

Ollie and the Wind

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Sometimes the best things appear out of thin air. The wind blows all day on Ollie's island. There aren't many people around, but there's lots of space to play. One day the wind steals Ollie's hat. Then it darts away with his scarf. But is the wind just naughty, or is it trying to tell Ollie something?



Teacher notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher, Random House.

Themes:

- Problem Solving
- Friendship
- Nature
- Sharing and co-operation

Discussion Points:

- Look at the front cover of the book. Read the title together. Can you identify Ollie in the picture? What is he doing? What do you think the story will be about?
- How many characters are in this story? Do you think things other than people can be characters in a story? How? Can you think of other stories that have non-human or non-living characters?
- Can you find three words in the book that are new to you?
- List the toys and games that Ollie tries to get the wind to play. Which ones does the wind like? Why do you think that is?
- Can you think of any other toys or games that use the wind?
- Can you think of other devices or machines that use the wind? (Hint: these could relate to leisure and sport, making energy, farming and industry.)
- The start of the story says 'There were never many people around'. Do you think Ollie minds spending time alone? Give reasons for your answer. How do you entertain yourself when you are alone?
- What are some games or activities you can play outside? What are your favourite games to play on your own, with a friend, and with a big group of people?
- Why do you think Ollie tried different toys and games with the wind? Have you ever tried to play a game with someone and discovered that they didn't like or couldn't play the game you liked? What did you do?
- Imagine if Ollie and the Wind was told from the wind's point of view. Draw a new cover for The Wind and Ollie; or in a group write a new picture book text, song or play telling the story from the wind's point of view.

Activity:

- As a class you might like to make: wind chimes, paper aeroplanes, pinwheels and kites. Suggested websites to help with these are available on the full version of the notes, available at www.randomhouse.com.au.