

Lamont Books Standing Order

February 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

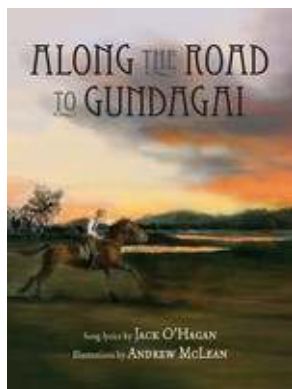
Along The Road to Gundagai

Song lyrics by Jack O'Hagan & Illustrations by Andrew McLean

ISBN 9781862919792

\$24.99

There's a track winding back, to an old-fashioned shack, along the road to Gundagai... The words are familiar, but the story they tell may not be. Andrew McLean's illustrations bring to life the story of the men who went to the Great War, many of them never to return home.



Themes:

- World War I
- Courageous soldiers
- Remembering home

Discussion Points and Activities:

- Have you ever heard of or been to Gundagai? Do you know where it is? Get a map of Australia and pin point it.
- What is the closest capital city to it?
- If you have heard of it, how are you familiar with it?
- Have the words for this book just been written or have they come from somewhere else? Explain.
- Is it unusual for a picture book to be presented as this one is - where the words are actually a song? Can you think of any other books like this?
- This song tells the story of a soldier during the war. What were the things that he thought about and missed the most?
- Study the illustrations carefully. What do you notice about the page layout of each? Why are they different and what does this represent?
- Imagine you are soldier during the War. Write a letter back home describing your experiences and what you miss about home. You may even like to make it into a song or a poem.
- Research this song and other songs/poems that have been written about the town of Gundagai? Why was it such a popular place to write about?
- Draw your own framed picture of your favourite thing about your home. It might be something in your home town, in your house or your favourite people.
- Using watercolours, re-create one of the landscape scenes of the scenery around Gundagai.