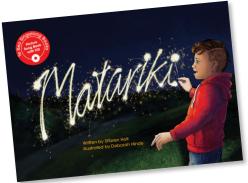
Matariki

About the Author







About the Illustrator

Deborah has illustrated many books since she signed her first children's book contract with Scholastic in 2002 for A Kiwi Night Before Christmas. Shortly after moving to the Waikato in 2004 Deborah met Sharon and offered to provide her with some roughs to show to publishers. Many years later Sharon approached Deborah to see if she would be interested in illustrating the Te Reo Singalong Series. "I'm glad I'm illustrating them now rather than back then, my skills as an illustrator have improved so much in the last few years!"



Sharon Holt worked as a teacher and a journalist before suddenly remembering that she was meant to be a children's author. Her light bulb moment came when she was reading a bedtime story to her toddlers. The next day, she started writing for Learning Media, publisher of School Journals and Ready to Read books. Have you seen her Ready to Read books, No Skipper! and Skipper's Happy Tail? Sharon's trade books include a joke book that was a finalist in the NZ Post Children's Book Awards in 2007. She is also the author of two books in Scholastic's My Story series and a Walker picture book called Did my mother do that?

Selected Bibliography

Learning Media's Ready to Read series

No. Skipper! Early reader published 2002 Skipper's Happy Tail Early reader published 2003 Inside the Maize Maze Early reader published 2004

Learning Media School Journals

Short cut to School Fiction story published 2001 Katie's Birthday Fiction story published 2005 Superglue Play published 2003 Remembering Summer Poem published 2003

Allen and Unwin

You can make your own Jokes It's True... series

published 2006

Walker Books

Did My Mother Do That? Published 2010

Scholastic - My Story series

Published 2008 Sabotage (Rainbow Warrior) No Survivors (Erebus) Published 2009

Te Reo Singalong series

Published 2011 Maranga Mai Kei te Peke Ahau Published 2011 Anei Kē Published 2012 Me Haere Published 2013 E Hia Ngā Moe? Published 2013 Matariki Due April 2014 He Aha Tēnei? Due July 2014

Classroom Activities



Language:

- 1. What animals do you know the names for in te reo?
- 2. Can you count to 10 in te reo?
- 3. Can you name the colours in te reo?
- 4. What other languages do you speak?
- 5. How many languages are represented in your classroom?

- 1. What differences can you see between the original book prototypes and the books that are now available in Sharon Holt's Te Reo Singa long series?
- 2. What are the names of the musicians who help to create these
- 3. What is the name of the company that markets and sells Te Reo Singalong books?
- 4. What is the name of the Te Reo Singalong book that will be published this month?
- 5. Which company publishes the My Story series?

- 1. Choose a country and have a special class lunch featuring food from that country.
- 2. Create an obstacle course inspired by one of the books at this exhibition.
- 3. Choose a Māori song from a children's CD you have in your class room and create some actions for the song.

- 4. In groups, make up the words and tune for a hand washing song in te reo. Share your new song with the rest of the class.
- 5. Make up your own karakia kai to say before morning tea.

Social Studies:

- 1. Write a list of the pros and cons of learning te reo at school.
- 2. Organise a class debate with the topic "Te Reo should be compulsory in schools."
- 3. Find 3 people in your school who speak other languages than English and learn how to say hello and goodbye in those three languages.
- 4. Learn how to count to 10 in a language spoken by one of the teachers at your school.
- 5. Choose a country of the world and find out what languages are spoken there. Using one of the languages that you don't know, learn how to say "My name is...".

Visual Arts:

- 1. Create your own picture book, using a farm animal theme.
- 2. If you were creating a logo for The Writing Bug, what bug would you use? Sketch your logo.
- 3. Use magazine pictures to create a collage to represent your thoughts after visiting this exhibition.
- 4. Create a mind map about your hopes and dreams and use a photo or sketch of yourself in the middle of the mind map.
- 5. Make a puppet that could be used with one of the books in this series.