

# Lamont Books Standing Order

February 2014

*Teacher Notes and Activities*

## **Fire**

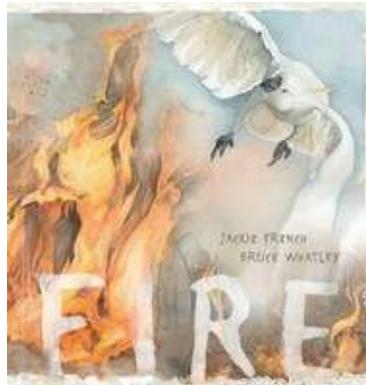
**By Jackie French & Bruce Whatley**

ISBN 9781742838175

\$24.99

*One small spark brought fire awake, Winding like a small black snake, Fire flickered, fire crept, Flames snickered, bushfire leapt...*

Inspired by the bushfires that have affected many Australians, *Fire* is a moving and sensitive story of a natural disaster as seen through the eyes of a cockatoo. The fire mercilessly engulfs homes and land, leaving a devastating path of destruction.



### Themes:

- Fire
- Australian Spirit
- Hope

### Discussion Points:

- Fire can cause great loss and destruction to not only people, but to homes and animals too. How did you feel reading and looking at the illustrations in this story?
- The story takes us on a journey. How has Bruce Whatley used colour and illustrations to symbolise the different effects of fire, before and after the event?
- We see at the end of the story that the plants and trees have started to re-grow. How does nature rejuvenate itself after such devastation?
- What short and long term challenges face a community that has been affected by fire?
- How can other communities help those that have been affected? Why does it often take a disaster like this to bring people together?
- In what other circumstances might we see people helping out each other?
- Fire fighters risk their lives to save other people and their property. How would you describe what they do?
- Why do so many bushfires occur in Australia? What other countries also experience bushfires?

### Activities:

- Arrange for someone from the local fire department to come to your school and discuss all aspects of all fires, including practical ways that we can be prepared.
- As a class, brainstorm all the things that can be done around your home and in the community to help stop a bushfire from starting.