

Classroom Resources



Written by

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Illustrated by

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Suitable for ages

3 to 7

Themes

Showing love, receiving love,
and feeling loved

Doing things that make us
happy

Contents of this pack

- Book details for *This is Love*
- Questions for before we begin reading
- Discussion points in key curriculum areas: Comprehension, Social and Emotional Development, Literacy and Numeracy
- Final reflections
- Three activities: Drawing, Creative Writing, Collaborative List-Making

Description

Love is a gift. You know what? Let's share ...

Oodles of love, as much as we dare.

Love is everywhere and within everything. It's whatever gives your heart a squeeze, whether that's sharing a big hug, turning a page in your favourite book, or even cartwheeling down a hill.

From Zanni Louise and Sasha Haddad comes a delightful ode to love in all its forms.

About the author

Zanni Louise has been writing stories since she was little, growing up in country NSW. She now lives with her family of four in the Byron Bay hinterland. Zanni has written more than thirty kids' books, spanning picture books, chapter books and books for 10-12 year-olds. She is proud to be an author ambassador for Room To Read, an organisation helping to educate children.

About the illustrator

Sasha Haddad started working as a professional illustrator in 2014, right after her graduation from the Cambridge School of Arts (UK). She has since illustrated over 15 children's books as well as covers for magazines and various brand work for companies in Lebanon and the Arab region. Sasha lives and works in Greece.

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Before we begin reading

- Have a look at the front cover. What do you think this book will be about?
- Can you describe what some of the characters on the cover are doing?
- This book's title is *This is Love*. What do you think love is? How would you describe it?
- When was the last time you said 'I love you' to someone or something?



Discussion in curriculum areas

Comprehension and Social & Emotional Development

General questions and activities

- This book shows love in many forms. Can you describe some of the ways that the characters show that they love someone or something?
- We know that we can love our family, our pets and our friends. Are there other things that we can love too? Who and what do you love?
- Does love always feel the same, or are there different types of love? What types of love are there?
- Page 20 contains the line, 'You don't always choose the thing that you love'. Reflect on this. Does love sometimes happen without us deciding on it? Can you think of an example to back this up?

Page-specific questions and activities

- On the first spread (pages 2 and 3), we see a man flying in the plane, waving at children and a woman who are in a garden. What do you think is the relationship between the people on these pages? What is the man in the plane writing in the sky?
- On pages 4 and 5, we read the lines: 'Love is the ink on somebody's arm. A rose, a note, a sweet friendship charm.' What does 'the ink on somebody's arm' mean? Can you spot the ink on somebody's arm, the rose, the note, and the friendship charm?
- Have you ever given a friendship charm to your best friend? Is this something you'd like to do in future?
- Have you seen people giving each other flowers? Describe why someone would give another person flowers.
- On pages 6 and 7, a group of children are setting up an outdoor party. Describe some of the ways they are setting up. Who is making something with love? Who is singing to a star?
- On pages 8 and 9 we see a rainy day. Can you spot all the ways people are showing love?
- On page 10 we read that 'Love hides in pages and cartwheels down hills'. What is meant by

‘love hides in pages’? Do you have a favourite book or story you love to read or hear over and over again?

- On page 11, we read that ‘love flies on rugs and perches on sills’. Who is perching on the sill?
- On page 12, we see a woman coming home to her dog. Look at the woman’s clothing: can you tell what she does for a job? Can you spot the photograph of the dog? How do we show our pets that we love them?
- On page 13, we see a poorly boy being taken care of by his dad. Who looks after you when you’re feeling unwell? Soup is often something we eat for a comfort food. Do you have particular foods or drinks you like to have when you’re in need of comfort or when you’re unwell?
- The characters on pages 14 and 15 look very happy. Look at the photographs on their walls. What do they tell us about the couple? The couple have a large cake on their coffee table. Do you think they are celebrating something and what might it be?
- Lots of love is being shown on pages 16 and 17. Describe some of the ways love is being given, received and felt by the characters. If you were on this street, who would you like to talk to?
- On page 18 we see a child dancing onstage. How would you describe the audience’s expressions? Who might the woman standing up be?
- On page 19, we see a boy curled up with a book and a cat. What hobbies do you like to do at home? If you have a pet, do they ever try to join in?
- Pages 20 and 21 depict a show and tell day at school. Can you list all the things that the children have brought in for show and tell. What would you bring for show and tell if you were in this book?
- On page 22, we read that ‘Love’s not sold in stores’. This means that we cannot buy love. What do you think about that? Is love something that can or cannot be sold in a shop?
- A lot is happening in the beautiful outdoor scene on pages 22 and 23! If you were there, what would you be doing? There is an animal in these pages that gives us a clue that this scene isn’t happening in Australia. What is the animal? Where do these animals live?

Literacy

Verbs

There are lots of verbs in this book, like ‘write’. Can you find other verbs? Use this exercise to investigate the meanings of the verbs, asking students to demonstrate they can use these verbs in a sentence of their own.

Rhyme

This book is written in rhyming couplets. Use this book for a class activity on rhyming couplets. You could take the first line from one of the pages and ask students to write a new second line that maintains the same rhyme and rhythm.

Vocabulary

Students might be unfamiliar with some of the words in this book. Discuss the following list of words and any other words that students are unsure of in this book. Can they guess how to pronounce these words? Can they guess at the meaning of the words from the narrative or the artwork?

- Tingles
- Knack
- Opa
- Tamed
- Wrangled

Numeracy

- How many times does the word 'love' feature in this book?
- Roses are often thought of as flowers that show love. How many roses can you spot in this book? What other types of flowers are shown?
- How many characters have soft cuddly toys with them?
- Two characters are playing instruments. Can you name these instruments? Do you play an instrument?
- How many characters are reading books?
- Which types of animals appear more than once in the book? Which types of animals appear only once?

Final reflections

- Which were your favourite pages and why?
- If you were a characters in this book, which would you be and why?
- What have you learned about love from reading this book?
- Have you learned any new words from this book?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend?



Activity One: Draw someone or something you love

Draw someone or something that you love! It could be a person, a pet, a hobby, a place or an object. You can draw yourself in the picture, or you can just draw the thing you love the most! Use the space below or find a fresh piece of paper. Perhaps you'd like to gift your drawing to someone when you've finished?

Drawn by

Activity Two: Write a love poem

Using this book as an inspiration, write a rhyming couplet or a short poem about love. You could write about something or someone you love in particular! If you're stuck, take a first line from any page in the book and write a new second line to go with it. Try to rhyme the last word of your second line with the last word of the first line! For example, you could write a new line for the first pages of the book ...

Love is your name I write in the sky.

Activity Three: Love venn diagram

For this activity, you will need to start with a fresh piece of paper and a pencil or pen. Write down a list of all the hobbies you love. Now partner up with a friend or classmate and share your lists. You are going to make a venn diagram that shows all the things you both love in the middle of it. Do you share the same interests or do you have different hobbies? Are there new hobbies you'd like to try now?

