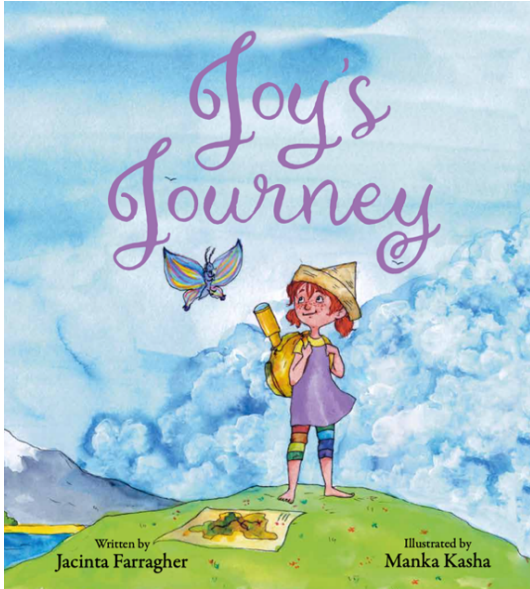


Joy's Journey

Teacher notes and suggestions for discussion



Author: Jacinta Farragher

Illustrator: Manka Kasha

Recommended for: 3 to 8 years

Major themes:

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

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?

Can you tell or write a story in rhyme?

Community

Does Joy live in the city or country?

What is her house like?

Is it big or small? What is the house made of? Does she have neighbours?

Adventure

Joy wears a paper explorers' hat on her adventures.

Can you make a paper hat? (instructions on pg. 10, following "Art" section)

Where would you like to go on an adventure?

Vehicles and sustainability

Joy travels by foot, and on a sailboat.

What other vehicles can you use to travel?

How does the way we travel impact the world?

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

Geography

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

Can you draw a map of Joy's Journey?

Can you draw a map of your classroom, school, bedroom, house, playground or street? Ask your classmates or family to guess what you have drawn a map of.

Animals

Joy meets some animal friends on her adventures.

Can you name them, and what type of animals they are?

Pelican – bird

Goat – mammal

Deer – mammal

Butterfly – insect

Can you think of any other stories with these animals in them?

What other animals can you see in the story? (fish, birds, bees, bats, squirrel, owl)

What are bats? Are they birds, marsupials or mammals?

(Bats are mammals... the only mammals capable of true flight!)

Habitats

Where might Pink the pelican live? What other animals live at the beach?

Where might Buck the deer live? What other animals live in the forest?

Where might Moe the goat live? What other animals live in the mountains?

Where might Maeve the butterfly live? What other animals live in gardens?

Can you draw or make a habitat, including the animals that live there?

Seasons

Can you name the four seasons?

What different activities might you do, and 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?

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

Did you know some countries only have two or three seasons? Do you know why?

What causes the seasons to change?

What is your favourite season and why?

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

Joy's Seasons Wheel

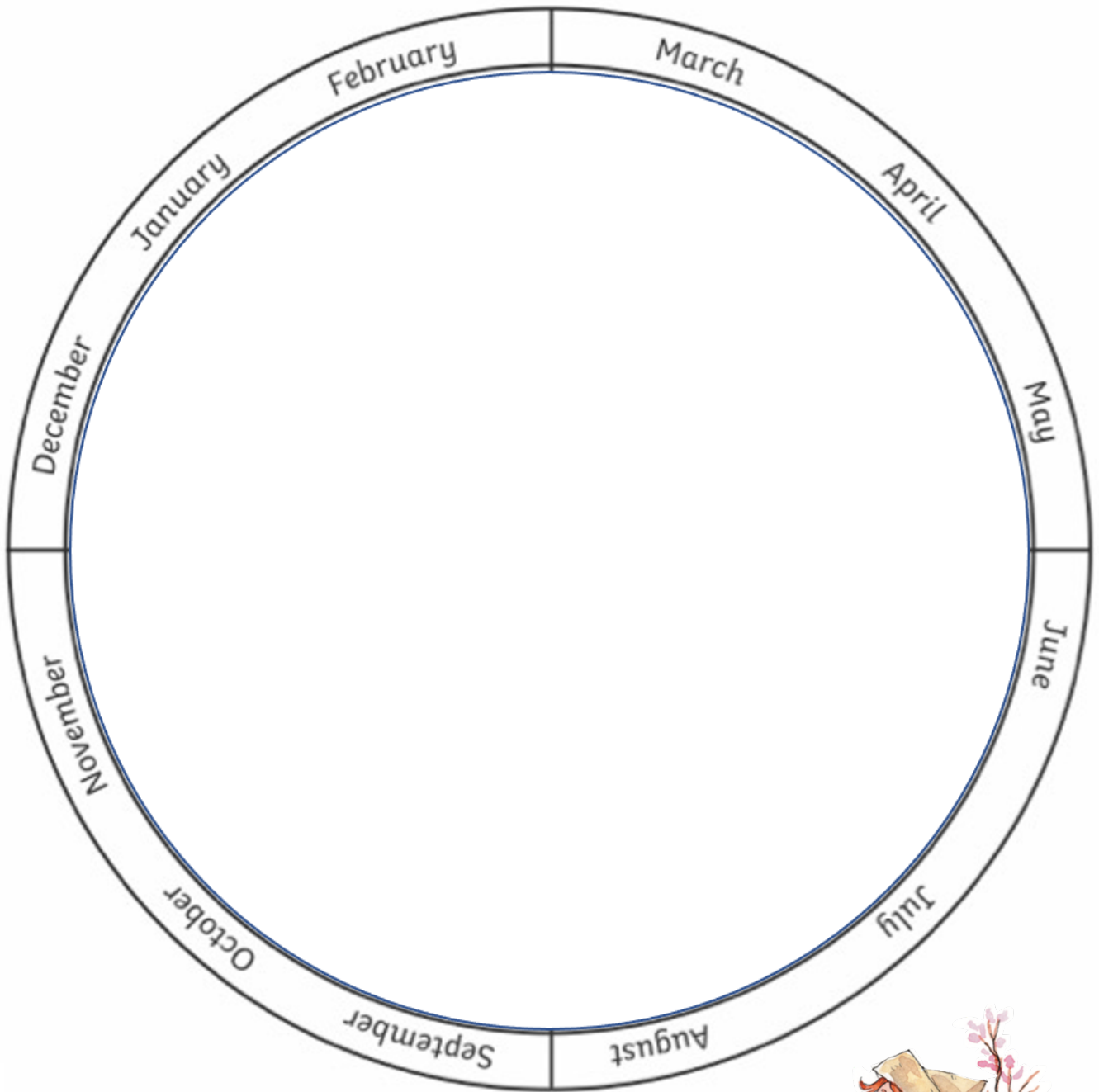
Cut out the two wheels below, glue them onto cardboard, and pin them together with a split pin to create a seasons wheel.

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?



English – Grammar and vocabulary exercises



I've heard about a paradise, with clear and sunny skies,
I've heard a teacher lives there, who is strong and kind and wise.
I've heard if you can find it, all your wishes will come true.
So off I went to find this place ... that's what I *tried* to do.

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate

The subject will always be a noun or a pronoun

The predicate will always include a verb.

1. Identify the subject and predicate in each of the above sentences
2. Identify the nouns, verbs and adjectives in the above sentences

HINTS:

A **noun** is a person, place or thing.

(A noun can also be an idea, like courage, or happiness)

A **pronoun** is a word that can replace a noun in a sentence

(Eg. I, me, we, he, she, they, it, what, something, anyone etc)

A **verb** is an action word – it tells us what the noun is doing

An **adjective** describes a noun

(what it looks, smells, sounds, feels or tastes like)

An **adverb** describes a verb or an adjective

(how, how often, when or where something happens)

Sort these summer words from *Joy's Journey* into nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

- Colour the nouns blue, the verbs red, and the adjectives yellow
- If a word can be a noun AND a verb, colour it purple
- If a word can be a noun AND an adjective, colour it green
- If a word can be a verb AND an adjective, colour it orange

NOUN

(Person, place or thing)

VERB

(Doing / action word)

ADJECTIVE

(Describing word)

Joy

Journey

Land

Sea

See

Wishes

Skipped

Map

Look

Clear

Sunny

Picture

Paradise

Seasons

Wall

Was

Became

I

Fun

Find

Think

Bold

Teacher

Said

Starting

Hear

Heard

Sandy

Met

Cold

Damp

Pleasure

Feeling

Rocky

Everywhere

Strong

Go

Packed

Tall

Be

Full

She

Travelled

Stacked

Magic

Treasure

Adventurer

Swam

Kind

Lives

Lazed

Brave

Pink

Sun

Pelican

Gloomy

Searched

Beach

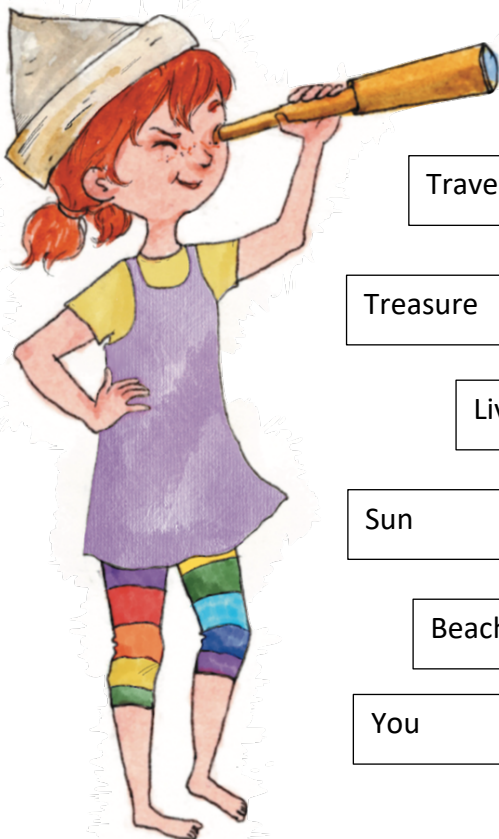
Wise

Place

You

Bathed

Summer



VOCABULARY

Match each word to its meaning.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Paradise | A. Daring. Not hesitating or fearful |
| 2. Wise | B. To pass time, or lounge around lazily |
| 3. Bold | C. Dark or dim |
| 4. Lazed | D. A place or state of extreme beauty or happiness |
| 5. Bathed | E. Slightly wet; moist |
| 6. Damp | F. Knowledgeable. Able to judge what is true or right |
| 7. Gloomy | G. To wash or soak in a bath or water |
| 8. Frolicked | H. Moved quickly or suddenly, rushed |
| 9. Scouted | I. Concerning the natural features of an area of land |
| 10. Nimble | J. To tremble from horror, fear or cold |
| 11. Dashed | K. To go out to search for or seek information |
| 12. Terrain | L. Had fun or played in a frisky, light-spirited way |
| 13. Shuddered | M. To fly with rapid flapping movements |
| 14. Fluttered | N. Quick and light in movement. Moving with ease |

SYNONYMS

Can you think of a synonym for each of the words above?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____



Gratitude

What do you think Joy is grateful for in the story?

What are you grateful for in your own life?

Talk about how gratitude can make you happier and healthier!

Empathy

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

What other feelings do you think Joy has during her adventure?

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

Do you think you are similar to Joy?

In what ways are you similar? In what ways are you different?

Mindfulness

When Joy makes it to the meadow in spring, what does she do?

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

Now 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? Why or why not?

Do a guided meditation – 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 is something someone else has taught you?

What is something you would like to learn?

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

Do you think 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 condition, or feeling.

Do you think Joy found a paradise in the story? Explain why you think this.

Can you tell or write a story about what your perfect paradise would be?

What people, places or things make you feel happy?

Finding joy in the journey

What does it mean to find joy in the journey?

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

How could you feel happy, even if things don't turn out the way you expect?

Discuss how you could choose different feelings in a given situation.

Discuss how you can change your feelings by thinking about things differently.

What kind of small, every-day things do YOU find joy in?

Self-love and self-belief

In the story, Joy realises *she* is the teacher who is strong and kind and wise.

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

What do you think is special about Joy?

Draw yourself, and write some adjectives that describe you. ("You Are" sheet below)

What is something special about you?

What are some things you would like to learn?

If you could teach yourself anything, what would it be?

Reflection

What was Joy searching for in the story? Do you think she found it?

What did you like or not like about this story?

What do you like or not like about the illustrations?

Art

The illustrations in this book are watercolour on paper.

What other ways could the book have been illustrated? (digital, paint, collage etc)

Can you choose a page from the book to either copy, or draw your own illustration for? (Make a group book with the children's art work)

Joy's boat and tent both have yellow fabric with sun emblems on them.

Can you create an emblem, pattern, symbol or design for yourself? What colour or colours would you choose to represent you?

Make a boat or a tent out of paper or craft materials and decorate them with your design. Don't forget to name your boat!

Draw a map of Joy's journey.

Draw each stop on Joy's journey, and label each one with the place, and the season Joy was there. Think about what colours to use for each place and season.

Make a paper explorers' hat like Joy's and go adventuring! (instructions below)

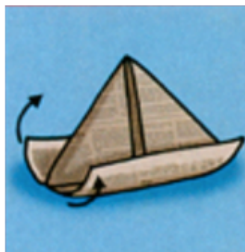
Make Joy's explorer's hat!



*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!

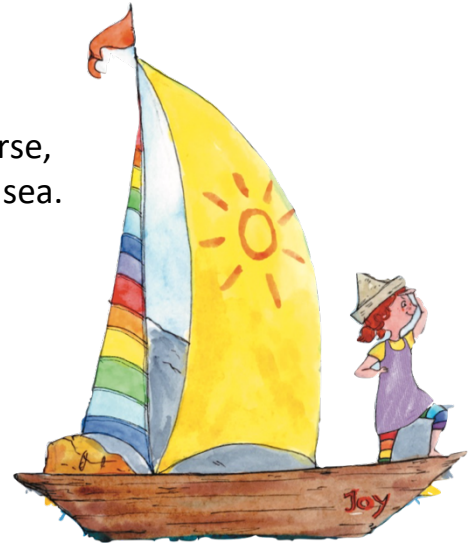
Become a bold adventurer, and be what you can be!

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 write some adjectives that describe you.

What are some things you would like to learn?

If you could teach yourself anything, what would it be?

