

# Reena's Rainbow

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## Type of Text

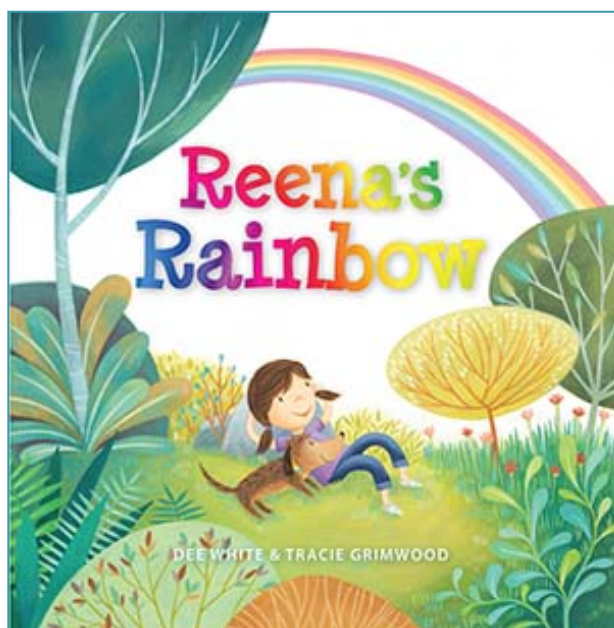
Auslan/English Picture book

## Key Curriculum Area

- Language - Auslan

## Themes

- Belonging
- Resilience
- Tolerance
- Acceptance
- Diversity
- Communication



**Author:** Dee White  
**Illustrator:** Tracie Grimwood  
**Publication Date:** October 2019

## *Notes prepared by Dee White*

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## SYNOPSIS

In *Reena's Rainbow*, Reena is deaf and dog is homeless, but they are both much more than that.

At first Reena and Dog feel like they don't belong, but when they form a unique bond, and become friends with the hearing children in the park, they discover that everyone is different and special in their own way. 'We are like the colours of the rainbow. We are all different. But when we stand together we are one.'

This story isn't just about Reena fitting into the hearing world. It's also about the hearing children fitting into her world. They change the way they play so that Reena can join in, and she teaches them how to sign so they can become part of her world.

Our perceptions are based on what we can see and hear. What if we can't hear or see? How would this change our perceptions and our ability to fit in? How can we be more inclusive? How can we develop our understanding of someone else's world, and not just expect them to fit into ours?

## **AUTHOR BACKGROUND**

Dee White is the author of more than twenty books for children and young adults.

She has a passion for creating books that introduce readers to characters, situations and concepts that might be outside their own experiences.

Dee also believes that every child should be able to see themselves and their lives reflected in books.

She is a qualified writing teacher who presents at schools, libraries and festivals throughout Australia and overseas, and runs online classes for writers of all ages at <http://www.writingclassesforkids.com>.

*Reena's Rainbow* is her first picture book. Dee's website is <https://www.deescribe.com.au>

## **ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND**

Tracie Grimwood is a Melbourne-based illustrator and artist. She has worked as a professional freelancer since graduating with a Bachelor of Graphic Design from Swinburne University, Melbourne, in 1991.

She has produced illustrations for a diverse range of clients, both nationally and internationally, and her many projects include designing and illustrating several stamp issues for Australia Post, designing and illustrating installations for the Children's Gallery at Melbourne Museum, illustrating greeting cards for Woodmansterne, UK, illustrating wine labels for Yalumba, providing editorial illustrations for magazines such as *Australian Doctor*, *Insight* and *Business Class*, and illustrating dozens of books and book covers for a variety of publishers including Penguin, Pearson and Macmillan.

Her personal art practice comprises private commissions and the production and exhibition of original works and fine art prints.

Tracie is also an enthusiastic educator and currently teaches illustration at MADA, Monash University, Melbourne.

Tracie's website is <http://traciegrimwood.com.au>