

Stitches and Stuffing

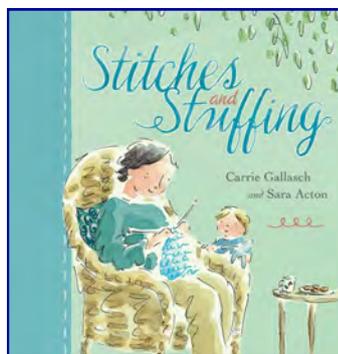
By Carrie Gallasch & Illustrated by Sara Acton

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Adeline's beloved Bunnybear goes with her everywhere, but one night he is damaged by the dog. Nanna sews Bunnybear back together, but this new Bunnybear is stiff and strange and Adeline puts him on a shelf and leaves him there. Then Nanna goes away, and Adeline realises it is not just stitches and stuffing that holds Bunnybear together... it is love.



Teacher notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher, Little Hare Books. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Old and new
- Familiarity and strangeness
- Change and resistance to change

Discussion Questions:

- The first sentence of the text states that Adeline and Bunnybear had 'been together since... forever'. This is an exaggerated statement, yet most readers are likely to understand what is meant by this. Think of other ways in which we use exaggerated statements to express something that is important to us. Consider statements about time and space (including size and number) in particular. Why do you think we use sentences like this?
- How did Adeline feel when she first remembered that she had left Bunnybear behind? Can you relate to ever feeling this way? If so, how and why did you feel that way?
- Describe the relationship that Adeline has with her Nanna. Do you have someone like Adeline's Nanna in your life who you have a special bond with? If so, what makes them important to you?
- What things do you do together?
- How did Adeline cope when Nanna had to go away? Why do you think she reverted back to Bunnybear?
- What is it about familiar things that make us feel secure?
- What is your favourite 'familiar' thing that you like to play with or cuddle?

Activities:

- The story centres on the relationship between Adeline and her Bunnybear, who have 'been together since... forever'. Have your class bring in their favourite or oldest teddy bear and have a classroom show-and-tell.
- *Stitches and Stuffing* also explores change and resistance to change, where Adeline learns to look past change as a negative thing, and embrace its new worth. Have your class explore ways of dealing with change, from a new pair of shoes to moving house.
- In the story, Adeline takes her Bunnybear outside to play in the garden and on the beach. Following on from the first activity, have your class take their teddy bears outside and have a teddy bears' picnic!