## Lamont Books Standing Order

June 2013

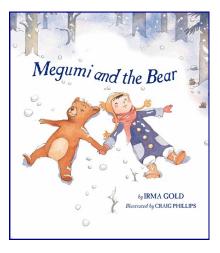
Teacher Notes and Activities

## Megumi and the Bear

Written by Irma Gold and Illustrated by Craig Phillips ISBN 9781921977909 \$27.95

A beautiful story about friendship.

Megumi has only one wish — for the bear to come back.



These notes have been taken from notes prepared by Walker Books. A full version is available at www.walkerbooks.com.au/teachers.

## Themes:

- Belonging
- Companionship
- Friendship

## **Discussion Points and Activities:**

- Looking at the cover, what do you think the story is about? How do you think it will begin/end?
- Listen to the book being read aloud without looking at the illustrations. Then re-read the story and look at the illustrations. Do the illustrations change your understanding of the story? How?
- Why does the word "Megumi" start with a capital letter even when it's not at the beginning of a sentence?
- What time of year is it at the beginning of the book? What time of year does it change to by the end of the book? List the clues that show the reader what time of year it is.
- Why do you think the bear went away? Draw a picture or write a story about what the bear was doing when he was away from Megumi.
- How does Megumi feel when the bear is missing? How does she feel when the bear returns? Look at both the words and the pictures for clues.
- The book ends at the moment when Megumi and the bear are reunited. What do you think happened next? As a class, or individually, create a few more pages for the book. Think about what Megumi might have said to the bear or what games they might have played.
- Have you ever had a friend that went away? How did it make you feel? Did you feel
  the same or different to how Megumi feels when the bear goes away?
- Why does Megumi make a wish when the "star falls towards her like a flower"? Wishing on a falling star is a superstition. Have a class discussion on what a superstition is and come up with some other examples.