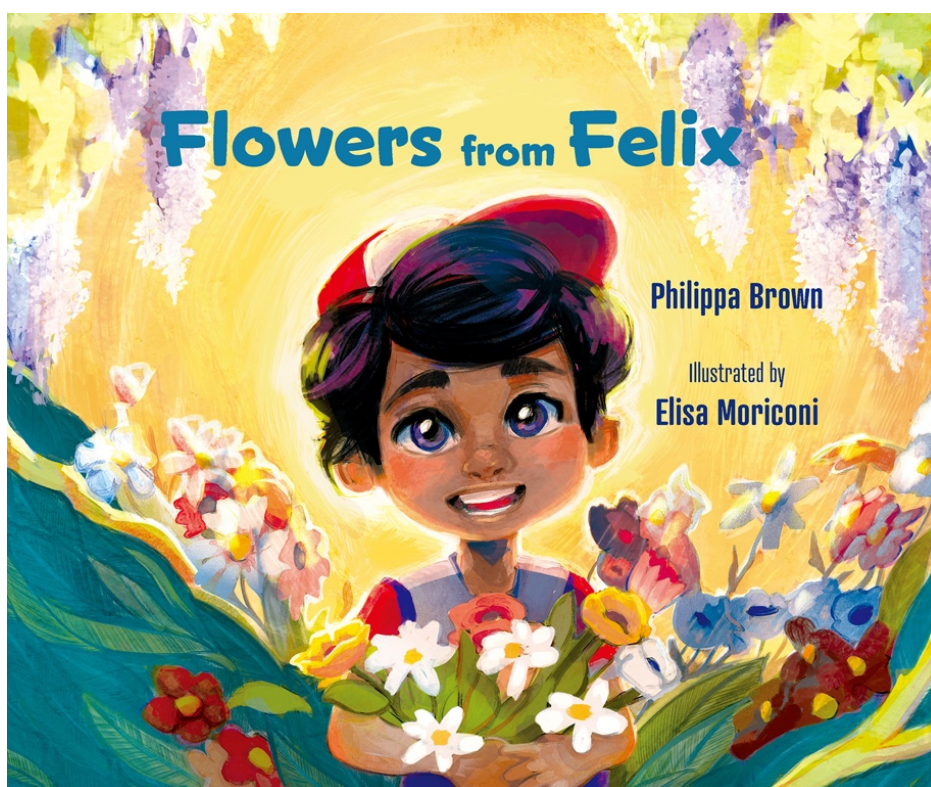


Flowers from Felix

Teaching Notes

Author: Philippa Brown

Illustrator: Elisa Moriconi



SYNOPSIS

Felix is excited. He has a beautiful bunch of flowers to give Nanna for her birthday. On the way to Nanna's house, Felix discovers his friend Olivia is feeling sad, so Felix gives her a flower.

As he continues to Nanna's house, Felix meets Sophie, Grace and Ben, who all need cheering up. One by one, kind Felix gives his flowers away. Will he still have a gift special enough to give his Nanna?

Teacher Notes for “Flowers from Felix”

Activity 1 *Foundation/Year 1/Year 2*

- How do we know it was a happy day?
- What did the author write to tell us it was a happy day? (Answers: The sun is shining; the birds are singing).

Year 2: Introduce the term ‘connotation’ as an idea/feeling you get when you see certain words, pictures.

- Discuss sun shining and birds singing – the connotation is it’s a happy day.
- Brainstorm the type of feeling you might get with grey clouds, grey sky and rain, or a dark forest in the nighttime.
- Find some pictures that have strong connotations to teach this term.

Activity 2 *Foundation/Year 1/Year 2*

- How do you feel when you meet the characters (who are sad/cross/frustrated/lonely) throughout the story?
- Possible feedback: “I feel sad or cross too”, “I remember time when I was cross/sad/frustrated/lonely because...”

Activity 3 *Foundation/Year 1*

- How do you know whether the characters in the story were sad/ cross/ frustrated/ lonely?
- What can you see in the artwork that shows this?
- Can you find the words sad/cross/frustrated/lonely in the book?

Activity 4 *Foundation /Year 1/Year 2*

- How does Nanna celebrate her birthday?
- How do you celebrate your birthday?
- Design a birthday cake you would like for your birthday, and/or a bunch of flowers.

Activity 5 *Foundation (draw) Year 1 and 2 (write)*

- What makes you sad/happy?
- Template of a happy face with a thought bubble. Children to draw/write what makes them feel happy, into the thought bubble.
- Template of a sad/unhappy face with a thought bubble. Children to draw/write what makes them sad, into the thought bubble.

Activity 6 *Foundation – Year 2*

Identify the feelings that the children have throughout the story. Make connections with the children. Brainstorm when the children have had these same feelings.

Activity 7 *Foundation/Year 1/Year 2*

Each child to design a flower and write another student's name on it (ensure all children are included!) and put them together in a bunch in a classroom vase.

Activity 8 *Foundation/Year 1/ Year 2*

Have a class birthday party for Nanna in the book. Pick one flower and place it in a single vase.

Activity 9 *Year 1/year 2*

Discuss the notion of doing something for others. It makes both the recipient, and the person who gave the gift, happy.

- When have you made someone else happy? Write a complex sentence to explain this. For example: "When my sister lost her teddy, I gave her my toy panda to sleep with."

Activity 10 *Foundation – Year 2*

- Why was Felix quiet at the end of the story?
- How do you know he was sad? (Possible answers: he was quiet, he looked down).

Activity 11 *Foundation to discuss/ Year 1 and 2 to write a paragraph – (an opening sentence, two supporting statements, a closing sentence).*

- Why is it important to be kind?

Activity 12 *Year 1 and Year 2*

Follow a recipe to make a cake to cook in staffroom kitchen. Provide each student with a copy of the recipe. Look closely at the steps. Highlight the action verbs in each step. Why does a procedure contain action verbs?

About the author:

Philippa Brown lives in Sydney, Australia. Together with her husband she has raised three children, and over this time has fallen deeply in love with children's literature. Philippa has worked for twenty years as a general practitioner. As a doctor, she especially loved helping children, but her love of children's stories eventually won, and she retired early from general practice to write. *The New Baby's Bunny* was Philippa's first published story. *Flowers from Felix* is her second.

About the Illustrator:

Elisa Moriconi is an Italian illustrator and concept artist living in London, UK, who started to work on children's books and magazines in 2007. She loves soft, bright and warm colours and takes inspiration for new palettes from quiet places like gardens, parks, cute shops, and metal tea tins (which she collects!). Her illustrations are often realised in digital painting, but she also loves to work with gouaches and watercolours.