

Where The Heart Is

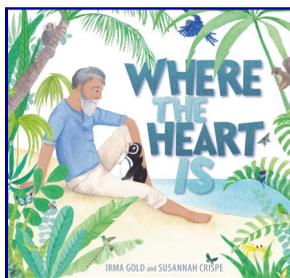
By Irma Gold & Illustrated by Susannah Crispe

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\$24.99

Inspired by an incredible true story, *Where the Heart Is* explores the friendship between Dindim the Magellanic penguin and his rescuer, Joao. Young readers will delight in its beautiful depiction of the intrepid penguin's journey, and the wildlife he meets on the way. Heartfelt and educational, this is a celebration of nature and belonging.



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

Themes:

- Climate Change
- Environmental Issues
- Animal Habitats
- Friendship
- Nature

Discussion Questions and Activities:

During Reading:

- How do think the tiny penguin became covered in oil? Why is this dangerous for penguins and other marine life?
- Why is Joao sad to leave Dindim? Why do you think he feels he can't keep Dindim?
- Now Dindim has grown up, why do you think he wants to leave?
- Do you think Dindim will find Joao again?

After Reading:

- What was the story about? How does the title relate to the themes in the story?
- Why do you think Joao and Dindim had such a special friendship?
- Where do you think the oil came from? Why did it make Dindim sick? How did Joao help the tiny penguin to become strong again?
- Why does Dindim leave his home with Joao to visit Patagonia for a few months of the year? Why do you think he returns to Joao's beach?
- Do you think Dindim understands the dangers of oil spills and hungry sea lions when he journeys along the coast? What is his motivation?
- How do think Joao feels when Dindim is away? Why? How do you feel about the illustrations? How does the illustrator help to show how the characters are feeling and the different sequences of Dindim's journey? What other wildlife can you spot in the pictures?
- What does 'endangered' mean? What are some man-made and environmental effects that could endanger wildlife? What can we do to help protect animals in the wild, like Dindim? Discuss climate change and its effects on the environment.

Creative Writing:

- Imagine you came across a sick, injured or trapped animal. What would you do? How would you rescue it? Where will you take it and how will you help it?
- Write a narrative about an animal rescue. Include how you feel, what the problem is, and how you will solve it. Be sure to include a beginning, middle and end, and some 'WOW' words.

Persuasive / Letter / Informational Writing:

- Create a poster or a letter to raise awareness of climate change, and to persuade your audience to change some of their habits.
- Create a brochure for a place you can visit to see penguins.
- Search websites that allow live virtual camera experiences with penguins and write down what you see.