monkey. And now a new problem is coming his way, the elephants. Why is it important to keep learning new things? What ways can we learn new things?
- Lifelong learning is something everyone can take part in. What are some new things that your parents or grandparents have learned lately? Have you taught them anything new?



T.M. Clark is available for author talks and workshops. Contact Wombat Books for more information.

Quickly! Quickly! Teachers' Notes can be used in schools (independent learning, small groups, and whole classes); at home with caregivers; and as part of mental health support programs facilitated by counsellors, psychologists, children's charities, etc.

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