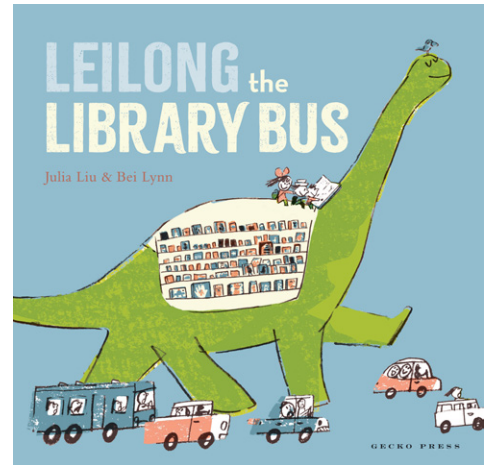


Teacher Notes

Leilong the Library Bus

Julia Liu & Bei Lynn



Synopsis

A library-loving picture book in which an enthusiastic dinosaur absorbed in storytime threatens to flatten the library—until the children decide to take the books outdoors

The children are late for storytime at the library. Ever helpful, Leilong the enthusiastic dinosaur can get them there one time! Leilong's small head is the only part of him that fits so he must listen through the window. But he gets so excited by the story, he starts to shake the building. Leilong's love of stories risks destroying the library until the children decide to take the books outdoors. This library-loving picture book reminds us how it feels to be transported by story. And what first seems a problem for Leilong the dinosaur becomes a triumph.

How to Use These Notes

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

Author/Illustrator Information

Julia Liu has worked as an editor of children's fiction at several of Taiwan's biggest and most prestigious publishers, and has published picture books, illustrated biographies of Einstein and Archimedes and a collection of fairy tales.

Bei Lynn is an award-winning Taiwanese illustrator who has written and illustrated over 20 picture books, magazines and comics.



Resources for teachers
working with children
aged 3 to 7+ years

Curriculum areas:
English

Themes:
• Dinosaurs
• Belonging
• Reading



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BEFORE READING

View the cover and title of the book. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author
- The illustrator
- The publisher
- The blurb

Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about?
How do you think it will begin/end?

→ **DO** Write your own story using the title *Leilong the Library Bus*.

EXPLORING THE TEXT

Is *Leilong the Library Bus* an imaginative, informative or persuasive text? How can you tell?

Leilong isn't allowed in the library because he would break it if he tried to fit inside. Do you think this is fair? Why or why not? What are some real life reasons why someone might not feel like they are able to visit a community space like a library?

→ **DO** Make a list of five ways to improve accessibility at a community space near you so everyone feels welcome, and share your list with a classmate.

→ **IMAGINE** the events of the story from the library manager's perspective. How would he see things differently to Leilong and his friends?

→ **ASK** Have you ever gotten in trouble or been asked to leave a place because you were too loud? How did this make you feel?

→ **ASK** Do you like going to the library at school or with your family? Why or why not? What rules are there in the library? Do you agree with these rules?

→ **ASK** When Leilong gets his new job as the library bus he finds something that he is good at, and a place where he fits. How do you think this makes Leilong feel? Why is it important to find somewhere you feel like you belong? How can you help your classmates and friends if they're still looking for that place?

EXPLORING THE ILLUSTRATIONS

How do the illustrations add to the story? How would the story be different if there were no illustrations?

The illustrations in *Leilong the Library Bus* use a limited colour palette. What does that mean? What colours are prominent throughout and why do you think Bei Lynn might

have chosen these colours? What might the colours tell you about how the characters are feeling, or about the world the story is set in?

→ **DO** Choose another picture book from your library, identify the colour palette, and discuss how it is similar or different to *Leilong the Library Bus*.

→ **ASK** Look at each spread and consider how Leilong might be feeling. Discuss situations when students have felt the same way and why.

→ **ASK** When Leilong gets upset at storytime, how does the illustrator convey that the building is shaking? What effect did it have on you as the reader?

→ **DO** Draw a scene from your favourite book in the same style as *Leilong the Library Bus*. Explain why you have chosen the colours and materials you used.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES

→ **EXTEND** Using the internet and books from your school library find out what sort of dinosaur Leilong is. Have the author and illustrator done a good job of portraying this type of dinosaur? Think about what they would eat, what colour they were, their size. If you do not think Leilong is accurate, explain why the author and illustrator have chosen to do this.

→ **EXTEND** Julia Liu and Bei Lynn are from Taiwan. Research Taiwanese culture on the internet. Make a presentation to share with the class. You might include examples of Taiwanese food, traditional clothes, their national flag and animal, and places in Taiwan you would like to go on a holiday.

→ **EXTEND** Many of the illustrations have lots of hidden details, showing other people going about their days. Choose a character/s you find in the art that's not part of the main story, and write a short story about their day.



For more information

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