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Books with great descriptions of narrative settings



This book list has been curated to provide examples of how different authors develop descriptions of settings within narrative texts. They include both picture books and novels and represent a range of narrative genres from adventure and fantasy to animal stories and historical fiction. The books may be used in their entirety or excerpts selected for close study with students. Many also show the role of image in developing descriptions of settings.

A Lion in Paris by Beatrice Alemanga (2014, Tate)

Coming Home to Country by Bronwyn Bancroft (2020, Hardie Grant)

Remembering Lionsville by Bronwyn Bancroft (2016, Allen & Unwin)

Crow Country by Kate Constable (2011, Allen & Unwin)

The Watertower by Gary Crew (1999, Interlink)

Flood by Jackie French & Bruce Whatley (2011, Scholastic)

Nanberry: Black brother white by Jackie French (2011, Harper Collins)

Magic Beach by Alison Lester (2004, Allen & Unwin)

Fog a Dox by Bruce Pascoe (2012, Magabala Books)

Storm Boy by Colin Thiele (2006, New Holland)

Malle Sky by Jodi Toering & Tannya Harricks (2019, Black Dog Books)

Charlotte's Web By E.B. White (2014, Penguin)

Fox by Margaret Wild & Ron Brooks (2004, Allen & Unwin)

The House of Narcissus by Margaret Wild & Wayne Harris (2002, ABC Books)

Dragonkeeper by Carole Wilkinson (2012, Walker Books)

Tea Cup by Rebecca Young & Matt Ottley (2018, Scholastic)



Further reading

McDonald, L (2017) A Literature Companion for Teachers 2nd Edition. Sydney: PETAA.

https://www.petaa.edu.au/w/Store/Item_Detail.aspx?iProductCode=PET115&Category=BOOK

Eccleshare, J (2009) 1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up. Universe Publishing: New York.

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6936332-1001-children-s-books-you-must-read-before-you-grow-up>