

## **Maya & Cat**

By Caroline Magerl

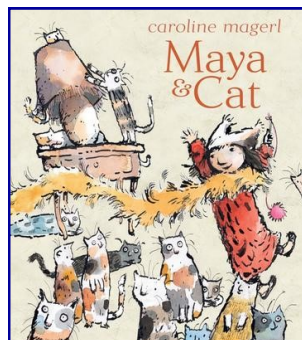
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\$24.99

Maya & Cat is an inspiring picture book about friendship and resilience from one of Australia's most renowned author-illustrators.

On a roof, as wet as a seal, as grey as a puddle, Cat was rumbling, a rumbly purr. What does Cat want most? Feather boas? Pretty pink shoelaces? A boatful of fish under a tiny tin sail – or perhaps something much more valuable? Affectionate and evocative, Maya & Cat follows a child's kindly impulse to an unexpected conclusion.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

### **Themes:**

- Animals
- Adventure

### **Discussion Questions:**

- Is Maya & Cat an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? How can you tell?
- Who do you think the audience for this book is? Why?
- How can the reader tell when a character is speaking? (e.g. punctuation)
- Write a book review on Maya & Cat. Include what you liked about the book, who you think would enjoy it the most and mention any other books you think are similar.
- On the whiteboard or on a large sheet of paper, place an image of the Maya & Cat cover and surround it with words that describe the book. Include words that describe what you liked and what you disliked about the book.
- Examine several of the spreads and have a class discussion about the following:
  - What is the main colour or colours used? What mood/ feeling do these colours create?
  - What objects are in the foreground (front), the midground and background of the picture? Why do you think the illustrator chose to do that?
  - What are the characters on this page doing and where are they looking? Why are they doing this? What effect does this have?
- How do you think Cat feels about Maya? After reading the book and knowing Cat gives Maya her kitten has your opinion changed?
- What is your favourite part of Maya & Cat? Why?
- Have you ever had an adventure with a pet? Write a story or draw a picture about an adventure you would like to have.
- The character of Maya tries feather boas, pink shoelaces or a pom pom on a stick to get Cat down. What other things might you have tried? Draw a picture of you trying to get Cat down.
- The character of Cat does not talk to Maya, however Maya still understands what Cat is trying to show her. How does Caroline Magerl show this through the illustrations?
- Have you ever had a friend that went away? How did it make you feel? Did you feel the same or different to how Maya feels when Cat goes away?
- Cats and other pets can take a lot of work to look after. Make a list of all the items you would need and time commitments you would have to make to look after a cat or another pet.