

The Incredible Freedom Machines

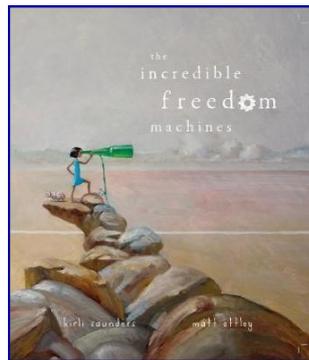
By Kirli Saunders & Illustrated by Matt Ottley

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\$24.99

She was small when she heard about them... the incredible freedom machines. In this sumptuous story of exploration and breaking boundaries, a young girl uncovers her very own freedom machine - a vehicle that carries her to all kinds of wondrous places.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Breaking boundaries
- Persistence
- Books and stories
- Bravery
- Imagination
- Travel
- Wonder and Exploration
- Freedom and Hope

Discussion Questions & Activities:

Before reading the book:

- What do you think a Freedom Machine is? What sorts of things might a Freedom Machine do? What other things would you like a Freedom Machine to be able to do for you? Where do you think you could find a Freedom Machine?

After reading the book:

- Where did the Freedom Machine come from? Why do you think it is shown as being unearthed? How else might they possibly be found?
- Read the story again, looking very closely at all the pictures of Freedom Machines. What hints and clues can you find in the pictures that let the reader know the true nature of Freedom Machines?
- Reread the section that describes how the little girl learns to use her Freedom Machine. As a class discuss this description. In your opinion is it a good description of how it feels to learn to read? Why or why not?
- The little girl visits all sorts of wondrous places in her Freedom Machine. If you had one of your own, where would you like it to take you? Paint an imaginary place of wonder that you would like to visit in a Freedom Machine, and write a paragraph or short story describing it. Share your artwork and story with the class, and use them all to make a classroom wall display.
- Which is your favourite place visited by the little girl? Why? In small groups discuss your favourite place visited in the story, and share your favourite details that you have found in the pictures.
- Looking at the final page in the book, what would you say the Freedom Machines are? Discuss the difference between a figurative Freedom Machine, and a literal one. Which do you think would be better and why?
- The author says that the little girl is growing up in *a world sewn together* by boundaries. As a class discuss this phrase. Some things to include in your discussion are:
 - * What is a boundary?
 - * How can *a world be sewn together*? What might be some other ways that this phrase could be interpreted?
 - * Draw a picture of how you imagine a world sewn together by boundaries would look.
- Look closely at the pictures inside the back cover of the book. What do the pictures show? How might they work? Which do you like best and why?
- Collect recyclables such as plastic bottles, cardboard tubes and boxes, and old pencils, and construct a Freedom Machine three dimensional artwork. Paint your finished construction in bright colours. Create a classroom sculpture display of all your Freedom Machine inspired sculptures.