

## Hope Is A Spark

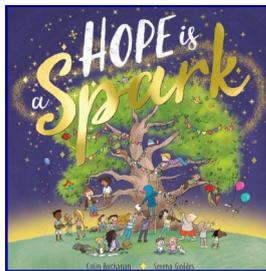
By Colin Buchanan & Illustrated by Serena Geddes

Publisher: Scholastic Australia

ISBN 9781761127229 SCIS: 5399534

\$17.99

When it's gloomy and grim, when it's dreary and dark, be it ever so small, hope is a spark! A book that celebrates the small joys in life through the power of togetherness and hope.



### Themes:

- Hope
- Togetherness
- Small Joys

### Discussion Questions:

- Before reading the story, discuss what 'hope' means to each of the students in the class.
- After reading, discuss this concept again. Why do the students think that hope can mean different things to different people?
- Analyse the title of the story 'Hope is a Spark'. Why do you think it is called this? What do you think is the significance of the word 'spark'?
- Is there one concept in the story that you think sums up 'hope' best to you?
- Why do you think that we need hope in our lives?
- As a class, think of at least five other things that can be used to highlight or describe hope in our daily lives?
- Do you think that the story portrays what the title says? Discuss.
- Do you think that being together is important? How and why are things better when you are with others?
- What is the significance of the last page of the story?
- How does a feeling of 'togetherness' work in with the concept of 'hope'?
- What are some of the things that you do that are better done with others, than done alone?
- How would the world be different without hope?
- Has hope helped get you through tough times in the past?
- Do you think that you will have a more positive outlook on things after reading this story? How do you think it will help you?

### Activities:

- Write a hand written letter to someone that you love, telling them how important that they are, and then send it to them.
- Make a giant poster of all the words that are in colour in the story. Display this in class as a reminder that hope is all around us, especially in the little things that we do.
- Draw or paint your own 'together' tree that is full of all things that you think signify hope.