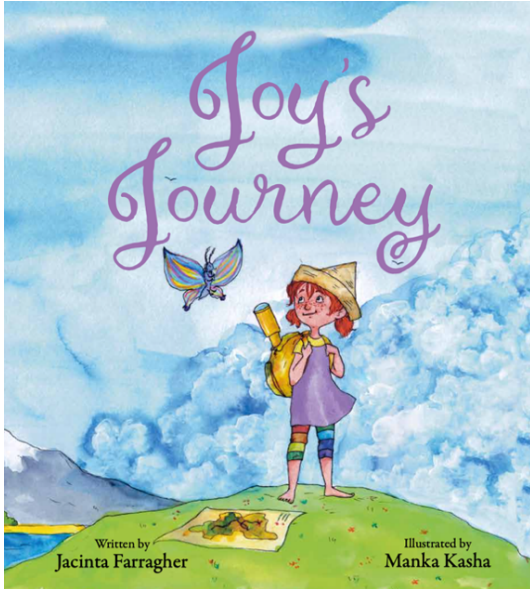


Joy's Journey

Teacher notes and suggestions for discussion



Author: Jacinta Farragher

Illustrator: Manka Kasha

Recommended for: 3 years +

Major themes:

Self-love, self-belief, happiness, finding joy in the journey, gratitude, self-discovery

Secondary themes:

Adventure, friendship, paradise, seasons, animals, habitats, mindfulness

Cover discussion

What is a journey?

Have you ever been on a journey? Tell us about it.

What do you think this story will be about?

What does Joy have to help her on her journey?

Rhyme

The story of Joy's Journey is told in rhyme.

What words can you think of that rhyme with Joy?

Incy Wincy Spider is a nursery rhyme. It has words that sound the same. Where did Incy Wincy Travel to?

Community

Does Joy live in the city or country? How do you know?

What is her house like?

Does she have neighbours?

Adventure

Joy wears a paper explorers' hat on her adventures.

Where would you like to go on an adventure?

Let's make a hat so you can go adventuring too. (instructions follow "Art" section)

Vehicles

Joy travels by foot, and on a sailboat. What other vehicles can you use to travel?

Can you draw or make a sail boat of your own?

(Make the shapes of a sail boat for children to cut out and paste into a collage)

Geography

In the story, Joy finds a map, but the picture isn't clear.

Can you help draw a map that shows Joy where to go?

What else could we draw a map of?

Who else uses maps?

Animals

Joy meets some animal friends on her adventures.

Can you remember any?

Go through the book page by page and ask children to identify the animals they see, while the teacher lists them on a chart. (word and picture)

Habitats

Where might Pink the Pelican live?

Where might Buck the deer live?

Where might Moe the goat live?

Where might Maeve the butterfly live?

(Create story baskets with child and above animal figurines, and materials from block corner so children can recreate environments)

Seasons

Can you name the four seasons?

What different activities might you do in each season?

What kind of clothes would you wear in each season?

What happens in nature, especially to the trees in each season?

Which colours do you think go with each season?

What causes the seasons to change?

Did you know the seasons happen at different times in different parts of the world?

What is your favourite season and why?

Make a seasons wheel using the template on the next two pages.

Joy's Seasons Wheel

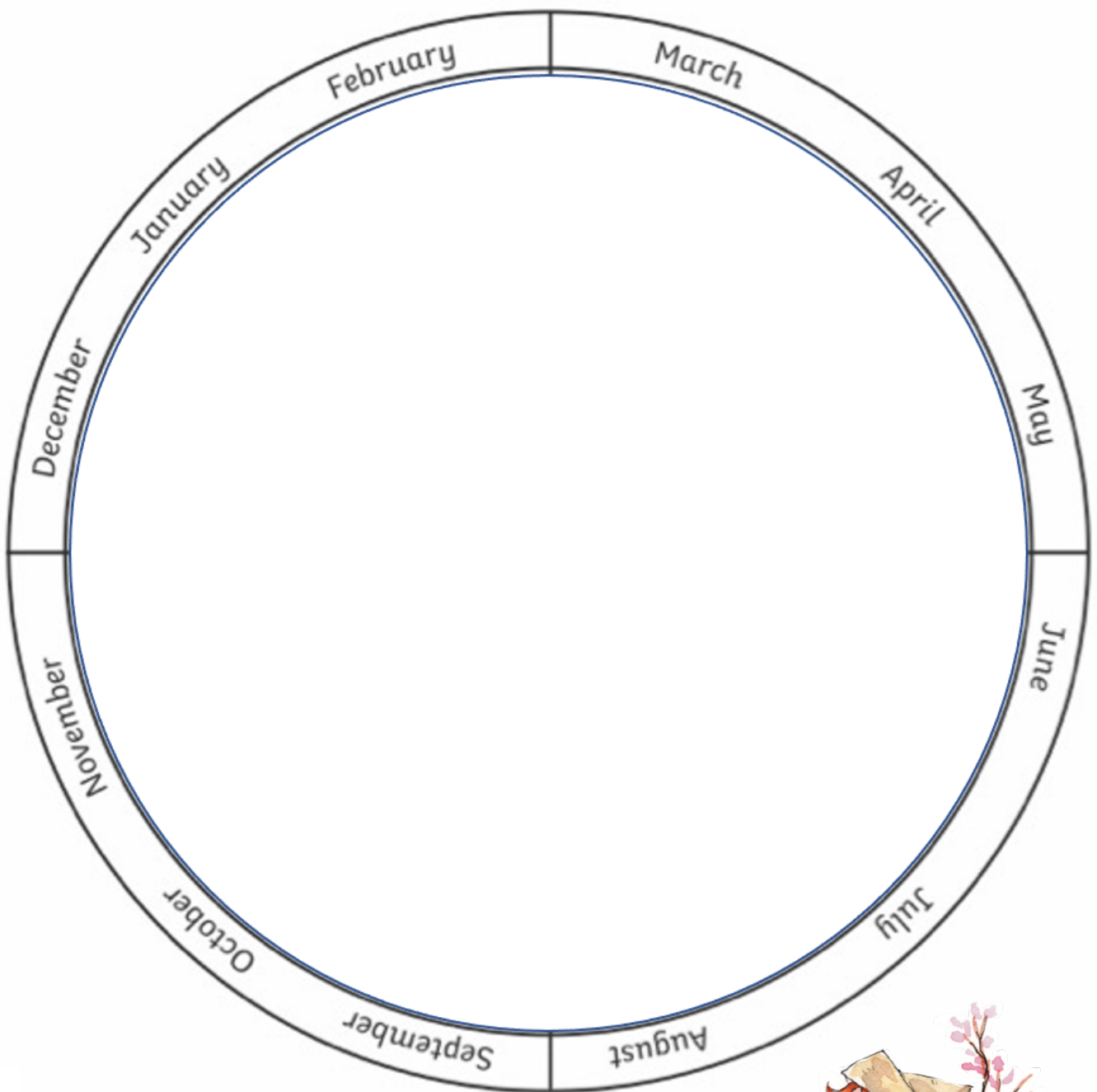
Cut out the two wheels below, glue them onto cardboard, and pin them together with a split pin to create a seasons wheel.

Discuss how and why the seasons occur in different months in different parts of the world.

What did Joy see as she travelled through each season?

Talk about what other things are related to each season, including weather, clothing, activities, nature cycles, tree changes and events (birthdays, celebrations etc.)





Cut out this circle, and make your own seasons wheel;

Rule lines, write each season in the correct quarter, and draw your own pictures of each season.

Which colours will you choose for each season and why?

Which is your favourite season and why?



Emotions

What does Joy's face look like?

How do you think she is feeling?

How would you feel going a journey by yourself?

Who would you like to go on an adventure with you?

How would you feel going into a dark, gloomy cave? (Like Joy does, and like the family in Going on a Bear Hunt)

How do you think Joy feels at the end of the story?

What do you like about Joy?

Joy is a person's name – but it is also a feeling. I wonder what Joy means?

Mindfulness

When Joy is in the meadow in spring, what is she doing? Let's see if we can do it.

Sit with your eyes closed and just breathe for one minute.

Now let's go outside and sit on the grass and do the same thing.

How do you feel when you just sit and breathe?

Do you feel different doing this inside to outside?

Do a guided meditation at relaxation – focus on sea, forest, mountains and gardens.

What is a teacher?

"A teacher is someone who helps others learn new things"

(<https://www.yourdictionary.com/teacher>)

Who is the teacher that Joy finds in the story?

What could you teach someone?

What would you like to learn?

Do you think being a teacher is an important job? Why?

I wonder if teachers need to learn new things?

What is a paradise?

"A paradise is a place or condition of great happiness, where everything is exactly as you would like it to be"

(<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/paradise>)

Paradise can be a place, but it can also be a feeling.

Tell us about what your paradise would be like – what makes you happy?

Who or what would be in your paradise?

Can you draw it?

Finding joy in the journey

Was Joy happy because she finished her journey, or because of all the things that happened along the way?

What makes you happy?

What makes you sad?

Self-love and self-belief

Look at Joy's face in the mirror. What does she look like? (surprised, proud)

What do you think is special about Joy?

What is special about you?

Draw yourself, and think of some words that describe you. ("You Are" sheet below)

What is something special about you?

What are some things you would like to learn?

Art

Set book at table with black markers and watercolour paints for children to choose a page they wish to draw/replicate. Make a group book with the children's art work.

Make a boat or a tent out of paper or craft materials and decorate them.

Don't forget to name your boat!

Create a map template for children to add their own instructions/ journey points.

Draw each stop on Joy's journey.

Think about what colours to use for each place and season.

Joy wears a paper explorers' hat on her adventures.

Can you make a paper hat?

(instructions on following page)

Make Joy's explorer's hat!



*Fold newspaper in half...
(and in half again,
if you have a little head)*



*Fold top left and right
sides into the middle to
make a point*



*Fold the bottom flaps up
on the front and back.
Tape the sides if needed*



Go exploring!

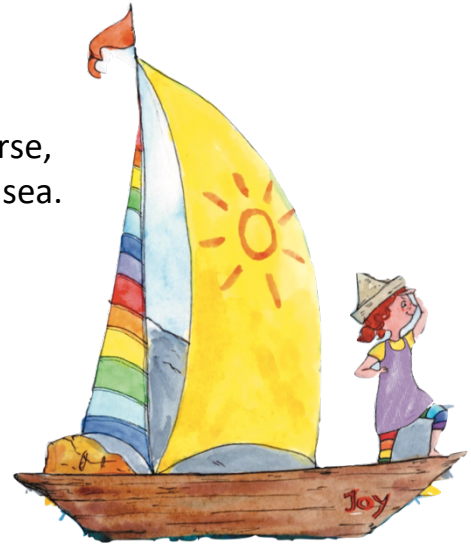
Become a bold adventurer, and be what you can be!

Where would you like to go on an adventure?

Music

This cute song goes well with the book. With each verse, add one more thing that Joy found when she went to sea. You can also add hand actions!

A sailor went to sea sea sea,
to see what she could see see see.
But all that she could see see see
was the bottom of the deep blue sea sea sea.



But that's **not all** Joy saw!
She **also** saw a big fish swimming in the sea...



A sailor went to sea sea sea
to see what she could see see see.
But all that she could see see see
was the bottom of the deep blue sea sea sea...
And a big fish swimming in the sea sea sea.

But that's **not all** Joy saw!
She **also** saw a pelican by the sea!

A sailor went to sea sea sea
to see what she could see see see.
But all that she could see see see
was the bottom of the deep blue sea sea sea...
And a big fish swimming in the sea sea sea...
And a pelican by the sea sea sea.



But that's **still not all** Joy saw!
She **also** saw a treasure chest by the sea!

A sailor went to sea sea sea
to see what she could see see see.
But all that she could see see see
was the bottom of the deep blue sea sea sea...
And a big fish swimming in the sea sea sea...
And a pelican by the sea sea sea...

And a treasure chest by the sea sea sea!



You are...

In Joy's Journey, Joy discovers that the teacher she was searching for, who is strong and kind and wise is... herself!

*Draw yourself, and think of some words that describe you.
What are some things you would like to learn?*

