

Lamont Books Standing Order

April 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

Here In The Garden

By Briony Stewart

Publisher: University of Queensland Press

ISBN 9780702250101

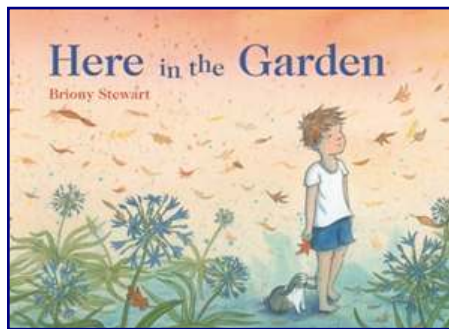
\$24.95

From award-winning author and illustrator Briony Stewart comes a tender picture book about loss, love and friendship.

The wind is raking through the falling leaves and I wish that you were here.

As the seasons change, a young boy shares the magic of his garden with a special friend.

Here in the Garden is a personal tale from Briony's life and shows that you can always find your way back to a loved one through your heart and memories.



Themes:

- Loss
- Love
- Memories
- Friendship
- Seasons

Discussion Points and activities:

- Look at the cover of the book and then read the first page. Who do you think the boy wishes was there with him?
- The boy was sad that his pet rabbit was no longer with him. Do you think his reactions and feelings are what you would expect when something like this happens? Explain.
- Memories are things that are very special, and we all have our own memories of things, places, people and pets. Do you think by remembering all they did together helped the boy cope with his loss?
- Why are memories important?
- Think of someone really important to you. Write them a letter or draw them a picture of a special memory that you have of them. This will remind them just how important they are in your life.
- *'The garden's growing and changing, and, when I wish that you were here...I go outside and find you...'* Why do you think that the boy felt he had found his rabbit when he was outside in the garden?
- The boy and the rabbit did different things during the different seasons. What is your favourite season of the year? Why? What do you like to do in your garden during that time?
- How did the boy's expression change from the start of the story to the end? Why do you think this happened?
- Pets and animals can be very special. Create a portrait of yourself and your favourite animal.