

Teachers' Resource Kit

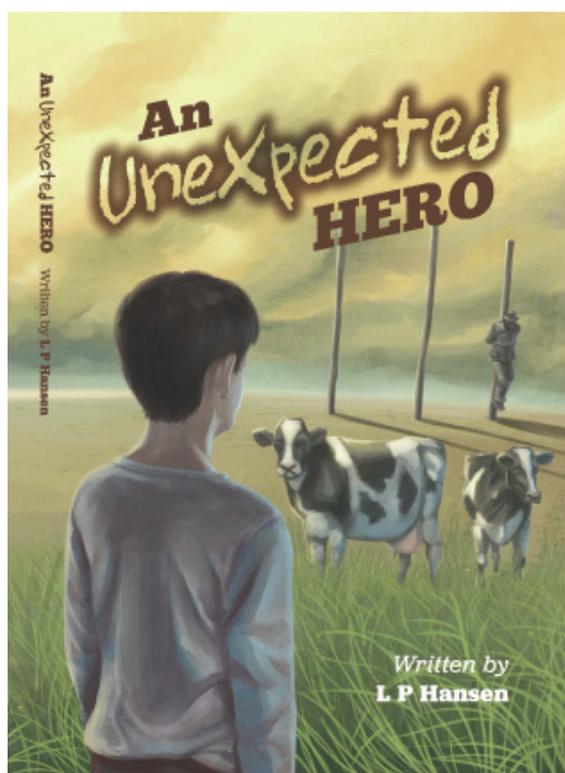
An Unexpected Hero

Written by L P Hansen

New Zealand Curriculum Key Competencies
for Level 5-8

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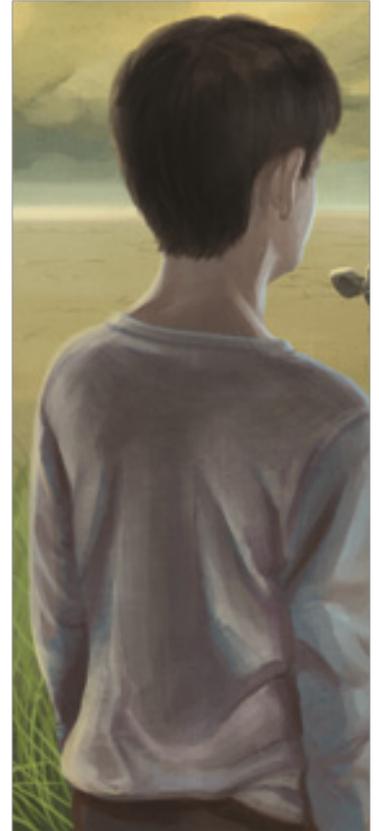


THINKING

WHY ARE PEOPLE BULLIED?

Matt was at his new school for only a short time.
Why do you think he was bullied at this school?

1. Choose your three main reasons from the list below.
2. Find someone with different answers and talk about your choices.
 - a. Because he was taller than Ryan
 - b. Because others kids got bullied at the school
 - c. Because he stammered
 - d. Because he had a cool skateboard
 - e. Because he was a city kid at a country school
 - f. Because the Year Eight kids were 'like a family'
 - g. Because Ryan and Paul were scared of going to city colleges
 - h. Because he liked telescopes
 - i. Because Susan liked Matt better than Ryan
 - j. Because the Year Eight kids were mean
 - k. Because the teachers didn't care about bullying
 - l. Because he was scared of Shelley
 - m. Because he liked Archie Baxter who didn't join in a war
 - n. Because he was living away from his parents
 - o. Because he was used to being bullied
 - p. Because he wanted to be a pacifist and wouldn't fight back



RELATING TO OTHERS

PREPARING FOR AN INTERVIEW

Imagine you are getting ready for an interview with **one** of the following people.

Write down three questions you would like to ask them.

- The Author, L P Hansen
- Matt
- Susan
- Archie Baxter



HOMEWORK EXERCISE: LETTER

Think of a person, alive or dead, who became respected without using violence or bullying. Decide which of the Key Competencies they show best. Write them a one-page letter. In the letter:

1. Give one reason why you admire them and why.
(Example: Jean Batten: You were brave at managing your fear, because you kept flying on your own even when others said you would die if you made solo aeroplane flights).
2. Ask them to tell you one way you could develop this Key Competency for yourself.

USING LANGUAGE, SYMBOLS AND TEXT

WRITE A SCRIPT

With another student, choose two of the book's characters and imagine them meeting again in ten years time. Create a two-minute script where they talk to each other about their memories of Matt's time at the school. Present this script to the class.

CREATE A POEM OR SONG

Include the words 'white feather' in either the verse or in the chorus of a short song, or in a poem.

(Check out the Competition Background and Guidelines p8 for information about white feathers.)



MANAGING SELF

KEEPING YOURSELF STRONG

Matt is, at times, confused, afraid, lonely or worried.

- Give three actions that Matt takes to keep himself strong.
- Do all these actions work well for him?
- What else could he have done?

RESPONDING TO BULLIES

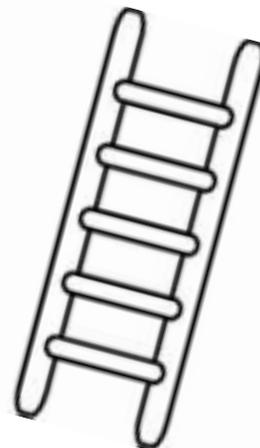
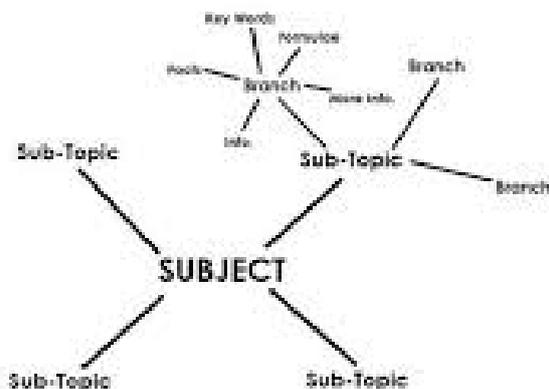
Matt does not want to behave like a victim, although he knows he is being bullied. At first, he pretends it is not happening.

- How does this affect him?
- How does his behaviour affect the bullies?
- What happens after Susan challenges him?

CREATE A STUDENT OWNERSHIP DIAGRAM

Matt is surprised that Year Eight students are often expected to work together unsupervised and he likes it.

- Give five reasons that have helped the Year Eight students grow into this self-management and student ownership of their work.
- Create a diagram that shows how these five reasons or steps work together. For example: place your five steps on a circle, or on a ladder. Use symbols like arrows to show some movement or direction.



PARTICIPATING AND CONTRIBUTING

JFK is a nickname for John F Kennedy, an American politician who served as the 35th President of the United States from January 1961 until his assassination in November 1963.

In his first speech as President, he asked the nations of the world to join together to fight what he called the “common enemies: tyranny, poverty, disease, and war itself.”

War will exist until that distant day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same reputation and prestige that the warrior does today.

... JFK



He challenged young Americans to help others. The outcome was the US Peace Corps. Search the following website:

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-Legacy/Peace-Corps.aspx>

New Zealand has a similar Aid and Development organisation called Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA). Search the website: <http://www.vsa.org.nz>

How do groups like these reduce people’s willingness to go to war against each other? What else could people do?

COMPETITION

A TEE SHIRT DESIGN

using a white feather and/or a white poppy symbol

Win a signed copy of 'An Unexpected Hero' for yourself and another for your school library **AND** a visit to your school by the author L P Hansen!

BACKGROUND

Traditional societies used the white feather as a sign of peace. For example, Moriori men wore them in their beards; First Nation tribes of North America and the Maori people of Parihaka used them to show friendship. Modern peace movements use the white feather and the white poppy as symbols of peace.

GUIDELINES

- Create a tee shirt design that uses the white feather and/or white poppy symbol(s).
- The finished artwork should measure no more than 15 x 15 cm.
- On the same page as your design, write your name, your age, the name and address of your school, and the name and signature of a parent or teacher to confirm it is your own work.
- Scan and submit your design online to www.createbooks.co.nz before 8 May 2015.

Winner announced on

www.createbooks.co.nz

15 May

International Conscientious Objection Day

a day to celebrate those who resist war

AUTHOR BACKGROUND

Linda Hansen now works as a storyteller as well as a writer. She feels this is the perfect way for her to make a living.

She wrote 'An Unexpected Hero' because New Zealanders hear so little about pacifism, yet Archie Baxter and other New Zealand conscientious objectors are celebrated worldwide. May 15th every year marks International Conscientious Objection Day. Countless millions of ordinary people state their resistance to war on that day.



Along with the stories that she creates for her storytelling in schools, rest homes, pre-schools, adult groups – and anywhere else that she is invited – Linda writes articles for journals and magazines, poetry and more recently, children's books.

In 2012, she won the Jack Lasenby Children's Writing Award for 'Socks in the Library,' a story about homelessness. Linda developed her writing skills by working in places like Radio New Zealand and then in Parliament where, as the deputy director of one of the Research Units, she researched and wrote for politicians.

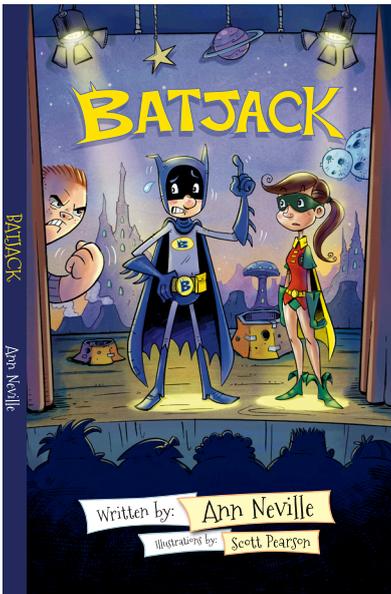
During her time at Volunteer Service Abroad, she learned about countries where the volunteers worked and wrote handbooks about them.

Further jobs in journalism, advertising and public relations completed the skills she needed to teach writing and other subjects in Polytechnics and Universities for fifteen years.

Linda has a Master of Communications Degree from Victoria University and in 2009, completed a National Certificate in Adult Literacy Education at WELTEC.

Other books from CreateBooks with Teachers' Resource Kits:

Batjack



Thirteen year old Tom wants to audition for the school musical BATJACK, but he has a problem, A BIG ONE -

Dylan, a bully and Tom's arch enemy.

'You'll pay for this,' swears Dylan when Tom is cast as Batjack and Dylan as his understudy. And so the battle begins - fights, verbal abuse, vandalism, theft... You name it, it happens.

From audition to opening night Tom and his friends, Sonny whose shoulders are spindly as a wire coat

hanger and Alice with more piercings than a sieve, come up with quirky and funny ways to deal with Dylan and his mates

But why does Dylan bully? What is his secret? Can Tom and Dylan reach a compromise and manage to co-habit the same planet?

How to Stop Being Bullied A Kids' Guide

What can kids do to stop being bullied?
Are there strategies that kids can use to deal with bullying by themselves?

YES!

This guide answers questions such as:

What is bullying?

Who gets targeted and why?

How does it feel to be bullied?

Who can help?

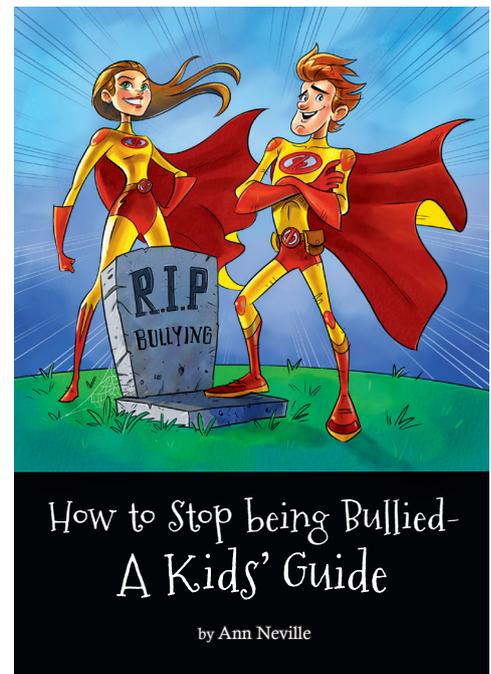
How can kids bully-proof themselves?

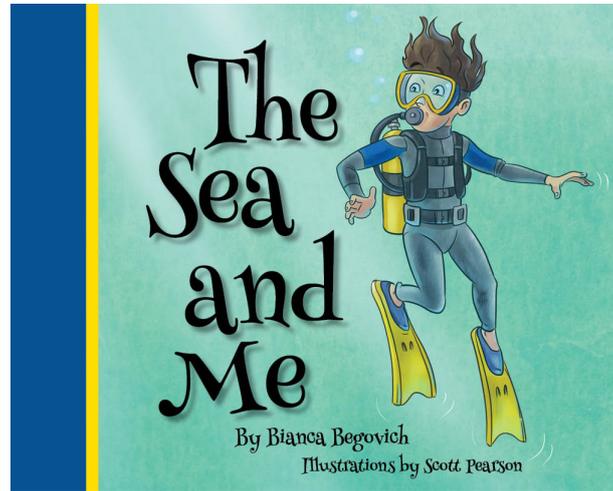
What can be done about cyber bullying?

What can witnesses/bystanders do?

Do the bullies themselves need help?

What is the key ingredient of a safe world?





The Sea and Me

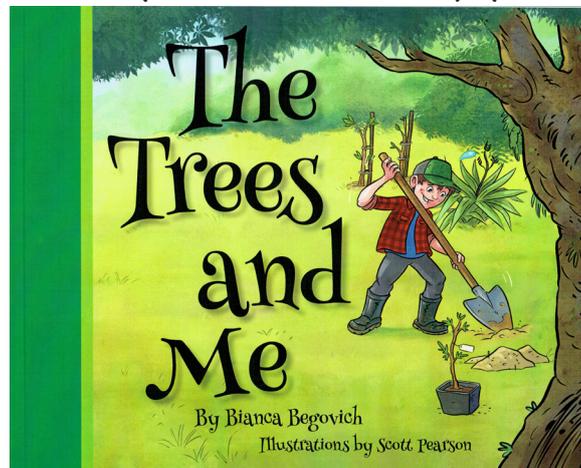
by Bianca Begovich

The Sea and Me is an illustrated children's storybook which explores the effects of our actions on the ocean and sea life. 'The Sea and Me' is aimed at engaging and empowering 5-7 year olds to take small actions to protect the environment, so they feel a sense of belonging and kinship with the natural world. Using a simple narrative prose in the main story with additional snippets of interesting factual information, the story explores concepts of interdependence, sustainability and a whole world view of the environment.

The Trees and Me

by Bianca Begovich

The Trees and Me also engages and empowers 5-7 year olds to take small actions to protect the environment, so they feel a sense of belonging and kinship with the natural world. It's too easy to think that little things don't matter. This book encourages children to take a little time to care so our forests and bush remain healthy for all of us to enjoy.



Comprehensive Teachers' Resource Kits available as free downloads from www.createbooks.co.nz or info@createbooks.co.nz

R.I.P. Cyberbullying

A Guide for Parents and Teachers

Cyberbullying is one of the major issues facing children, parents and educators today. However, there are many children who are NOT bullied, by cyber means or otherwise, despite appearing to be exactly the same type of child as those who are. What makes the difference? This is where parents/caregivers can play a significant role.

This guide addresses the following questions:

What is cyberbullying?

Types of cyberbullying

Why do some people cyberbully?

How does cyberbullying affect children?

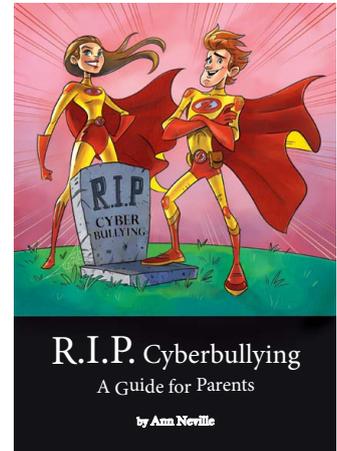
What can parents do to PREVENT cyberbullying?

What can parents do if the child is already being cyberbullied?

What if it's your child who is the cyberbully?

What role do bystanders/witnesses play?

When should education about cyberbullying begin?



How to Bully-Proof Your Child

A Parents' Guide

What can you as a parent do to bully-proof your child?

Are there strategies kids themselves can use to stop being bullied?

YES!

This guide answers questions such as:

What is bullying?

Who gets targeted and why?

What are the signs your child is a victim?

What can your child do about it?

How can you help?

What can be done about cyber bullying?

What can witnesses/bystanders do?

Do the bullies themselves need help?

What is the key to providing a safe world for your child?

