

Lucy Goosey

Margaret Wild & Ann James

Lucy Goosey, with her flippy flappy feet, is happy and secure in her pond until her mother informs her it is time to fly to another country. Lucy Goosey refuses to go and hides from her mother. When her mother finds her, she reassures Lucy Goosey that no harm will follow her and that she will be there to protect her all the way.

A delightful story of being ready to give up the security of the familiar to face new challenges and adventures. This book will appeal to young readers who have experienced similar situations. The simple, evocative text is complimented beautifully by Ann James' expressive full-page illustrations that depict the coolness of the pond and the depth of Lucy Goosey's mother's love for her.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Look at the title and the front cover. Establish prior knowledge on geese. What animal is it? What habitat does it live in?
- After reading the text, discuss how the language sounds when words begin with the same sound (alliteration). Eg. flippy, flappy feet; misty moisty clouds; tossed into the tree tops
- Lucy Goosey has favourite places in the pond. Where are they? What does she like to do at each favourite place? What favourite places do you have? At Home? In your backyard? What do you like to do in your favourite place?
- Lucy Goosey does not want to leave her pond. Why not? Discuss Lucy Goosey's feelings when her mother tells her they are flying to another country. Have you ever felt scared or apprehensive of a place or of the unknown? Have you ever moved house? Changed schools? Why do you think Lucy Goosey does not want to go?
- Alternatively, discuss feelings of excitement and exhilaration at attending a new place.
- Examine the sentence: "*Then she huddled in the reeds, listening to leaves rustling, twigs cracking, things slithering.*" What do you think made the leaves rustle? What made the twigs crack? What slithery things might Lucy Goosey heard?
- Lucy Goosey is frightened of losing her way "*in the misty moisty clouds.*" Discuss how geese 'migrate' for the winter to warmer weather to search for food.
- Explain the dangers of such a long flight and the support geese give to each other by flying together in one flock.
- Examine Lucy Goosey's habitat. Experimenting with watercolours, draw the pond with particular attention to the use of colour for the water and vegetation.