

Lamont Books Standing Order

October 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

Go To Sleep, Jessie!

By Libby Gleeson and Illustrated by Freya Blackwood

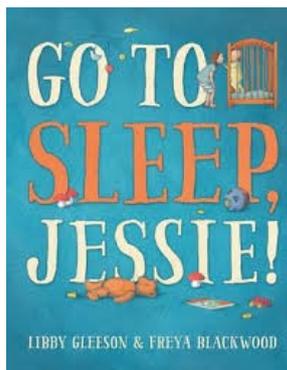
Publisher: Little Hare Books

ISBN 9781742977805

\$24.95

Picture Book of
the Month

If only Jessie would lie down. If only she would go to sleep. But nothing will settle her ... except maybe a little sisterly know-how!



These teacher notes are based on those prepared by the publisher, Little Hare Books.

Themes:

- Bedtime
- Exasperation & Forgiveness
- Parent & Child time
- Isolation & togetherness
- Misunderstanding & empathy
- Upstairs & Downstairs

Discussion Points:

- If you read just the text, whose story does this seem to be? To help you, the big girl's name is Jo, and the toddler's name is Jessie.
- Jo and Jessie are Libby Gleeson's own children. They are now adults, but this story is about something that happened when they were young. Think of a funny bedtime event in your own life—or even a story from your parent's lives—and write a short story about it.
- How many pairs of opposites can you find in the illustrations? Why do you think Freya has included so many opposite ideas in the pictures? What do they tell us about the mood of the story?
- Freya has used many colours, but has concentrated on two colours more than others. Which two colours are they? What mood does each of these two colours seem to create? Think of some other colours and the moods they represent. Draw a picture about a particular mood, using mainly one colour to create the mood.
- The text in this story seems quite serious. In what ways do the illustrations add a funny side to the story?
- Go back through the first few pages and ask your class to write a list of things that Jo does to try and get Jessie to stop screaming and go to sleep. For example, she offers Jessie T-Bear, if she will just go to sleep.
- Referring to the list you have just created, ask your class to come up with their own suggestions of how they would get a sibling to stop screaming and go to sleep.
- Discuss with your class why babies cry. Discuss if any of them have younger siblings that cry and what it is they think their siblings want from crying. For example, are they hungry? Thirsty? Or do they want to be cuddled?
- Refer to Jo feeling lonely once Jessie has gone for a drive with their dad. Discuss with your class if they have ever wanted to do something or change something. Then, once it was done, did they regret what they wanted? Ask them what it was and how they went about asking for it back, if they did. For example, if they gave away a toy to their siblings and then wanted it back, why might that be? How did they cope with that?
- Have a look at the spreads that show both Jo and Jessie's sides of the bedroom and compare the contrast between the chaos of Jessie's side and the calm and cleanliness of Jo's side. Ask your class to comment on whether they like to keep their rooms messy or tidy? Do they enjoy cleaning up their toys? Ask them why they think cleaning up after themselves is important.