



# TEACHERS' RESOURCES

## RECOMMENDED FOR

Upper primary  
(ages 7+)

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## KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

**Learning areas:** English, Humanities and Social Sciences (7–10 History: The Ancient World)

**General capabilities:** Literacy, Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding

## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

1. Investigate historical, geographic, civic and economic concepts and ideas
2. Develop critical and creative thinking

## THEMES

- Relationships
- Society
- Personal and social ethics
- Language
- Family
- Technology
- Survival

## PREPARED BY

Penguin Random House Australia

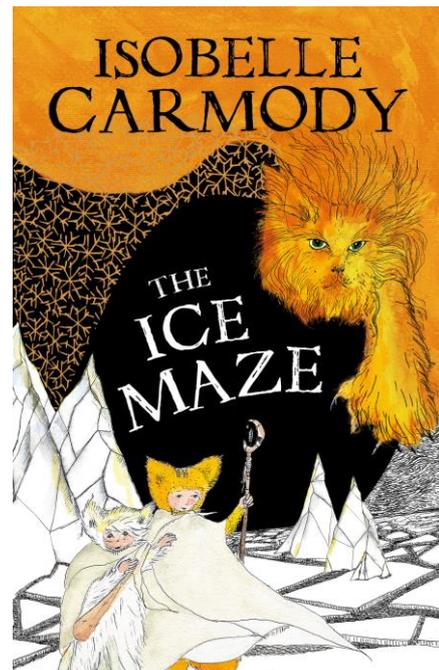
## PUBLICATION DETAILS

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## Kingdom of the Lost: The Ice Maze Isobelle Carmody

## PLOT SUMMARY

Bily and Zluty, the injured Monster and two diggers journey into a land of ice and darkness. Here they find a secret settlement and learn more about the mysterious Makers plan.

But the Monster must make a dreadful choice...

This is the third book in the award-winning Kingdom of the Lost series, a magical adventure series for younger readers from the award-winning author of *Little Fur*.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Isobelle Carmody is one of Australia's most highly acclaimed authors of fantasy. At fourteen, she began *Obernewtyn*, the first book in her much-loved *Obernewtyn Chronicles*, and has since written many works in this genre. Her novel *The Gathering* was joint winner of the 1993 Children's Literature Peace Prize and the 1994 CBCA Book of the Year Award, and *Greylands* was joint winner of the 1997 Aurealis Award for Excellence in Speculative Fiction (Young Adult category), and was named a White Raven at the 1998 Bologna Children's Book Fair.

Isobelle's work for younger readers includes her two series, *The Legend of Little Fur*, and *The Kingdom of the Lost*, the first book of which, *The Red Wind*, won the CBCA Book of the Year Award for Younger Readers in 2011. She has also written several picture books as well as collections of short stories for children, young adults and adults.

After living in Europe for more than a decade, Isobelle now divides her time in Australia between her home on the Great Ocean Road in Victoria and Brisbane.

## AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Isobelle says;

I was inspired by two little toys found in a free bin of odd things in a secondhand shop in the Czech Republic. They were dirty but so sweet and it seemed amazing and touching that they had made it to the free bin together. It started me thinking about how we throw away things and even people that once we loved. It also made me think about homelessness and not belonging and all of the uncertainties and dangers experienced by those who have lost their homes thought no fault of their own. It made me think about their vulnerability and their resilience and sheer courage.

## WRITING STYLE

- What is the novel's writing style? Consider how and when information is revealed, and the use of different narrative perspectives. How effectively does this contribute to the novel's storytelling?
- What are the main themes of the novel and how does the use of family and belonging contribute to the story?

How does the third-person point-of-view affect what is revealed to the reader and how they experience the story? How might the story have been different if only one of the brother's perspectives had been used?

- How authentic is the landscape and the different cultures/people depicted in the book.
- Did you think the breaks between the different perspectives (Bily/Zluty) effective? How does the author use them for pacing and structure?

## Activities

Choose an incident in the story and write it in first-person from another character's perspective.

## THEMES

- Individual differences: perceived negatives and actual positives
- Friendship
- Compassion
- Selflessness
- Being loved and loving

## KEY STUDY TOPICS

- Language & Culture
- Family
- Belonging
- Bravery and acceptance

## QUESTIONS

1. How is this book about different cultures and about acceptance?
2. Describe the physical environment and conditions of the landscape they are travelling through.
3. Use examples drawn from Bily/Zluty's memories to build a picture of their 'previous life' – what were their experiences of home and family life before they had to leave?
4. What have they learned about themselves since leaving their home and seeking a new home.
5. Choose one of these emotions and find text in the book that you think reflects it strongly: Hate, Fear, Grief, Love, Relief, Joy.
6. Develop a list of Bily/Zluty's strengths as you find out more about them. How are they different from each other? How does their personality affect how they each see the world and the new people that they meet?
7. How does Bily react when he is separated from Zluty and becomes lost? How does he react to the dangers he is confronted by? What positive



attributes enable him to cope – emotionally and mentally?

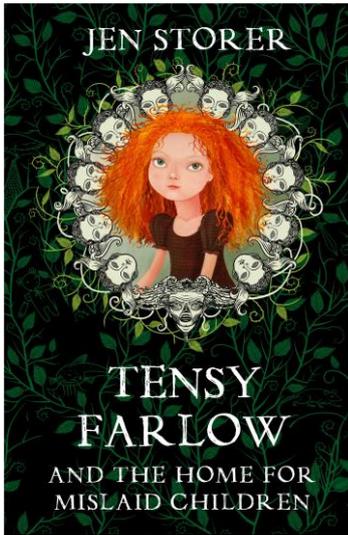
8. How does Zluty react when he is separated from Bily and becomes lost? How does he react to the dangers he is confronted by? What positive attributes enable him to cope – emotionally and mentally?

## ACTIVITIES

- Select text from different points in *The Ice Maze* and discuss these in class.
- Write about how you would feel at this point in the story if you had experienced everything that Bily/Zluty had experienced up to that point. Maybe discuss from each POV.
- Can you write down your thoughts and feelings about *Ice Maze*? Explain what struck you the most about Bily/Zluty? How do you feel at the end of their story so far?
- Think about the different experiences of children in different countries around the world. How is life different for other children? How is life the same? How is each culture different that the brothers come across in their travels. How do the brothers learn to accept/integrate with these cultures?
- Can you think of a time when you followed your instincts?
- Can you think of a time when you avoided danger?
- Can you think of a time when you met someone with a very different culture or family and how you felt about them initially and how you learned to accept your differences?
- Imagine if you were lost and couldn't find your family. What would you do?



FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



*Tensy Farlow and the Home for Mislaid Children*  
by Jen Storer

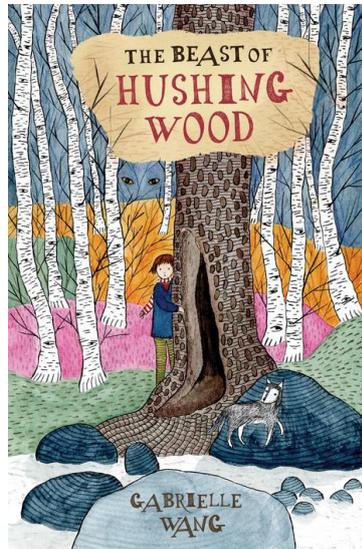
**Why this story?** Read it as another example of fantasy, family and belonging.

Dumped in the River Charon, hunted by an accursed river creature and betrayed by the wicked Matron Pluckrose, Tensy Farlow is in mortal danger. She has no parents. Worse still, she has no guardian angel.

When she is thrown into the Home for Mislaid Children – a gloomy orphanage where ravens attack, Watchers hover over your bed, and even the angels cannot be trusted – it seems that all hope is lost.

Yet could it be that a plucky, flame-haired orphan with a mysterious past is precisely what this dark world needs?

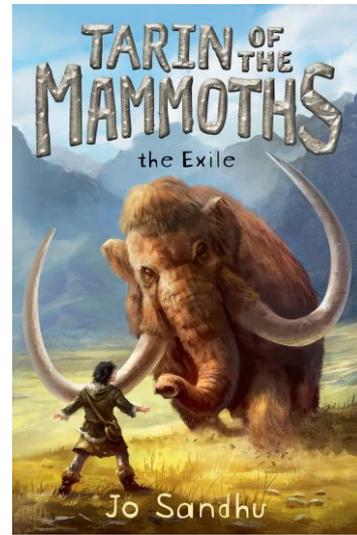
'Deliciously menacing, deliciously funny . . . a glorious read'  
– Australian Booksellers' Association



*The Beast of Hushing Wood*  
by Gabrielle Wang

**Why this story?** Thought-provoking and engaging, this novel about acceptance and prejudice is a lovely blend of action, fable and magic realism by award-winning author Gabrielle Wang.

Ziggy Truegood lives in a tiny town deep in Hushing Wood, where strange things are happening. The townspeople are fighting, Ziggy feels like something is hunting her, and her beloved woods have become dark and hostile. When exotic Raffi and his grandfather arrive in town, Ziggy finds herself strangely drawn to them. But are they there to save Ziggy, or are they the hunters?



*Tarin of the Mammoths: The Exile*  
by Jo Sandhu

**Why this story?** Read it as another example of acceptance and learning to be yourself with male and female characters. An exciting new Stone Age story for 9+.

Tarin longs to be a hunter, but his twisted leg means he is feared and bullied. After a disastrous mishap, Tarin is forced to leave his family and travel alone across wild, unknown land to save the Mammoth Clan. Battling the hostile and savage Boar Clan, a deadly illness and treacherous terrain with twins Kaija and Luuka and their wolf cubs, Tarin realises that if they are all to survive he must conquer his greatest fear – his true self – and embrace the magic that is hiding within him.



## ORDER FORM

| TITLE  | AUTHOR           | ISBN          | SCHOOL YEAR | RRP     | QTY | TOTAL |
|--|------------------|---------------|-------------|---------|-----|-------|
| Kingdom of the Lost: The Ice Maze              | Isobelle Carmody | 9780670077915 | 2+          | \$19.99 |     |       |
| Tensy Farlow and the Home for Mislaid Children | Jen Storer       | 9780143304371 | 3+          | \$16.99 |     |       |
| The Beast of Hushing Wood                      | Gabrielle Wang   | 9780143309178 | 3+          | \$16.99 |     |       |
| Tarin of the Mammoths: The Exile               | Jo Sandhu        | 9780143309376 | 4+          | \$16.99 |     |       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                   |                  |               |             |         |     |       |

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|--|--|

