

Year 2 Knowledge Organiser – The Rainbow Bear

Important information

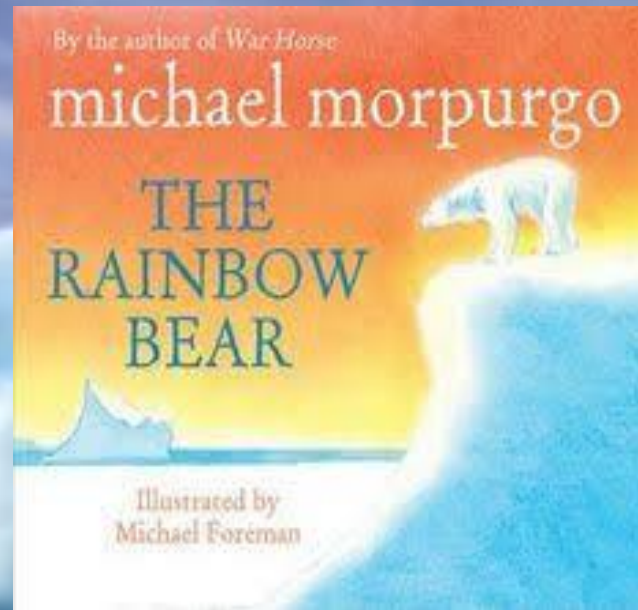
Plot: The polar bear is bored of his white environment and his hard life. He dreams of soaking himself in all the luminous colours of the rainbow. But when his wish is granted, he realises to his cost that his arctic camouflage no longer works and he needs the advice of others to escape his prison.....

Themes: A moving tale of hopes and dreams

Setting: The Rainbow Bear is told through the dream of a polar bear living in the Arctic, 'king in his white wilderness', who makes a wish on a rainbow. Great illustrations capture each environment from the snowy landscape to the harsh and unforgiving zoo.

Characters

The Rainbow Bear	Is a white snow bear, wandering around in his arctic homeland, who is chasing a rainbow
Shaman	A man who can make the bear's dreams come true



'...a fable about the folly of trying to become something that you naturally are not. It is a multicoloured metamorphosis, gracefully told and elegantly concluded...'
The Observer

The lyrical text is complemented by beautiful water colours in which the joy and pain of the Rainbow Bear sing out.

Context Sir Michael Morpurgo is one of Britain's best-loved writers for children. He has written over 100 books and won many prizes, including the Smarties Prize, Blue Peter Book Award and the Whitbread Award. His recent bestselling novels include Listen to the Moon, A Medal for Leroy and Shadow. His novel War Horse has been successfully adapted as a West End theatre play and a major film by Steven Spielberg. A former Children's Laureate, Michael is also the co-founder, with his wife Clare, of the charity Farms for City Children

Name of book: The Rainbow Bear
Date Published: October 2000
Author: Michael Morpurgo
Genre: Fiction

Writing genres covered

- setting description
 - Non-chronological report
- Sentence types:**
- Expanded noun phrases

Key Vocabulary

Arctic	Scientists usually define the Arctic as the area above the 'Arctic Circle' – an imaginary line that circles around the top of the globe. The Arctic consists of the Arctic Ocean and parts of Canada, Russia, the USA, Greenland, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Iceland.
wilderness	The Arctic is a sea of ice, surrounded by cold, treeless lands.