



TEACHERS' RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED FOR

All students 7+
(ages 7+; years 2+)

CONTENTS

1. Plot summary	1
2. About the book	2
3. About the design	2
4. Writing style	2
5. Illustrations	3
6. Themes	3
7. Extension activities	5
8. Worksheets	6
9. Further reading	8

KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- **Learning areas:** English, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Arts
- **General capabilities:** Literacy, critical and creative thinking; Personal and social capability; Visual literacy

REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To learn about Australian men and their achievements.
- To learn about different professions, industries and career-paths.
- To use the text as a springboard for general discussion about gender and equality.
- To empower young children.

THEMES

- Australian men
- Gender equality
- World and Australian history
- Challenging stereotypes

PREPARED BY

Penguin Random House Australia

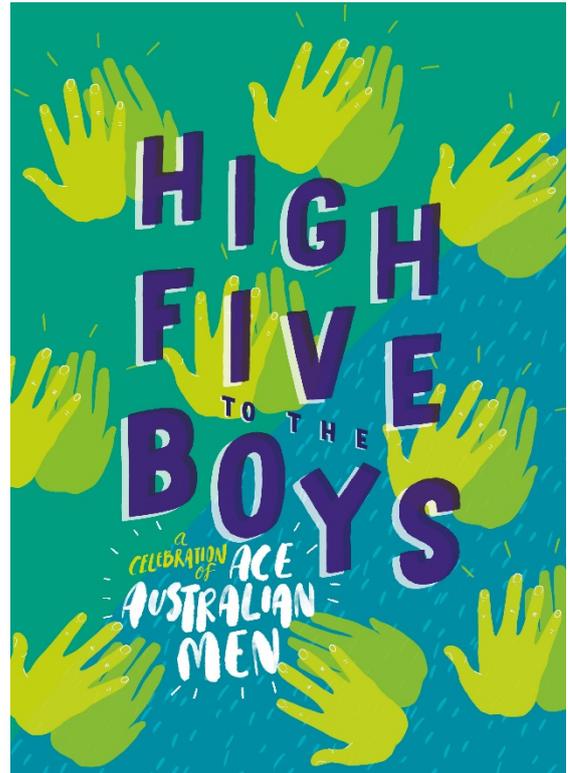
PUBLICATION DETAILS

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High Five to the Boys A Celebration of Ace Australian Men

PLOT SUMMARY

Let's cheer for the men who have done amazing things in Australia's history and for our future!

Australia has some seriously ace men who have broken new ground, stood up for what they believed in, achieved incredible things and defied stereotypes. You'll find some of those men inside the pages of this book – from astronaut Andy Thomas to YouTube maths teacher Eddie Woo, sportsman Johnathan Thurston and dancer David McAllister. Whether they end up being role models for girls or boys, it doesn't matter, because they're ace regardless!

Brought to life by colourful illustrations from Australian male artists, High Five to the Boys is an uplifting and illuminating read for all ages.

Royalties from sales of this book go to The Smith Family.

ABOUT THE BOOK

When we published *Shout Out to the Girls* earlier this year, a book shining light on the women of Australia who deserve to be recognised and celebrated, we were inundated with support. It was wonderful to be part of the incredibly important conversations and actions taking place everywhere to change our world for the better – to address inequalities, to make our society fairer for all, and to make sure everyone’s voices are heard loud and clear.

And while men have historically had a far, far greater voice and representation in many spheres than women – which made it so very important for us to publish more stories about amazing women – we can’t forget that we need to hear about positive male role models too. We want the next generation of young Australians to hear about the men who give us hope for the future, who inspire us in both everyday and extraordinary ways, whose actions exemplify what it means to be a top bloke in today’s Australia.

So, thanks to all the requests we received for just such a book, the result is *High Five to the Boys* – a by no means comprehensive selection of just a few of the boys and men to whom we say, ‘Mate, you rock.’

Finally, we know there’s still a way to go in achieving equality, but we are grateful to the families, carers, teachers, mentors and friends who are helping the next generation to grow up believing in and working towards equality for all, and who champion the women and men who are helping us to get there.



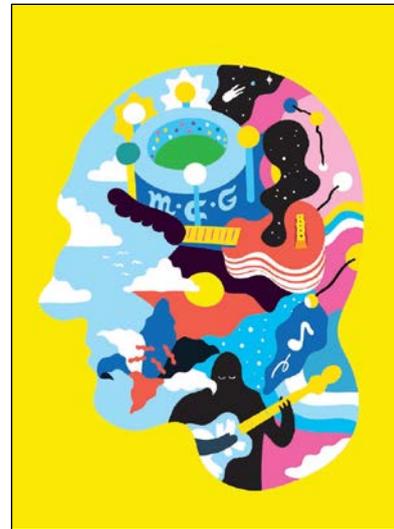
ABOUT THE DESIGN

The cover and internal design celebrates the wide-ranging talents and interests of the men featured in this book and of all boys. Energetic patterns suggest possibility while the joyfully unrestrained colour palette embraces diversity and optimism. High-fiving

hands reach out to acknowledge, support, salute and assist.

PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Look at the blurb on the back cover. Apart from the men mentioned, come up with a list of men who you think might be featured inside.
2. Why do you think a high five is called a high five? As a class, do some research on the origin of the phrase.
3. Looking at the cover, title and blurb, who do you think this book is aimed at?
4. Why do you think it might be important for both boys and girls to read this book?



WRITING STYLE

Preceding each biography there is a page which features a high five to the subject and a more general thank you to other men like them.

A high five to Tim Flannery for being an explorer extraordinaire.

Let’s follow the path of those who study the past to advocate for the future. (p.178-179)

These shout lines utilise a variety of colloquial phrases and often contain simple puns which relate to the relevant subjects’ profession or industry.

On the following page, the short biographies of each man are written in third person, in a casual, almost conversational tone. They follow a similar pattern of giving some basic details about the subject’s early years and then focusing on their achievements or actions which have given them cause to be celebrated.

At the end of each biography the point of view changes to second person with a line of text spoken directly to the subject.



Tim, you're proof that if we're curious, adventurous and passionate, we can be anything we want to be.

We want to keep learning and discovering every day, just like you. (p.180)

These final sentences are more descriptive and evoke a very celebratory and uplifting tone.

Questions

1. What do you feel when you read the lines that are spoken directly to the subject? Does it evoke a different emotion to when you read the biography part?
2. Do you think you could tell what each man does by just looking at the portraits?

Activities

1. Pick a man who is not featured in the book and, following the style of the book, write a high five to them and a short biography of their life and achievements. The man can be someone famous or notable, or it can be someone you know and admire.



ILLUSTRATIONS

Multiple illustrators have been used for the portraits of the men in the book. This gives the book a very diverse look and allows for different types of representation of the men and their achievements.

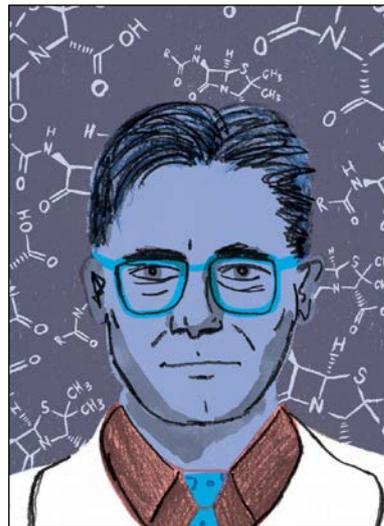
Questions

1. As a class, discuss which men are instantly recognisable from their portrait. Is it to do with the likeness of the image or the fact they are already well-known?

2. As a class, discuss whether you think using a variety of illustrators makes the book more interesting and why?
3. As a class, see if you can pick which portraits are done by the same illustrators? Hint: some illustrators have even done three portraits.

Activities

1. Pick one portrait and write a paragraph or two about what you think the artist might have been trying to convey with the style, colour, pattern and imagery they have used. Remember, there is no right and wrong answer!



THEMES

Australian men

High Five to the Boys features 50 Australian men from the past and present, and from all walks of life. In reading this book, many different professions, achievements, milestones and backgrounds are covered.

Questions

1. As a class, discuss some of the things you have learnt about Australian men in the book. For example, can you remember who discovered penicillin or who started the Royal Flying Doctor Service?

Activities

1. Look at the contents list of the men in the book. Using the professions that are written underneath the names, can you group the men into different categories? For example, science, sport, the arts, etc.
2. Write a list of famous or well-known Australian men who aren't in the book. For each, give a reason why they should be included.





Equality

Around the world there has been a strong push for women’s rights to be recognised and respected, and for women to receive equal treatment to men. As a result, there have been lots of books and articles on the subject of feminism, equality and amazing women throughout history. *High Five to the Boys* addresses this topic in a different way – by promoting Australian men who have broken new ground, stood up for what they believed in, achieved incredible things and challenged the traditional constructs of masculinity.

Questions

1. Given the recent women’s movement, why do you think a book focusing on the achievements of men would be published? As a class, read the acknowledgments section of the book to give you more information.
2. As a class, can you think of other recent books, movies, television shows or events which are related to feminism or equality? For example, *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls*.
3. As a class, discuss whether it would be fair if boys and girls were treated differently at school.

Activities

1. Using the word ‘Equality’ write an acrostic poem which describes some of the important aspects of the concept.

World and Australian history

In the various biographies of women in *High Five to the Boys*, different historical events from around the world and Australia are mentioned. For example, Olympic Games, wars, important social and political actions and inventions.

Questions

2. As a class, discuss some of the historical topics that are covered and what you have learnt about them.
1. Can you remember which of the men have won awards or accolades for their achievements? For example, a Medal of the Order of Australia or Australian of the Year.

Activities

1. Research the following awards and make a list of how many women and how many men have won the award in the past 10 years: Australian of the Year, Young Australian of the Year, Archibald Prize, Man Booker Prize, Nobel Prize in Physics. Once you have finished, how do the two genders compare? What do you think this shows?

Challenging stereotypes

Traditionally men and boys have been celebrated when they achieve in areas that are typically thought of as masculine such as sport and business. However the profiles of men in *High Five to the Boys* show a huge variety of careers for males – there is a dancer, a figure skater, a fashion designer and more.

Questions

1. Discuss what you understand the word ‘stereotype’ to mean. Do you think it has negative connotations?

Activities

1. Write a list of gender stereotypes that you think exist in the world. For example, women are good at housework and men are good at fixing things.
2. Pick one of the men in the book that you think has defied a stereotype and write a paragraph about it.



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

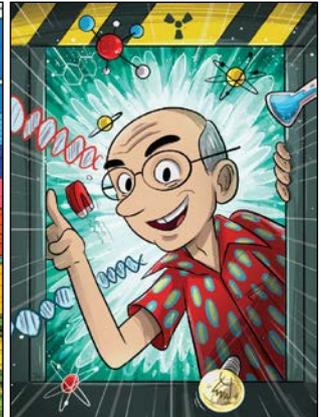
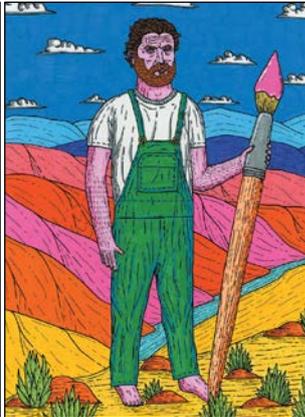
- Choose one of the men featured in the book and write a more extensive biography of them.
- Choose one of the men featured in the book and draw your own portrait of them.
- Create your own list of 50 ace Australian men.
- After writing your list, create a table and think of 2–3 adjectives for each man which describe them or their achievements.
- Royalties from this book are being donated to the Australian charity The Smith Family. Research The Smith Family and write a one-page report on them and the work they do.
- What are some other Australian charities that help children in need?



WORKSHEET: HIGH FIVES

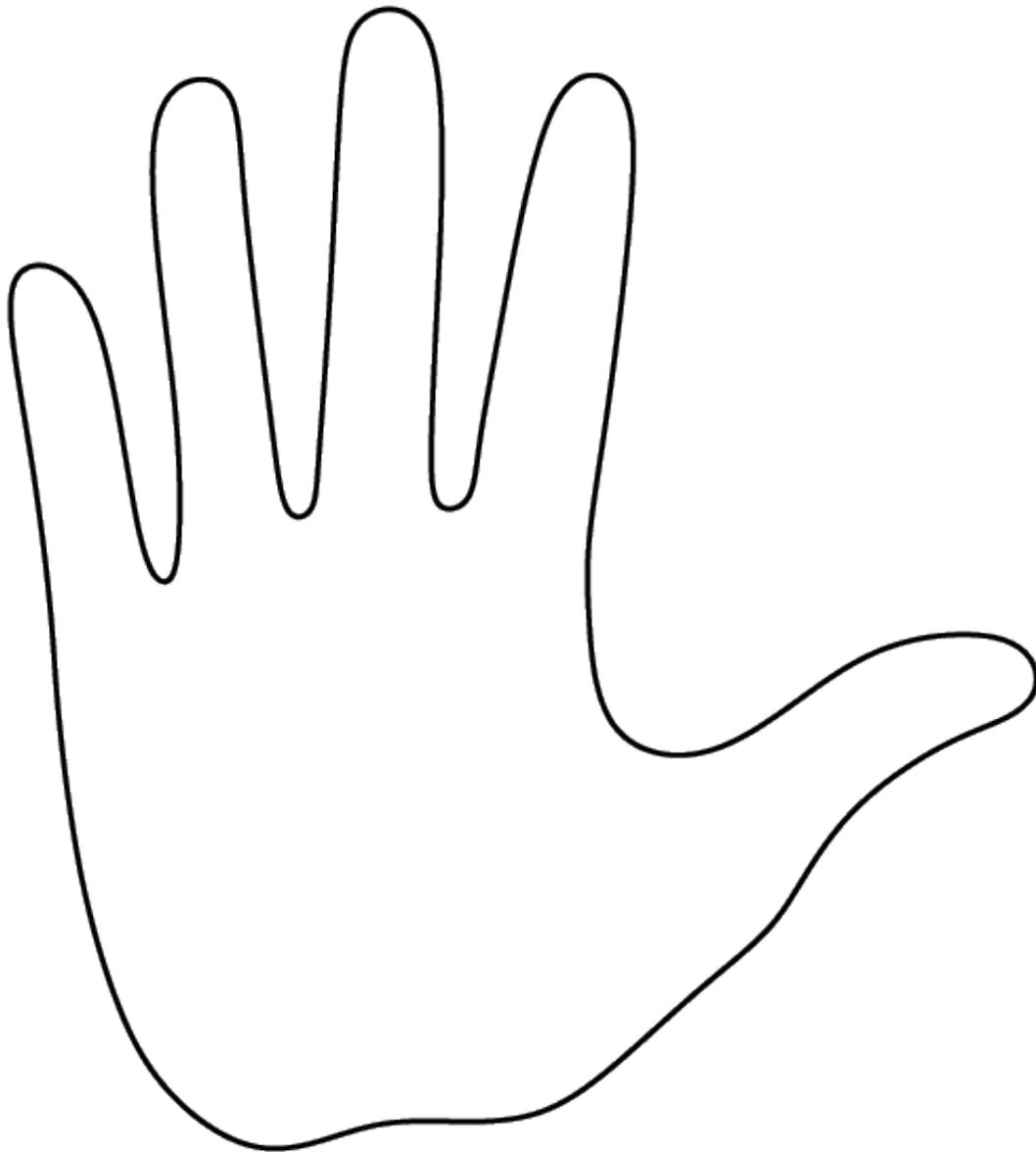
A 'high five' is a public a public salutation to express gratitude or solidarity. Following the style of the book, come up with your own shout-outs to the people below.

1. A high five to _____ (a family member) for _____ .
2. A high five to _____ (a friend) for _____ .
3. A high five to _____ (a teacher) for _____ .
4. A high five to _____ (a person in the community) for _____ .
5. A high five to _____ (a charity) for _____ .
6. A high five to _____ (an author) for _____ .
7. A high five to _____ (an historical figure) for _____ .
8. A high five to _____ (a fictional character) for _____ .
9. A high five to _____ (a sportsperson) for _____ .
10. A high five to _____ (you!) for _____ .

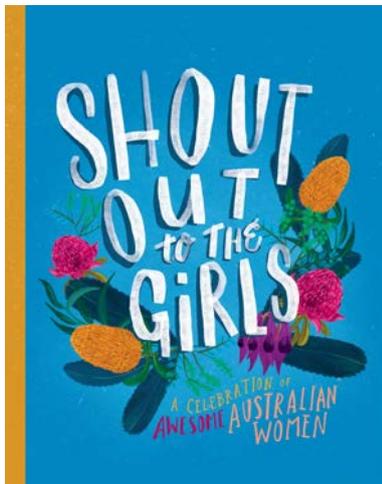


WORKSHEET: HIGH FIVE WALL

Using the template below, write a high five to someone (of any gender) that you think deserves recognition. Use colour, pattern or cut and paste to make your high five hand as eye-catching as possible. Create a wall or space in your classroom called 'The High Five Wall' where all the decorated hands can be stuck up.



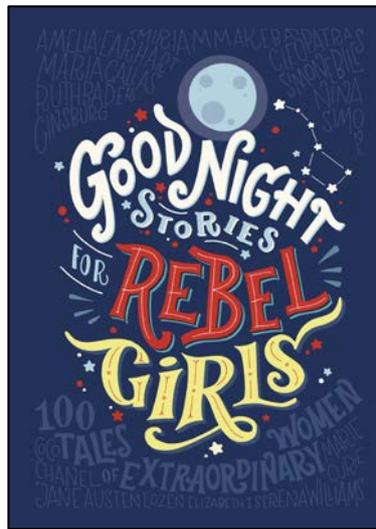
FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



Shout Out to the Girls
by Various

Why this story? Read it as another example of amazing achievements by Australians.

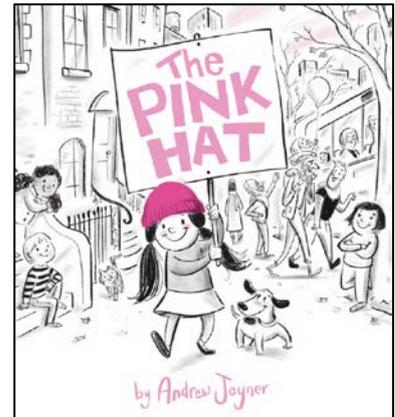
Shout-outs to 50 awesome Australian women with easy-to-read biographies of their incredible achievements. From Cathy Freeman to Turia Pitt, Edith Cowan to Julia Gillard, Mum Shirl to Vali Myers, plus rally car drivers, molecular biologists and more, this book is a celebration of women in all fields, from all walks of life, and from Australia's past and present.



Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls
by Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo

Why this story? Read it as another example of women achieving great things.

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls introduces us to one hundred remarkable women and their extraordinary lives, from Ada Lovelace to Malala, Elizabeth I to Serena Williams.



The Pink Hat
by Andrew Joyner

Why this story? A story inspired by the 2017 Women's March for equal rights.

Once there was a pink hat. A cat played with it.

A baby caught it. A dog swiped it. That is, until... A girl found it. She wears the hat everywhere, including to a march with thousands of other people. They are all marching to support the idea that girls and women should have equal rights to boys and men.

ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QTY	TOTAL
High Five to the Boys	Various	9780143791782	2+	\$29.99		
Shout Out to the Girls	Various	9780143789420	2+	\$29.99		
Good Night Stories For Rebel Girls	Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo	9780141986005	2+	\$32.99		
The Pink Hat	Andrew Joyner	9780143789369	K+	\$24.99		
TOTAL						

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