

April 2021

Early Childhood

Teacher Notes and Activities

Not So Busy Bee

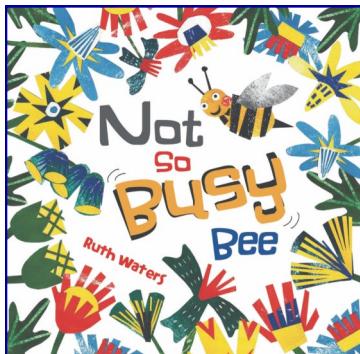
By Ruth Waters

Publisher: Wombat Books

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\$25.99

This is Not So Busy Bee. While all the other bees are busy being busy he spends his days smelling the flowers and counting clouds. But today is Queen Bee's birthday; the busiest day in a bee's year.



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

Themes:

- Defying stereotypes
- Being true to yourself
- Bees

Discussion Questions and Activities:

Before Reading:

- Take a look at the cover. This book is obviously about a bee.
- What do you already know about bees?
- Why do you think the title is *Not So Busy Bee*?
- What does the title tell you about the bee in this book?

After Reading:

- Why do you think Not So Busy Bee felt different?
- What do you think is the most important thing to Not So Busy Bee?
- In what way does the story challenge the stereotype of bees?
- What do you think Not So Busy Bee's best qualities are?
- What would be a better name for him than Not So Busy Bee?

Art:

- Ruth Waters has used collage to illustrate this book. Try using collage to build your own scene from the book.

Writing:

- Not So Busy Bee is part of a series of three books which includes Not So Scary Bear and Not So Quiet Mouse. In this particular book we also have the character Not So Wise Owl. Try to write a story using Not So Wise Owl as the main character.
- What are some other characters that you can think of to write a story about in the same style? Think of some of the sayings or stereotypes we use when referring to an animal and come up with a story around one of those. For example, Not So Lazy Sloth or Not So Greedy Pig.

General:

- Did you learn anything new about bees in this story?
- Make a class poster about the different types of bees and their jobs.
- Why are bees so important to our environment?
- Find out more about what you can do to protect bees.