

Nop

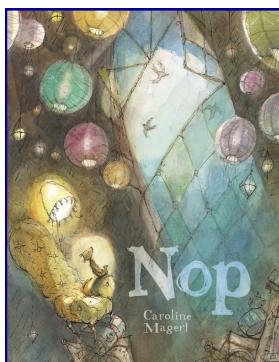
By Caroline Magerl

Publisher: Walker Books

ISBN 9781760651251 SCIS: 1935260

Nop is a scruffy kind of bear. He sits on a dusty armchair in Oddmint's Dumporeum surrounded by the beaders, knitters, patchers and stitchers who are much too busy to talk to him. So he watches the litter tumble until, armed with a new bow tie, he has an idea that will change his life forever.

This story began with a memory of Caroline's school holidays in Sydney. Her father was welding a steel yacht in a boat yard and she wandered off . . . only to discover the local dump, a home for the things people throw out! Many years later, her daughter Jen made a teddy bear out of scraps for her father. It's a very sorry-looking, but endearing creature. Named Roadkill, ten years later it still sits on top of his desk.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Adventure
- Acceptance
- Friendship
- Belonging

Discussion Questions and Activities:

Before Reading:

- What do you think this book might be about just from hearing the title? How do your ideas change when you see the cover? After reading the book, compare your initial thoughts to what the book is actually about. Discuss the phrase “you can’t judge a book by its cover.”

Exploring the Book:

- Is Nop an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? How can you tell?
- Who do you think the audience for this book is? Why?
- Write a book review on Nop. Include what you liked about the book, who you think would enjoy it the most and mention any other books you think are similar.
- On the whiteboard or on a large sheet of paper, place an image of the Nop cover and surround it with words that describe the book. Include words that describe what you liked and what you disliked about the book.
- A simile is a phrase that compares two things, usually with the words “as” or “like”. What similes can you find in Nop? Why do you think the author used similes in the story? Create a few similes of your own.
- What is a “leap of faith”? Discuss Nop’s leap of faith from the balloon into the zoo. Why do you think he did that? What was the result?
- Each day Nop sees the other items in the Dumporeum leave with a customer heading to “someplace wonderful” but nobody ever picks Nop. Why do you think that is?
- Nop doesn’t talk, yet the reader is able to tell how he is feeling through body language. Examine several spreads and discuss how Nop’s body language conveys how he is feeling. Specifically look at the spreads “He had no button, no ribbon, no scarf or spangle”, “...a thought landed like a feather” and the last spread where he is sitting with the orangutan.