

## Searching For Seashells

By Kerry Rosser & Illustrated by Nicky Johnston

Publisher: Empowering Resources

ISBN 9781925592283 SCIS: 1977904

\$25.00

Today I was angry. Mum said it's okay to be angry. We get angry because we want something we can't have.

I want Jimmy here to play with me.

Jimmy is gone now. I miss him lots.

*Searching for Seashells* is a comforting and gentle story that empowers families to talk about love, loss and remembering. Sharing in a simple way the many big feelings of grief, it reassures young readers that love and memories continue even after someone is gone.



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

### Themes:

- Family
- Grief and Loss
- Memories

### Discussion Questions and Activities:

- Have a look at the front cover. What do you think the book is about?
- Read the blurb to the class. Who do you think Jimmy is?
- Read the story and ask the students which page was their favourite. Why is it their favourite?
- Class discussion about how the book made the students feel. Encourage conversation about times that students might have felt some of the emotions felt by the boy character.
- Why do you think the book is called *Searching for Seashells*?
- Have the students draw a big seashell and write words or draw pictures that represent how they feel when they think about a special person in their family.
- The boy's mum helps him through all of his feelings. What does your Mum / Dad / Grandma / Grandpa etc. do to help you through your feelings?
- At the beginning of the book, we find out that Jimmy loves yoghurt, bubbles and searching for seashells. Write a questionnaire and interview five people in your class and two family members about their favourite things. (eg. favourite food, favourite colour, etc.)
- The boy says Jimmy is his best friend. Draw a picture of one of your really good friends and write / draw what makes them so special.
- Write a story about a time you had to say goodbye to someone special (even just for a short time) and add lots of feeling words into the story.
- A lot of the story features the beach. Use the five senses to describe a time you were at the beach.
- The boy gets angry and his Mum says that it's ok to feel angry when we want something we can't have. Discuss times when the students felt angry and how they overcame it. What are good ways to cope with big emotions?
- In small groups or as a class, have the students role play big emotions and healthy ways to overcome them.
- The story talks about memories. Create a time capsule of stories, items and special memories to be opened in five years. Discuss what things you might want to remember in five years and why. Special memories keep us connected to the people we love, like the boy's memories of Jimmy do in the story. Think of five people who are special to you, and a favourite memory you have of each that you will always treasure.