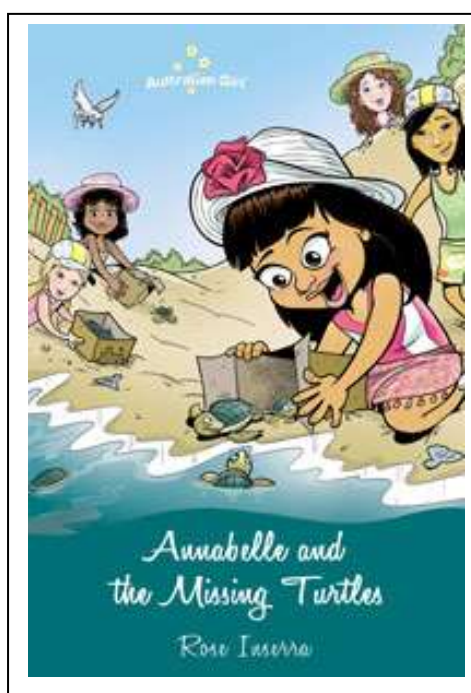


Teacher's Notes and Ideas

Prepared by Wombat Books



Annabelle and the Missing Turtles

By Rose Inserra

Illustrated by Jason Chatfield

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Recommended Retail: \$14.95

Recommended Age: 8-10 years

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Introduction/ Story summary

The sea turtles are disappearing from their habitat on the Queensland coast. It's up to the five friends to solve the mystery of where the turtles could have gone. Perhaps someone or something has snatched them away. Thanks to their rainbow necklace, the girls are taken back in time and given some important information by a famous Australian explorer. After some clever advertising and a dramatic beach rescue, Annabelle and her friends save the day. And the turtles, too!

Key Learning Areas

English/literacy

Australian history

Environment/endangered species/wildlife rescue and rehabilitation/habitats and effects of loss of habitat

Values Addressed/Themes

Friendship

Bravery

Teamwork/co-operation

Creativity

Compassion

Commitment

Loyalty

About the Author



Rose Inserra is an internationally published author of over sixty children's books on topics ranging from library resource books to fiction and picture books. She lives in Melbourne and is passionate about wildlife and taking care of all animals. Her farm is home to wombats, echidnas, kangaroos, all types of birds, amphibians and reptiles. She's found frogs in the toilet and redback spiders inside her computer bag – all great ideas for her next book!

Rose was inspired to write this Australian Girl book because of her commitment to animal welfare and, as a teacher, wanted to raise awareness of habitat loss and endangered species in Australia to young people.

Rose has been listed in 'Notable Australian Children's Books' and the 'Environment Award for Children's Literature in Australia'.

When she is not writing books, Rose runs writing workshops, travels to writing conferences and inspires people to write their books as a writing coach and editor.

About the Illustrator



Jason Chatfield is a cartoonist and stand-up comedian based in Melbourne.

Born in Perth, he is the fifth cartoonist in 91 years to produce the iconic Australian comic strip, *Ginger Meggs* which appears daily in over 120 newspapers in 34 countries around the world.

He is an ex-president of the Australian Cartoonists' Association (Est. 1924) having been elected when he was 26, and was nominated for 2008 Australian Cartoonist of the Year and Comic Strip Cartoonist of the Year in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Chatfield is also an editorial cartoonist for both print and online media each week, as well as one of Australia's premiere live/spot caricaturist at corporate events. His work has been published in

several books in Australia and Overseas.

Discussion Questions

Chapter 1

Fill in missing letters:

G _ E E _ S E A T U R T L E S

L O G _ E R H _ A D T U R T L E S

1. Why do you think the baby turtles are called 'hatchlings'?
2. What does 'endangered' mean?
3. Why are nets dangerous for turtles?
4. Have you been to a place like Marine World where you can see all the ocean animals? What is your favourite ocean animal? Is it endangered?
5. Annabelle and her friends start looking for the missing baby turtles on the beach. What kind of detectives do they call themselves?
 - A. Smart Detectives
 - B. Turtle Detectives
 - C. Girl Detectives.

Chapter 2

1. Emily came to see Annabelle at her dad's house in Queensland. Why was Emily visiting?

2. Who is the marine biologist at Marine World? Do you know what a marine biologist does? Look it up on the Internet.
3. How many eggs do the female sea turtles lay? Where do they bury the eggs? Are the eggs soft shelled or hard shelled? Why?
4. What types of animals like to eat turtle eggs? Why is it a bad thing if there are too many animals eating turtle eggs?
5. Why do the five friends set up a Facebook page called 'Find the Missing Turtles'?

Chapter 3

1. What type of dog is Aslan?
 - A. poodle
 - B. pug
 - C. cattle dog.
2. Who does Aslan belong to?
3. The rainbow necklace was made up of rainbow coloured beads. What are the seven colours of the rainbow?
4. What were the costumes that the five friends were wearing when they went back in time?

Chapter 4

1. What kind of famous person was Emily Caroline Creaghe? Why was she unusual?
2. Daisy knew a great deal about sea turtles, but she said something that shocked the girls. What was it?
3. Why did the baby turtles disappear?
 - A. they were eaten by dingoes
 - B. they ran towards the light on shore
 - C. they drowned.

Chapter 5

1. Why were the birds swooping down on the baby turtles?
2. How did the five friends save the baby turtles?
3. Why couldn't they get back home right away?

Chapter 6

1. How did Aslan find the missing beads?
2. What else did Aslan collect on the beach? Does your dog collect stuff on the beach?
3. How did they all get back to Marine World?
 - A. they swam there
 - B. they flew on a magic carpet
 - C. sat on a paddle canoe with their beads.

Chapter 7

1. Emily Caroline Creaghe had written a diary about her experiences as an explorer. There was something about swimming in crocodile waters. Do you think people should be careful about where they swim and the natural habitats of creatures? What could happen?

2. Selling stickers to save the missing baby turtles was one of Annabelle's ideas. Do you think it worked? Would you buy a sticker to save an endangered animal? Design a sticker with 'Save Baby Sea Turtles'. Scan it or photocopy it and give it to your friends or give it to your teacher to put on the notice board. Maybe you can ask your teacher to put the picture on the class blog so everyone can see it.

Chapter 8

1. Why did the baby turtles run towards the light?
2. How did they end up in a creek?
3. When baby turtles run into the ocean, where do they live so that they have food? What do they eat?
 - A. gelati
 - B. weeds from a weed mat
 - C. shrimps.

Chapter 9

1. When the girls went forward in time, where did they go?
2. Why did Emily want to go there?
3. Have you ever been to a country show where there were farm animals, products and prizes? What was your favourite part of the show?
4. Did the baby turtles finally swim out to sea? How did the girls get so much light to shine?

Chapter 10

1. What was the rescue centre called that the girls helped to open? Why is it important to have rescue wildlife centres? Do you know of any rescue centres for sea animals in your state? Look up the Internet for information about help and rescue of endangered ocean animals.

<http://www.turtlecare.com.au/sea-turtles-australia.php>

<http://chelonia.org.au/>