Lamont Books Standing Order

March 2013

Teacher Notes and Activities

The Little Eskimo

By David Cali & Illustrated by Maurizio A.C Quarello ISBN 9780987109958 \$26.99

The Little Eskimo wants to know if he'll be a great hunter when he grows up and also what's on the other side of the Great Ice Lake.

He starts out on a quest to find the answers but none of the arctic animals can help him. Finally, a whale takes the brave little boy to the one creature who knows all and the Little Eskimo discovers his two questions are very much connected.



Teacher notes have been taken from those prepared by the publishers, Wilkins Farago. A full version is available at their website: www.wilkinsfarago.com.au.

Themes:

- Identity
- Belonging
- Life Cycles

Discussion Points & Activities:

- Looking at the cover illustration, make predictions on what you think the story may be about.
- Do you think the Little Eskimo is a boy or a girl? Why? How old do you think the Little Eskimo might be?
- Why do you think it is forbidden to travel to the other side of the Great Ice Lake?
- Whale tells the little Eskimo that she can tell he is courageous. Do you agree? What has the little Eskimo done that is courageous?
- Who or what do you think 'the one who knows all of us' is? Make predictions as a class.
- Death Island is the name of the place Little Eskimo has travelled to. Make predictions about what you think might happen in a place called Death Island.
- Did you predict that Death would be in the form of a great white Moose?
- Can we know our own future or the future of other people?
- How do you think it might affect your choices if you knew what your future was going to be?
- Why do you think Walrus might know about the past? How can Whale see into our hearts? Do some research into how Eskimo's feel about animals spiritually and discuss.
- On page 2 "You are the one who will leave footprints. You may go where you like and become what you want." What does this mean?
- Thinking about your future, you can be anything you wish to be. What are your dreams for your future? What things do you need to do to accomplish them?
- Ask some adults in your life what their dreams were when they were younger and how they are different now. Did their lives turn out the way they thought they might when they were younger? You might like to interview them and write a newspaper article, or interview them by podcast or on video.
- Choose your favourite illustration from The Little Eskimo. Can you recreate the illustration yourself? Support this activity with a written explanation of why this is your favourite picture.