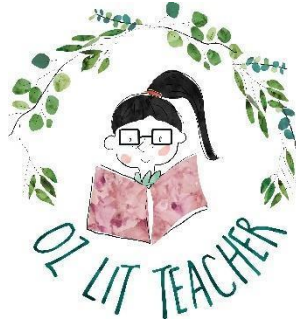


HOPE IS THE THING BY JOHANNA BELL AND ERICA WAGNER



F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				✓	✓	✓	✓			

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



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

Hope is the Thing is a poem written by Johanna Bell and illustrated by Erica Wagner. It was inspired by Emily Dickinson's poem, "Hope" is the thing with feathers. The poem celebrates Australia's gorgeous birdlife and reminds us that we can find hope in the nature around us every day.

Writing

IDEAS: Read Emily Dickinson's original poem and compare it to this poem. Think about the structure and topic similarities. What can your students borrow to trial in their own poetry writing? You could use this same approach with another poem. Consider other Australian birds that could be added to this poem. Write some extra verses to include them. You could try changing the focus from birds to another type of animal- maybe other types of Australian wildlife? Create a poem to let others know where else hope exists in the world around us. This poem reminds me of the classic 'I am...' poem. Read some of those and use them as inspiration to have students create their own. **WORD CHOICE:** Study the tier 2 verbs in this text: soaring, nesting, eyeing, dash, bound, migrating, squawk, patrolling, harvesting, hunting, raiding. Discuss the importance of these carefully selected verbs in creating imagery for the reader. **PRESENTATION:** Erica Wagner's collage illustrations are beautiful! Read a bit about how she created these on her website. Encourage students to have a go at making their own.

Reading

MAKING CONNECTIONS: What other text does this poem remind you of? What are the similarities and differences? What does 'hope' mean to you? Which of the pages in this poem resonates the most for you? Why?
QUESTIONING: Read the information on the author's website: <https://johannabell.com/projects/hope-is-the-thing>. On this site, Johanna Bell discusses the influences for her book and also talks about creation process. Look for evidence of the influences she mentions in the pages of the book. What do you notice?
 Is it important for people to have hope? Why? What are some other books you know that involve hope?