

MALLEE SKY

By JODI TOERING & TANYA HARRICKS



F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			✓	✓	✓	✓				

This book could be shared with all year levels but used to study reading and writing for the above year levels.

Writing	
Ideas	✓
Organisation	
Voice	
Word Choice	✓
Sentence Fluency	✓
Conventions	
Presentation	



Reading	
Determining Importance	
Inferring	✓
Making Connections	✓
Predicting	
Questioning	
Summarising & Synthesising	
Visualising	✓

Writing

The obvious writing related mentor text focus for this book would be WORD CHOICE. The descriptions in here are exquisite (eg. 'the wind is too hot and tired to raise more than a whisper through the eucalypts.') and much discussion could open up about why the author chose the words she did. (eg. why are the silos reaching towards the 'blue' and not the 'sky'). The text contains loads of tier 2 words and excellent examples of strong verbs (perish, drift, dry gums gasp'). The beautiful descriptions and poetic language could also be examined when studying SENTENCE FLUENCY.

Reading

In terms of reading, this text would be really useful for INFERRING (what does 'dry gums gasp' mean? What knowledge could you call on to help you understand this?) as well as using the descriptive language for VISUALISING. You could even do a compare and contrast with this book and 'Ella and the Ocean' by Lian Tanner or 'Drought' (by Jackie French) to look at different perspectives on Australian drought. Finally, the beauty of the language here opens itself up to ANALYSING and CRITIQUING.