

Teacher's Notes



Plum & Woo: The Puzzling Pearls
Plum & Woo: The Suspicious Scarf
Plum & Woo: The Fatal Fan

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

RECOMMENDED FOR

Primary aged readers (ages 9+, grades 5+)

KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- Learning areas: English
- General capabilities:

Year 5:

- Recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can

lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses (ACELT1610)

- Understand how to move beyond making bare assertions and take account of differing perspectives and points of view (ACELA1502)
- Understand how texts vary in purpose, structure and topic as well as the degree of formality (ACELA1504)

THEMES

- Friendship and differences
- Fashion
- Blended families
- Love
- Environment

SYNOPSIS

A dazzling, whip-smart mystery series about two very different girls and a whole heap of danger ...

This bright, funny and clever middle-grade mystery series with a stylish twist is perfect for fans of *Friday Barnes* and *Ruby Redfort*. Nancy Drew and *The Parent Trap* also come together in these exciting books.

In every Plum & Woo instalment, Hannah Plum and Patti Woo will investigate a surprising and sinister mystery while also navigating their newly blending family. Brimming with fun, danger and highly relatable tween angst, this series is perfect for readers aged 9+!



SYNOPSIS

Book One *The Puzzling Pearls*

Hannah Plum loves fashion, fun, and junk food. Patti Woo is obsessed with detective novels, lives in leggings, and is definitely not Hannah's friend. But the two girls are stuck at the beachside Heart Break Hotel together while Hannah's dad and Patti's mum are out birdwatching and – yuck! – falling in love.

When a hotel guest's beautiful pink wedding dress is stolen, Hannah is determined to get to the bottom of it. With a reluctant Patti in tow, the two girls are launched into an ever-deepening mystery. Why is a wedding planner sending secret signals to an unknown guest? Who's leaving creepy wet diving relics in the hotel rooms? And could some long-lost, famous pink pearls be at the heart of it all?

If Plum and Woo want to survive the summer, they'll need to solve this mystery in style. But first, they'll have to survive each other ...

Book Two *The Suspicious Scarf*

Hannah Plum and Patti Woo are staying in a creepy, rundown chalet in Shadow Mountains National Park, where Patti's aunt Unjoo works as a ranger. The girls' parents are keen to spot an ice owl there, but soon, they're all out looking for Unjoo's stolen dog instead. The only clue is a bit of silver wool on a kennel, and Plum and Woo sense the markings of a crime.

With rumours of a terrifying silver wolf snapping at their heels, the girls investigate – at their peril. Who's trying to push them off a ski slope? Is something wicked hiding in the woods? Could a silver scarf be the key to the dog's disappearance? And is Hannah's new friend – from the local lolly shop – really as sweet as he looks?

Hannah and Patti will need to keep their fur-trimmed boots fastened if they're going to survive this chilling bird-watching holiday. Well, that's if they can survive the woods (and each other) first ...

Book Three *The Fatal Fan*

When friends Hannah Plum and Patti Woo find a beautiful fan at an antiques fair, they also find a whole lot of trouble. The fan is from a nearby manor, where strange things keep happening. And they're all related to four paintings on the fan.

The statues in the hedge maze have lost their heads. The pond's turned black overnight. All the flowers in the morning garden have withered. The fan's owner is convinced it's cursed – and when Hannah and Patti investigate, things get even more sinister.

Who's that cloaked lady in the garden? What does the last painting on the fan symbolise? And why does everyone keep talking about a ghost? Is the fan just an accessory ... or could it be an accessory to *murder*?



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lisa Siberry is a freelance writer and content producer who spent many years working at the ABC. She lives in Sydney with her husband, two children and their pets. Her debut middle-grade novel, *The Brilliant Ideas of Lily Green*, won the Ampersand Prize, the premier award for debut authors in Australia and New Zealand. *Plum & Woo* is her exciting new mystery series.

THEMES

- **Friendship and differences**

Book 1:

Hannah and Patti are complete opposites: “The problem was they had nothing in common. Patti was the kind of girl who played a million sports, collected trophies like toys, and read four-hundred-page mystery books just for fun. Hannah, on the other hand, had never read anything longer than a celebrity magazine. And the only sporty thing she owned was a cute tennis skirt she’d bought from an op shop and dyed purple.” (p 23)

But as the novel progresses they realise that doing things together can actually have its benefits: “‘Okay, okay, let’s just say we did it together.’ Hannah gave Patti a grateful smile, realising that all this time they really had been getting to know each other. After all, she now knew that Patti Woo was bossy and clever and far too fast at running. She also knew that Patti was braver and better than any of the made-up detectives in her mystery novels. And if they were going to face down an evil writer, there really was no-one else Hannah would rather do it with.” (pp 217–18)

How do Patti and Hannah overcome their differences? What brings them together?

Book 2:

Hannah thought she and Patti had become friends in Book 1. But Patti’s scheme to break up their parents seems to indicate otherwise: “They’d jokingly called themselves Plum and Woo on that case, and for a moment it had felt like they might even become friends. But now Patti was acting like Plum and Woo had never even existed.” (p 21) So Hannah is forced to follow the clues in their latest mystery alone: “But things had changed between them, and she couldn’t follow Patti around anymore. There was no turning back – tomorrow she was on her own.” (p 115)

Has Patti really turned against Hannah?

Book 3:

Patti and Hannah have established a team together and, despite their differences, in the third book they have fewer disagreements about their plans. Patti is determined to solve the mystery whereas Hannah is reluctant to disobey their parents’ rule that they shouldn’t become involved in any more mysteries – but in the end, their common love of sleuthing gets the better of both of them.

Are Patti and Hannah best friends now?



- **Fashion**

Book 1:

Hannah Plum just loves fashion! So does the bride-to-be, Sabina, and her bridesmaid, Thea. Not to mention Travis, the wedding planner! This novel contains lots of references to fashion. And, of course, it hinges on the theft of a spectacular pink wedding gown and three other pink dresses.

Discuss the role that fashion plays in this novel.

Book 2:

Hannah's love of fashion also plays a pivotal role in this book. Not only are her choices of clothing outlandish, but her observation of other characters' clothes plays a big role in solving the mystery.

How is fashion important in this novel?

Book 3:

Hannah's love of fashion is once again a central point: "She'd matched a peach crop top with lemon-yellow bike shorts, and over that was a see-through white mesh dress decorated in sequin flowers. It had taken Hannah two weeks to make. And, combined with her platform peach sandals, yellow sunglasses and the golden bracelet from the antiques market, she thought it was her best look yet. 'It's called Spring Surprise.'" (p 75)

But Obscuro is also something of a fashionista: "He had blond hair pulled into a man-bun, and was dressed like a human peacock in a three-piece purple suit, shiny paisley cravat, and green leather boots." (p 22)

Discuss your favourite fashion outfits in the third book.

- **Blended families**

Book 1:

"My parents split up when I was five. Then a few years later, my dad started "liking" someone else. You know what happened then?" Hannah blinked. 'My dad remarried and had two other kids,' snapped Patti. 'Do you know how annoying half-brothers are? *Do you?*'" (p 116)

Patti is already part of a blended family (since her father has re-married) and she and Hannah are fearful that their parents are going to become a couple as well. By the end of the novel, what have they discovered about being part of a blended family?

Book 2:

Patti doesn't want their parents to stay together because she already has a stepmother and two annoying step-siblings. Even though she seemed to have resolved this personal dilemma, in the second novel she is still conflicted. How easy is it to accept a new family?



Book 3:

“The sight of it made Hannah’s chest glow as bright as the logs in the campfire. Until recently, the word ‘family’ had always felt strange to her – like trying on a dress she longed to wear that didn’t fit properly. She guessed it was because her parents split up when she was seven, and soon after that her mother moved to Italy. Then it was just Hannah and her father and a house full of bird books. But now, whenever they were on holiday with the Woos, everything felt bigger and noisier. Although that was mostly because of Patti.” (pp 58–9)

In previous books, Plum and Woo have been resistant to blending their families, but in this one they are fearful that they won’t be able to spend as much time together in the future. Have they resolved their concerns and are they now one happy family?

- **Love**

Book 1:

This is a story of lost love: “Roxy was left all on her own with the hotel, seven pink pearls, and a broken heart.” (p 54)

But it is also a heartfelt story about how much love can mean to people: “Hannah thought about it. Love did make people do strange things, like Sabina melting down over her wedding. But love made people do good things too.” (p 203)

It’s a romance too, since the story takes place while the girls’ parents are conducting their own romance.

What do Patti and Hannah discover about love?

Book 2:

Tulip and Byron are in love, but have their first quarrel in this novel. The girls are distressed by this, but clearly such quarrels are part of the love they are developing. Is conflict in a relationship important?

Book 3:

Byron and Tulip seem even more in love now, in a very comfortable way. What differences did you notice in their relationship?

- **Environment**

Each book hinges on the search for a particular bird by Tulip and Byron, each in a different environment.

In **Book 1**, they travel to an island to spot the golden-bellied finch.

In **Book 2**, they are searching for the ice owl in a national park that is threatened by the illegal activities of the silver wolf.

In **Book 3**, they’re looking for the fairy-winged woodpecker. The garden at Crabtree Hall, nurtured by the gardener, Fatima Pasha, also forms an important part of the novel in terms of plot and theme.

Discuss the role of the environment in each title in the series.



WRITING STYLE

Genre:

This series falls into the **mystery genre**. For example, in **Book 1**, several mysteries are presented in the opening pages, which the two twelve-year-old sleuths endeavour to solve: Roxy Barton's tragic loss by drowning of her husband-to-be, and her missing pearls; several stolen pink dresses; Hannah spotting Astrid retrieving a \$100 bill from a pot plant and leaving an object for a woman dubbed Miss X to retrieve there; the wet glove found in the room of the disgruntled guests, Mr and Mrs Brindle.

In **Book 2**, Patti's aunt Unjoo's dog Jet goes missing, and there is also the mystery of why several park rangers before her left their jobs so hurriedly. The girls discover mysterious references to a silver wolf, and the silver wool sold at Wise Owl Wool seems to be a clue. There is a mysterious gang at work, and the girls are determined to discover why; the housekeeper seems to be hiding something; Hannah is not sure she can trust the gorgeous Ash Forester; what is the silver wolf and what is this gang up to?

In **Book 3**, Patti and Hannah discover an antique fan that belonged to Lady Crabtree, whose tragic death has become a local legend in Mossgrove End. This leads them to Crabtree Hall and its new resident, Lord Crabtree. They discover that the paintings on the fan predict some unsettling events that occur at this grand but dilapidated estate – events full of mysteries, which the young sleuths must solve. More seriously, is someone plotting a murder? And if so, how can Plum and Woo prevent it?

Mysteries rely on **clues** and this series contains plenty of them, for example:

Book 1:

- “‘But there’s not a single grain of sand underneath the window.’” (p 33)
- “‘Now, let’s start with the clue we found in the room. The red smudge.’” (p 44)
- “‘Okay, so we also have a Miss X in room 44, which makes six potential suspects.’” (p 46)
- “‘Four pink dresses – all connected to the Heart Break Hotel.’” (p 56)
- “‘Which meant one thing: Travis and the mysterious woman in room 44 knew each other.’” (p 61)
- ‘Secrets of the Deep’ (p 65) is the last poem Roxy Barton wrote, which is also a clue.
- Astrid sends them a secret message: ‘If you want to know who’s in room 44, meet under the heart sign at sunset. AND BRING YOUR HANDBAG.’ (p 70)
- The deliberate accident at the Fun Fair. (Ch 13)
- The threatening message sent to Patti. (p 129)
- “‘Patti, it’s a pink dress under cover!’” (p 161)

Sometimes, though, clues can lead to the wrong conclusions:

“Hannah and Patti swapped horrified looks. Astrid really was a hopeless hotel employee. But they were far worse detectives, because all the pieces of the puzzle that they’d collected over the last two days were starting to snap together – and it wasn’t the picture they’d expected at all.” (p 195)

What was the most impressive piece of detective work that Hannah or Patti did in this novel?



Book 2:

- Footprints in the snow (p 10).
- “A flash of light caught her eye. It winked from deep within the woods, moving unsteadily, as if someone was out there with a flashlight.” (p 25)
- “‘I’ve noticed some unusual objects in the forest.’” (p 32)
- “‘Look, don’t panic, sis, but the five rangers before me all quit after a month on the job. I heard they lost their dogs out here too.’” (p 34)
- “‘Something was in the study!’” (p 35)
- “‘Plum,’ she whispered at the ceiling, ‘I don’t think that owl was an accident. I think someone was trying to deliver a message to my auntie.’” (p 44)
- “‘Evidence?’ Hannah perked up a little as she remembered the piece of yarn in her hand. ‘Ooh, do you mean like this? I found it snagged on the kennel.’” (p 51)
- “‘...it was a person in a grey ski suit and matching balaclava. They were hiding behind the tree, perfectly camouflaged against the silvery bark ...’” (p 55)
- The suspicious scarf matches wool sold by Wise Owl Wool (p 74).
- Tropes of mystery discussed (pp 75–6).
- The owner of Wise Owl Wool has a silver wolf on his sweater (p 80).
- “‘I knit to honour the silver wolf that roams the woods at the full moon,’ he said simply. ‘Did you say ...’ Hannah gulped. ‘The *silver wolf*?’” (p 84)
- Message in the snow: ‘Get out of Shadow Mountains before the FULL MOON’ (p 88).
- “‘Don’t you think it’s suspicious that your dad almost went *splat* the exact same day *we* almost flew off a cliff?’” (p 97)
- “‘Time’s running out. You have to leave Shadow Mountains today BEFORE YOU GET HURT.’” (p 137)

This novel contains what are known as ‘red herrings’. For instance, Andre the housekeeper seems to be a bad guy but ultimately is not. What other red herrings were part of this plot?

Read a range of mystery novels and discuss in relation to this quote: “‘My point is there’s a reason why mystery books only ever have ONE detective on the cover.’ Patti blinked, looking perfectly sure of herself, as always. ‘Sherlock Holmes ... Nancy Drew ... Poirot ... they did all the thinking, while their sidekicks did all the helping. And if you’d ever bothered reading a mystery book, you’d know that’s just how proper detecting works.’” (p 106)

Book 3:

- “‘For love that’s ever true, meet where secret roses bloom.’” (p 7) is the inscription on Lady Crabtree’s fan, which Hannah finds at the Mossgrove End Antiques Market. The fan also contains four paintings: “‘There was a patch of yellow tulips, a fountain, a maze, and a mossy well. In the very centre was a blue rose.’” (p 8)
- Strange behaviour of woman at the market. (pp 9–11)
- Spooky Crabtree Hall. (p 17+)
- Girl hiding in the apple tree. (p 19)
- “‘Oh, thank goodness you’re all here,’ he sighed with visible relief. ‘I have the most dreadful mystery for you to solve!’” (p 23)



- The mysterious happenings at Crabtree Hall each relate to the four paintings on the fan. (p 30+)
- ““That’s nonsense. I’ve been investigating, and the tulips were clearly killed with salt, and the fountain was poisoned with arsenic. It’s a simple matter of science. Not spirits.”” (p 43)
- Yasmine’s picture of the blue rose. (p 49)
- Yasmine’s deduction about the broken statues: ““This stone is covered in dew,’ she said in her prim, matter-of-fact way. ‘Which means the heads were decapitated in the night, just before the sun rose. I’d guess around four-thirty.”” (p 84)
- The blue earring left where the statues were destroyed. (p 88)
- Obscuro’s plot. (p 108)
- “*Blue flowers*. She looked around at the small blue flowers with their delicate cream centres. Something was connecting in the back of her mind. The blue flower earring in the grass. The blue rose on the fan.” (p 109)
- Portrait hidden in the attic of Lady Crabtree. (p 121)
- Fatima, the gardener, acting suspiciously. (p 124)
- Patti’s case notebook. (pp 154–6)
- The four paintings are of places situated at the four cardinal points on a map. (p 205)
- The grotto on the island where Lady Crabtree and Maddox Wetherill met in secret. (p 214)
- Blue roses. (p 215)
- Letters. (p 216+)
- Lady Crabtree’s plan. (p 221)

Plum and Woo have also devised a secret language (p 61) which allows them to communicate without others understanding them. What other mystery series have you read in which the characters use such secret forms of communication?

There are a couple of ‘red herrings’ in this novel; for example, Fatima is a suspect who proves to be innocent. What other red herrings can you think of in this plot?

Structure:

The beginnings and endings of chapters in this series are strong and provocative, for example:

Book 1:

Beginning: “Inside, the pink hotel lobby had broken into chaos.” (Ch 2, p 10)

Ending: ““If someone’s having a dress drama, they need my help!”” (Ch 3, p 27)

How does a strong opening or closing sentence assist in structuring a narrative?

Book 2:

Beginning: ““Andre?!” Patti stared at the housekeeper in shock. ‘What are YOU doing here?’” (Ch 24, p 227)

Ending: “And that’s when the howling started.” (Ch 1, p 13)

Book 3:

Beginning: ““Quick, let’s ask her some questions!’ Patti looked wildly around the library.” (p Ch 4, p 39)

Ending: ““MURDER AT CRABTREE HALL!”” (Ch 6, p 78)

What other endings or beginnings were particularly riveting?



Characters:

The cast of characters assembled in this series is reminiscent of an Agatha Christie novel plot:

Book 1:

- Hannah Plum
- Patti Woo
- Byron Plum, Hannah's dad
- Tulip Woo, Patti's mum
- Luis DelRio, owner of the Heart Break Hotel
- Cooper, Luis's partner and co-owner
- Astrid, Luis's teenage daughter
- Mr and Mrs Brindle, annoyed guests
- Sabina Seastone, a bride-to-be whose pink wedding dress has been stolen
- Travis Hardcastle, her wedding planner
- Woman who owns the Hidden Gem Gift Shoppe
- Conrad Mule, a travel writer
- Miss X, aka The Eagle, aka Thea Gull
- Veronica and Velvette, twin wedding guests
- Hugh, Sabina's husband-to-be

Who is your favourite character, and why?

Book 2:

- Hannah Plum
- Patti Woo
- Byron Plum, Hannah's dad
- Tulip Woo, Patti's mum
- Unjoo Woo, Tulip's sister and Patti's aunt, park ranger at Shadow Mountains National Park
- Andre Bottineau, the chalet's housekeeper and cook; alias Jean-Pascal Boucher, an undercover park ranger
- Ashley Forester
- Mrs Forester, his mother, the owner of House of Sweets (a lolly shop); alias the Silver Wolf
- Ashley's brothers, Cedar and Hollis Forester
- Budwin Sangakkara, the owner of the Wise Owl Wool shop

Who is your least favourite character, and why?

The main characters are described as contrasts: "Hannah was messy, ate far too much junk food, and never got out of bed before ten o'clock unless it was for school or a fashion-related emergency. Patti was neat, healthy and woke up at the crack of dawn to go *snowboarding*." (p 23) What other aspects of their characters are opposites?

The girls fight – which causes conflict in the narrative arc, creating suspense – but when their talents are combined, they make a formidable team. How do they resolve their conflict?



Book 3:

- Hannah Plum
- Patti Woo
- Byron Plum, Hannah's dad
- Tulip Woo, Patti's mum
- Miss Merriam Wetherill, a bird artist
- Yasmine Pasha, the girl in the apple tree
- Obscuro, a psychic practitioner (aka Mr Stephano Romano, architect)
- Lord Frederick Crabtree, owner of Crabtree Hall
- Fatima Pasha, mother of Yasmine, head gardener at Crabtree Hall for over twenty years
- Lady Nigella Crabtree, Lord Crabtree's sister
- 'The Lady of the Lake', Lady Crabtree, the Lord's great-great-great-aunt
- Maddox Wetherill, Merriam's great-great-great grandfather, an artist

We don't actually meet either Maddox Wetherill or his beloved Lady Crabtree. What do we discover about their characters in this novel?

Who is your favourite character in this novel?

Literary devices:

Identify any literary devices employed in this series and add quotes to the tables below.

Book 1:

Simile	"making him look like a loveable emu" (p 21)
Metaphor	
Alliteration	The titles of each book in the series contains alliteration; so does a novel mentioned in this book, " <i>The Case of the Menacing Mansion</i> " (p 2)
Humour	"'I should have known only a hack writer could come up with such a pathetic piece of poetry.' 'I'll take that as a compliment.' Conrad smugly readjusted a red pen in his pocket ... " (p 214)
Other	

Book 2:

Simile	"a rickety porch that stuck out like a clenched jaw" (p 3)
Metaphor	
Alliteration	
Humour	
Other	



Book 3:

Simile	“And like a cat after a bird, she was determined to catch her.” (p 40)
Metaphor	
Alliteration	
Humour	““I think that’s code for <i>we’re dressed like tree trunks.</i> ’ She would never understand how anyone could wear all that brown – even for a fairy-winged woodpecker.” (p 73)
Other	

Poetry:

Book 1:

Several references are made to poetry in the novel – and, of course, Roxy Barton was a poet: ““It’s like Roxy wanted people to read her poem and learn about the meaning of love. Like she didn’t want to give her pearls to just anyone. She wanted them to earn it.’ Patti looked astonished that Hannah Plum had actually interpreted a love poem, but her face quickly clouded over. ‘Love, love, love. Do you know how sick I am of hearing that word?’ ‘You *are* holding a book of love poetry, Patti.’” (p 114)

Write a love poem as if written by Roxy about her lost lover.

Book 2:

Patti and Hannah are poles apart in nature. Write two acrostic poems – one about Patti and the other about Hannah.

Book 3:

“For love that’s ever true, meet where secret roses bloom.” (p 7) is the inscription on Lady Crabtree’s fan, which Hannah finds at the Mossgrove End Antique Market.

Write a poetic sentence or stanza that contains a secret direction like this one to a place at your school. Have fun trying to guess the location indicated by your classmates’ verses.



COMPREHENSION

Book 1:

- Which bird are Byron and Tulip trying to spot? *Answer:* Golden-bellied finch.
- Who was Roxy Barton? *Answer:* A poet and former owner of the Heart Break Hotel.
- What is the name of Hannah Plum's dog? *Answer:* Mango.
- What is the name of Roxy Barton's cat? *Answer:* Love.
- How many priceless pearls are missing? *Answer:* Seven.

Book 2:

- Which bird are Tulip and Byron trying to spot? *Answer:* Ice owl.
- What item of clothing worn by Ash Forester do the girls consider a clue to the mystery? *Answer:* His silver wool (suspicious) scarf.
- Aunt Unjoo has two dogs, one of which goes missing. What are their names? *Answer:* Buffy and Jet.
- Who owns the Wise Owl Wool shop? *Answer:* Budwin Sangakkara.
- What is the House of Sweets' Snow Candy made from? *Answer:* Maple syrup.

Book 3:

- Which bird are Byron and Tulip trying to spot? *Answer:* Fairy-winged woodpecker.
- Who was Maddox Wetherill? *Answer:* The artist who painted Lady Crabtree's portrait, and who won her heart.
- Nigella Crabtree has a pet what named what? *Answer:* Jellybean, a rabbit.
- What four places in the Crabtree Hall garden were painted on the fan? *Answer:* A patch of tulips, a fountain, a maze and a mossy well.
- What is Obscuro's real name and occupation? *Answer:* Mr Stephano Romano, an architect.

WRITING EXERCISE

Book 1:

Write a fashion column for a magazine as if written by Hannah, describing the outfits of some of the guests at the Heart Break Hotel.

Write a synopsis for another adventure with Hannah and Patti.

Read other books about either mysteries or fashion, and compare to this one. [See **Related Reading.**]

Book 2:

Write a letter as if written by Patti to her father, describing an event in this novel.

Write the text for an advertisement for Wise Owl Wool.



Write a script for Hannah to deliver as the host of the Winterlude Festival Fashion Parade.

Book 3:

Write the text for a tourism brochure for Crabtree Hall if it was to be opened to the public to explore its gardens and the restored mansion.

Write a letter as if written by Plum and Woo to their new friend and fellow sleuth Yasmine, inviting her to visit their new country home.

Write a diary entry by Merriam Wetherill about discovering her family connection to Crabtree Hall.



ILLUSTRATION EXERCISE

Book 1:

Create a cover for a teenage magazine featuring Hannah modelling one of her favourite outfits, and add a caption to the image.

Book 2:

Design a costume for the Winterlude Festival and draw an image of it.

Book 3:

Draw Crabtree Hall based on how it is described in the novel.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Book 1:

Design and sketch your ideal image of a wedding dress.

Read this passage: “Ten minutes later, after some expert tweaking and styling, Sabina stood in front of the mirror, gazing at her new beachside wedding look. The white satin slip dress was cinched in perfectly with the pink belt, and the polka-dot scarf was draped elegantly around her neck in an artful knot. Perched on her head like a cherry on top was Hannah’s handmade rose crown.” (p 173) Then give students a pile of clothes and accessories and invite them to create fashionable ‘new looks’. Take photos or draw images of the students modelling their outfits and create a ‘fashion gallery’.

Book 2:

Create a poster advertising the Winterlude Festival and include images of some creative animal costumes.

Create a book trailer advertising this series.

Draw a map of the places mentioned in this book based on the descriptions contained in the novel.

Book 3:

Create a real-estate advertisement summarising the key features of Crabtree Hall.

Draw an illustrated map of Crabtree Hall estate, noting in decorative font the key places described in the novel.

Design a tourism brochure using the text you wrote above under **Writing Exercise** and the drawing you did under **Illustration Exercise**.



BOOKS 1, 2 & 3

RELATED READING

Picture Books:

Byrne, Eva *Along Came Coco* Abrams, 2019.

Chen, Eva *Juno Valentine and the Fantastic Fashion Adventure* Ill. by Derek Desierto. Feiwel & Friends, 2019.

Clarke, Maxine Beneba *Fashionista* Hachette, 2019.

Faruqi, Saadia *Yasmin the Fashionista* Ill. by Hatem Aly (Yasmin series #3) Picture Window Books, 2018.

Hess, Megan *Claris: the Chicest Mouse in Paris* Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, 2018.

Hess, Megan *Claris: Fashion Show Fiasco* Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, 2019.

Fiction:

Abela, Deborah *The Most Marvellous Spelling Bee Mystery* Penguin Random House, 2018.

Child, Lauren *Ruby Redfort* (series) HarperCollins.

Dubosarsky, Ursula *The Cryptic Casebook of Carlomagno (and Alberta)* Ill. by Terry Denton (series) Allen & Unwin.

Harper, Charise Mericle *Fashion Kitty* (series) Hachette Australia.

Harvey, Jacqueline *Alice-Miranda in Paris* (Alice-Miranda series #7) Penguin Random House, 2013.

Nannestad, Katrina *Lottie Perkins Fashion Designer* Ill. by Makoto Koji. (Lottie Perkins series #4) HarperCollins, 2018.

Van Mil, Jules *Gemma Riley and the Fashion Fiasco* Pan Macmillan, 2020.

Non-Fiction:

Bolte, Mari *Fab Fashions You Can Make and Share* Ill. by Paula Franco. Capstone Young Readers, 2014.

Bolte, Mari *Girly Girl Style; Fun Fashions You Can Sketch* Capstone Press, 2013.

Butterworth, Christine *Where Did my Clothes Come From?* Ill. by Lucia Gaggiotto. Candlewick, 2017.

Chakrabarti, Nina *My Wonderful World of Fashion: a Book for Drawing, Creating and Dreaming* Laurence King Publishing, 2009.

Quigley, Karrie *Fashion Design for Kids: Skill-Building Activities for Future Fashion Designers* Rockridge Press, 2021.

Sonneborn, Liz *Far Out Fashion: Bringing 1960s and 1970s Flair to your Wardrobe* Capstone Press, 2014.

Ware, Lesley *How to Be a Fashion Designer: Ideas, Projects and Styling Tips to help you become a Fabulous Fashion Designer* DK Kids, 2018.

Websites:

'How to Make a Book Trailer' *Tristan Bancks*

<https://www.tristanbancks.com/2016/03/how-to-make-book-trailer.html>

'Mystery Genre Lesson Plan' *Study.com*

<https://study.com/academy/lesson/mystery-genre-lesson-plan.html>



WORKSHEET 1: FASHION FORWARD! (SERIES)

Draw the fashion items below.

1. Sunglasses:	6. Tiara:
2. Beret:	7. High heels:
3. Tutu:	8. Boots:
4. Scarf:	9. Shoulder bag:
5. Headband:	10. Jeans:



WORKSHEET 2: WORDS FROM THE HEART (BOOK 1)

Finish these scrambled words which contain the word 'heart'.
Then write a definition in your own words and discuss with other students.

Scrambled Word	Word	Definition
eg. khaeearrbt	heartbreak	
1. bhrtactae		
2. rlaentadh		
3. lhtrefeta		
4. rslateehs		
5. catherahe		
6. rbtueranh		
7. drtnhaniegre		
8. whtresteae		
9. arethbohrt		
10. fthareedsot		

Answers: 1. Heartbeat. 2. Heartland. 3. Heartfelt. 4. Heartless. 5. Heartache. 6. Heartburn.
7. Heartrending. 8. Sweetheart. 9. Heartthrob. 10. Softhearted.



WORKSHEET 3: PLOT POINTS (BOOK 1)

Draw each of the two-word objects below, which are significant to the plot of Book 1.

1. Pink pearls:	4. Wet glove:
2. Palm tree:	5. Starfish brooch:
3. Wedding dress:	6. Jewellery box:



WORKSHEET 4: FASHION FORWARD (BOOK 2)

Draw the clothing items mentioned in Book 2 below.

1. Balaclava:	6. Fingerless mittens:
2. Ice skates:	7. Woollen mini-skirt:
3. Pea coat:	8. Parka:
4. Beanie:	9. Snowshoes:
5. Bomber jacket:	10. Ear muffs:



WORKSHEET 5: MYSTERY NOVEL CHARACTERS (SERIES)

Finish the names of famous mystery novel characters below.

1. RUBY	
2. SHERLOCK	
3. NANCY	
4. FRIDAY	
5. MISS	
6. HERCULE	
7. TRIXIE	
8. ENCYCLOPEDIA	
9. COCO	
10. ENOLA	

Answers: 1. Redfort. 2. Holmes. 3. Drew. 4. Barnes. 5. Marple. 6. Poirot. 7. Belden. 8. Brown.
9. Carlomagno. 10. Holmes.



WORKSHEET 6: FASHION FORWARD (BOOK 3)

Draw the clothing items mentioned in Book 3 below.

<p>1. Hannah's white mesh dress decorated with sequin flowers, peach crop top, lemon yellow bike shorts with platform peach sandals and yellow sunglasses:</p>	<p>6. Patti's disguise – a beige trench coat with a black beret:</p>
<p>2. Nigella's flowery silk bathrobe:</p>	<p>7. Byron and Tulip's brown disguises:</p>
<p>3. Nigella's blue flower earring:</p>	<p>8. Hannah's disguise – a 1950s prom dress, the colour of spring daffodils with a thin white belt and a bouncy white petticoat with a floppy straw hat with plastic yellow daisies around the brim:</p>
<p>4. Obscuro's orange three-piece suit, purple silk cravat and shiny blue tie-ups:</p>	<p>9. Hannah's horse-riding outfit: glittery gold clogs, leggings covered in peace symbols, a rainbow knitted tank top and a yellow hair scarf looped around her neck:</p>
<p>5. The purple cloak:</p>	<p>10. Hannah's nightie and kimono:</p>

