

Eye To Eye

By Graeme Base

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Imagine you could soar high in the sky with an eagle or dive into the deep with a majestic blue whale. Come eye to eye with some of nature's most impressive creatures as Graeme Base takes you on a richly illustrated journey of imagination and possibility.



Teacher notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher, Penguin Books. A full version will be available from the Penguin Teachers' Academy.

Discussion Points & Activities:

Looking at the cover –

- Look closely at the cover of eye to eye. How many animals, insects and sea creatures can they spot?
- Make predictions of what you think the book might be about.
- Thinking about the title, what can your students predict about the story from the title of the book?
- What clues does the blurb give your students about the story?

Page 1 and 2

- Ask your students who they think the protagonist might be. How old might he be? Can he really fly or is he using his imagination? Ask your students if they have ever wished they could fly.
- Looking at the eye on page 2, make a prediction about what the eye might belong to.

Page 5 and 6

- Visual literacy – students will begin to notice there are clues in the silhouetted image that inform the identity of the animal eye on the opposite page. Using cowboy hat as a clue, which animal do they think this eye might belong to?

Page 19 and 20

- Chameleon – Where do chameleons live? Do we have them in Australia? What do your students know about chameleons? Can they name a famous cartoon chameleon from a recent Disney animation?

Page 21 and 22

- Ask students what they think a MegaDroid suit might be. Is this a real or imagined suit? A good follow up activity might be to ask students to design and draw their own MegaDroid suit.
- Whose eyes do we think these might be? Is it a real creature or an imagined one?

Page 37 and 38

- Ask students if they have ever looked closely at their own eyes in the mirror. What did they notice about their eyes? As a class, pair up and look at each other's eyes. How are human eyes different from each other? How are they the same?

Glossary:

- There are many useful facts and discussion starting points in the glossary at the back of Eye to Eye. Follow up activities could include asking students to choose a favourite animal from the book and re-search their habitats and origins and report back as a whole class activity.