## Little Wing

By Katherine Battersby
Publisher: University of Queensland Press
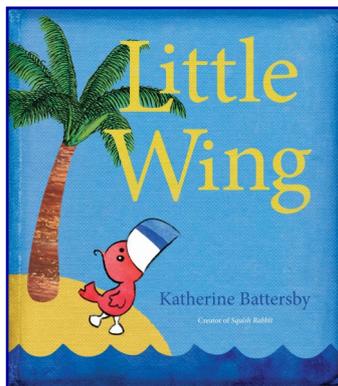ISBN 9780702254000
$24.95

On the smallest island, in the tallest tree, lives the world's smartest animal.

But there are some things that even the world's smartest animal doesn't know . . .

Meet Little Wing.



Teacher notes have been amended from those supplied by the publisher, UQP. A full version is available on our website.

**Themes:**
• Identity and Belonging
• Loneliness
• Courage
• Perseverance
• Curiosity

**Discussion Points:**
• Why do the books teach Little Wing '*almost* everything else'? Why is the word 'almost' italicised? What does he still have to learn?
• What is it that Little Wing is missing in his life? How does he know that something is missing?
• When Little Wing realises he isn't in any of his books, why are the books surrounding him illustrated without colour?
• What is your favourite illustration in Little Wing? Why is this your favourite? Discuss with a friend.
• How does Little Wing show courage?
• What obstacles does Little Wing face in trying to learn to fly and find his home? How does he overcome these challenges?
• Who in your life gives you 'little wings' to help you?
• How important is it to feel a sense of belonging? How important are family and friends to you?
• What does Little Wing learn about himself in *Little Wing?*

**Activities:**
• Create a table or poster that includes as many flying creatures as you can. Label each creature.
• To help teach Little Wing more about himself, create a poster with information about birds. Include their common features as well as facts about diet, habitat, behaviour and appearance.
• Recreate your favourite page from Little Wing by using collage, similar to Katherine Battersby's artwork.
• Make your own paper airplanes, or have a kite-flying afternoon at school.
• Create a display of Little Wing by creating an island on the back wall of the classroom. Have students make a feather each, writing on it what message they received from the book.