

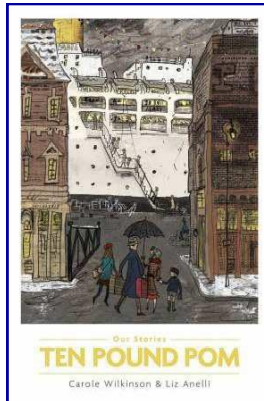
Ten Pound Pom

By Carole Wilkinson & Liz Anelli

Publisher: Black Dog/Walker Books

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I don't want to go to Australia. I have just started grammar school. My best friend Sally goes there too. But it looks like there could be another war and Dad has convinced Mum to go. Because we're migrants, the voyage is costing Mum and Dad only £10 each. My brother Brian and I are travelling free. It's a long way to Australia. What if we never come back to England? In the 1950s and 60s Australia welcomed thousands of British immigrants as part of the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme. *Ten Pound Pom* is the true story of award-winning author Carole Wilkinson's immigration to Australia.



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

Themes:

- Australian History
- Belonging
- Immigration
- Emotional and Physical Journeys

Discussion Questions & Activities:

- From the front and back cover what information can you learn about the book? What do you think this book is about? What information do you think will be covered in this book?
- *Ten Pound Pom* is narrative non-fiction written in first person. Why do you think Carole Wilkinson decided to write in this style? Take a section of the book and rewrite it as non-fiction, and narrative non-fiction in third person. Compare the original text with your two rewritten sections and think about the similarities and differences between the three styles of writing. Find other books in your school library that are examples of each of these styles of writing.
- Carole Wilkinson based this book on her own experience as a child coming to Australia on board the Arcadia. How do you think her personal experience shaped this book? How might it have been different if Wilkinson didn't have personal experience as a 'ten pound pom'?
- In the story Carole has a physical journey from England to Australia, but she also experiences an emotional journey at the same time. What is an emotional journey? Read through the book and discuss the emotions Carole is feeling at each stage. How does the journey to Australia help Carole to grow/change emotionally?
- Use the map on pages 2-3 to trace the Arcadia's journey from Derby to Adelaide using the information found in the text. Liz Anelli has drawn images of the countries on the world map (pages 2-3). What do each of the images represent? Why do you think she included these? What other images would you like to add to the map?
- Read pages 28-29 about The £10 Migration Scheme. Why do you think Arthur Calwell and other politicians at the time created the White Australia Policy? Do you think this is right or wrong? The White Australia Policy ended in 1982, but what consequences or effects do you think the policy still has on Australia today?