

Before You Were You

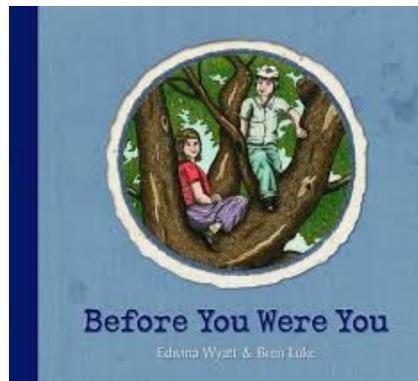
By Edwina Wyatt & Illustrated by Bren Luke

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\$25.95

Before you were you and before I was me, a big lemon tree was swaying... 'Before You Were You' is a narrated family tree, celebrating adventure, imagination and the road that leads us home. Unique artwork complements the theme of precious moments in the lives of different generations with rhythmic text which aids predictability in reading.



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

Themes:

- Family history
- Telling multiple stories

Discussion Points & Activities:

Before Reading

- Look at the cover and guess what the story may be about.
- Who do you think the intended audience is?

After Reading

- Who are the different characters in the story and what are their connections?
- Can you write a time line for the family?
- What are some of the differences you can see in the illustrations that give you a sense of the different time settings?
- Choose one of the characters in the book and write their life story.
- Bren has used a particular style of illustration in this book. Why do you think he chose this way of illustrating? Have a go at producing a family portrait using Bren's cross hatching drawing technique.
- Before you were you, who was there? Draw a picture of your family tree.
- Can you think of another way of writing 'Once upon a time'?
- Write down something that happened in the past. Write down something that is happening right now, in the present. Write down something that you would like to happen in the future.
- Finish this sentence: Before you were you there was...
- Consider the line: 'Now I have got you and now you have got me, a brand new story's beginning' Why is every life a brand new story? What is the story of your life, so far?