

THE LITTLE REFUGEE BY ANH AND SUZANNE DO AND BRUCE WHATLEY



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	✓

The Little Refugee by Anh and Suzanne Do (with illustrations by Bruce Whatley) is the gorgeous picture book version of Anh Do's award-winning memoir: The Happiest Refugee.

Writing

The reader has no choice but to be pulled into this story and to really care about the characters. As aspiring writers, we need to ask ourselves what these authors did to draw us in like that? VOICE, WORD CHOICE, SENTENCE FLUENCY and CONVENTIONS work together in this book to pull us in. The use of short sentences demonstrates voice and make it sound as if Anh is telling the story straight into our ear. He uses powerful WORD CHOICE to help build imagery and make us feel tense or happy etc ('sun beat down on us, sky turned black and angry, waves crashed on our little boat'). If you want a text for teaching effective use of commas or complex sentences- this would be great!

Reading

Oh, the talk that could come from this book! If students have read any of Anh's books in the Weir Do series, they could compare and contrast the characters and/or themes. They could make connections between this text on refugees and other texts they have read or viewed. They could have deep discussions about how refugees are portrayed in the media and how that might contrast with this text. This is a really powerful story and could open so many opportunities for further learning about both Anh and refugees in general. It is a must read!