

The Lonely Giant

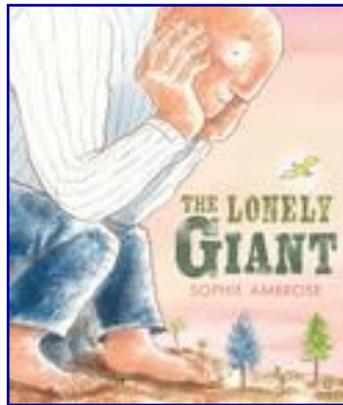
By Sophie Ambrose

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From an incredible new picture book talent, *The Lonely Giant* is a modern fable about friendship, freedom and caring for the environment. The forest giant likes nothing better than smashing, bashing and pulling up trees. But when all the animals run away in fear, the giant finds himself so very sad and lonely. How he misses the crackling warmth of a fire; how he misses the sweet, melodious songs of the birds! Can the lonely giant find a way to bring back the woodland bloom, and even make some friends? Beautifully illustrated, this is a tender, poignant tale of learning to nurture, value and respect the natural world.



Themes:

- Environment
- Sustainability
- Loneliness
- Friendship

Discussion Points:

- How do you feel when you look at the cover of this book and read the title?
- How would you describe the look on the giant's face?
- Why do you think he was destroying all the things in the forest?
- Discuss if you think he realised what he was doing and why he was doing it?
- Why is it important to look after the forests, birds, animals and other natural resources?
- How would our life be different without them?
- The giant was lonely without all the noises of the forest. Reflect on a time when you have felt lonely. How did you overcome this feeling?
- How do friends and friendships help us to not feel alone?
- How significant is the appearance of the little yellow bird? What did she represent?
- Why did the giant keep her in a cage? Was she happy about this? How did he realise that this wasn't the right thing to do?

Activities:

- Create two class murals. The first one of the scene when all the trees and animals were there to begin with and then lost, and the second of the scene showing the birds and animals coming back to life.
- Make your own 'little yellow bird'.