

## **How The Sun Got To Coco's House**

By Bob Graham

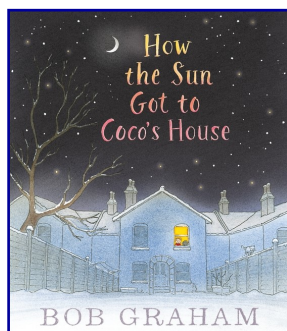
Publisher: Walker Books

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\$24.95

**Picture Book of  
the Month**

From prolific and multi-award winning writer and illustrator Bob Graham comes an enchanting story about the sun, and how it makes its journey from the far side of the world to the home of one small girl. The sun rises up behind a snowy peak and casts its mellow dawn light for the wandering polar bears. It skims across the icy water, touching a fisherman's hat and catching for a moment in the eye of a whale. It beams through the trees of frozen forests and makes shadows in a little girl's footsteps before gliding over cities, darting down lanes and waiting patiently for an old lady to open her window. The sun races through the countryside, greeting snow cats and bears. High over a desert it meets the rain in a halo of colours... The sun leaps whole countries, chasing the night, before bursting at last in a fanfare of warm golden light through Coco's window!



Teacher notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher, Walker Books.

### **Themes:**

- Cultural diversity
- Environment
- Weather

### **Discussion Points & Activities:**

- What do you think the story might be about from hearing just the title?
- What is happening on the title page? What time of day is it? How can you tell?
- "It had to start somewhere ..." Why do you think Bob Graham refers to the sun as having thoughts and emotions like a person? How does this make the story more interesting to read?
- Examine the spread with a snowy landscape, mountains and polar bears. Using the visual clues, where do you think the setting of this spread could be? Look at a map of the world or a globe to come up with a list of potential countries.
- Examine the spread featuring a whale along with the spreads before and after. Can you see the whale on all of these spreads? How does showing the whale in the distance in these spreads help the reader see that the sun is moving?
- What country do you think the following characters are in? Use clues from the text and illustrations to help you find the answer: Jung Su, the sleeping old lady, the panda bear and snow cat, Kosha and his father, Alika and her family, and Coco.
- Using your answers from the previous activity, track the sun's journey through *How the Sun Got to Coco's House* using a globe, atlas or app such as Google Earth.
- Look at the poster on Coco's wall. Where have you seen that image before?
- In what direction does the sun rise and in what direction does it set? What instrument can you use to tell these directions? Use a compass to determine what are the north, south, east and west sides of your school grounds.