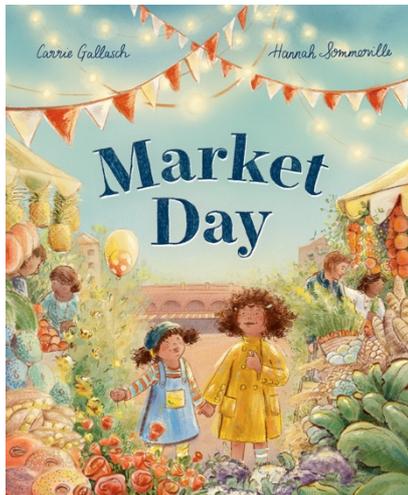


## Teacher's Notes



### *Market Day*

Written by Carrie Gallasch

Illustrated by Hannah Sommerville

Teacher's Notes by Bec Kavanagh

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### LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### RECOMMENDED FOR

3+-aged readers (grades: Foundation – 1)

#### KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- Learning areas: English
- General capabilities:
  - ACELA1786
  - ACELA1437
  - ACELY1655

### THEMES

- Family
- Traditions
- Money
- Community
- Creativity

### SYNOPSIS

If you had one coin to spend, what would you spend it on?

The narrator of the story is given a coin to spend on her family's regular trip to their community market. Together with her parents and little sister, she takes the familiar trip in the car, arriving at the market which is full of magical produce and creations.

There are so many people at the market, so many things to smell and see and do – too many to decide what to spend a single coin on! She keeps the coin safe in her pocket all day as her family tastes and smells, buys what they need, and then stops for dinner.

As they leave, the coin still in her pocket, she decides exactly who it's for – the musician who played the music that her whole family had fun dancing to! *Market Day* is a beautiful story about community and the things that we can buy at the market – and some of things we can't!



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

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**Carrie Gallasch** is an early childhood teacher in rural South Australia. Her passion for children's literacy began twelve years ago, when she first experienced reading aloud to her students. Now with children of her own, Carrie has an excuse to follow them barefoot in the garden and be inspired by the mischief they get up to. She loves nothing more than a great story and a great coffee, but not necessarily in that order. Her debut picture book, *Stitches and Stuffing*, was published by Little Hare in 2017. You can find out more about Carrie on her website: [www.carriegallasch.com](http://www.carriegallasch.com)

**Hannah Sommerville** is a best-selling picture book illustrator who creates enchanting watercolour, gouache and digital illustrations in her studio on the south coast of New South Wales. Hannah is a storyteller who enjoys creating picture books that capture the imagination, tenderness and playfulness that surround children and family life. Her picture book *Digby & Claude*, written by Emma Allen, was selected for the CBCA 2019 Notables list.

## THEMES

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This is a comforting, familiar story that will encourage readers to think about the family routines that bring them joy, and the communities that they're a part of. While the story itself is quite simple, there is plenty of scope to have conversations about:

- The communities we belong to and how they make us feel
- The things we do to spend time with our family
- The things that money can (and can't) buy
- The sights and smells of our daily routines

## WRITING STYLE

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Carrie Gallasch writes in very straightforward, easy-to-understand prose, which makes this book accessible to all readers. The day-in-the-life style of the story makes it easy for readers to look for parallels in their own lives, providing context and a starting point for further discussions. This story is a great starting point for those just learning to write, as it encourages them to observe their own routines and use these observations as the basis for a story. An exercise on adjectives is provided in these notes and there are plenty of opportunities to look at the different ways adjectives can be used to add life and detail to a story.

## COMPREHENSION

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- In your own words, describe the routine that this family follows every market day.



- What kind of foods are at the market in the story? Which ones does the narrator of the story dislike (and how do you know they dislike them)?
- How do you feel when you read this book? What parts of the story make you feel this way? How do you think the narrator feels about market days?
- What kinds of people does the narrator see at the market? Describe some of the other market-goers you see in the pictures.
- What does the narrator finally decide to do with her coin? What do you think makes her decide?
- The market is a type of community. What communities are you a part of? How does it feel to belong to a community?
- Why is the music so important? What else can you find at a market that isn't for sale?
- Look at the final page of the story – what is the difference between the words and the picture?

## WRITING EXERCISE

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This story is told as a day in the life of the main character. Think about something that your family does together regularly and use the following prompts to help you write a story about it.

- Every \_\_\_\_\_, my family and I [what do you do?]
- Describe your journey or preparation (do you wear something special, go the same way each week, all get into the car?)
- Use your senses to describe the things you see, smell and hear when you're there.
- My favourite part is \_\_\_\_\_.
- At the end I feel \_\_\_\_\_.

## ILLUSTRATION STYLE

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The subdued colour palette of the illustrations bring a sense of whimsy and magic to the story, making the market a place of wonder and delight. On some pages, the words and illustrations speak directly to each other to tell the story, for example when the narrator voices her dislike of some of the market smells, and the illustration provides the answer of a big pile of raw fish.

In addition to illustrating and expanding on the details of the story, Hannah Sommerville's illustrations create the **emotional landscape** of the book. Think about the way she uses lights and pastel colours to create a feeling of warmth and happiness. Discuss the way that different colours and shapes make you feel different emotions.



## CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

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- Do you have a market that you go to? Next time you go to the market (or the shops) take a notebook and make a list of the items you discover. What do they look, smell or sound like? Are they similar or different to the items described in the story?
- Describe what you would have bought at the market. How much would it cost? Draw a picture of your choice.
- This story uses a lot of **adjectives** to describe the mountains of goodies at the market, and the people who move through it. What is an adjective? What adjectives would you use to describe the people who go to your local market, and the things you find there? (Come up with three examples for each of these.)

## RELATED READING

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*Jetty Jumping* by Andrea Rowe and Hannah Sommerville

*The Tiny Star* by Mem Fox and Freya Blackwood

