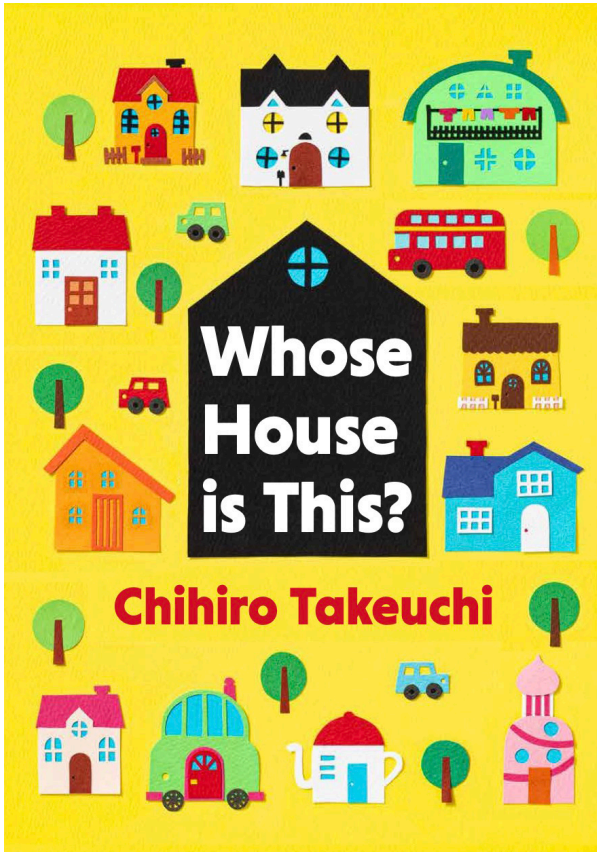


Teachers' notes for

Whose House Is This?



ABOUT THE BOOK

SYNOPSIS

Step inside a neighbourhood like no other, where each friend's house sparks wonder and holds a new adventure. In *Whose House is This?*, acclaimed paper-cut artist Chihiro Takeuchi creates her intricate illustrations using the Japanese art of kirigami – carefully cutting and shaping paper by hand to build each scene.

The journey begins with a familiar, cosy cottage, but soon the ordinary gives way to the extraordinary. A curious cat house filled with playful felines to count. A sweet, sprinkle-covered cupcake house offers a sugary surprise. A whimsical machine house befitting an inventor. A towering treehouse stretches toward the sky.

Playful and visually stunning, *Whose House Is This?* invites children to guess and explore who might live inside each magical home. It's a celebration of creativity, curiosity and the endless possibilities of imagination, all crafted by hand, one delicate paper cut at a time.

THEMES

- Homes and belonging
- Friendship and community
- Imagination and creativity
- Different kinds of houses
- Family and everyday life
- Exploring neighbourhoods

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

Chihiro Takeuchi is a renowned paper-cut artist living in Osaka, Japan. In 2015 and 2016, Chihiro was part of a select group of artists to exhibit at the prestigious Bologna Book Fair. She has produced several books, including *Can You Find My Robot's Arm?*, her first dedicated children's book in English.

Title:	Whose House Is This?
Author/ Illustrator:	Chihiro Takeuchi
ISBN:	978-1-763571-88-4

Teachers' notes for Whose House Is This?

FOR THE CLASSROOM

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Before reading, look at the cover of the book. What do you notice about the houses? Who do you think might live inside? What clues can you see?
- In the story, Peter visits many unusual houses. Which house would you most like to visit and why?
 - Think about what makes that house interesting or special. Is it high in a tree? Does it have an interesting shape? Is there something unexpected inside?
 - What do you think it would feel like to visit that house, and what might you see or learn there?
 - Write two or three short sentences to describe what it feels like to visit your favourite house in the book.
- What does the shape of each house tell you about who might live inside? Can you guess before you turn the page to find the answer?
- Peter travels from house to house with his friends. Why is it fun to visit friends' homes? Who do you like to visit?
- At the end of the story, Peter returns to his own home and bed. Why do you think home is important?
- The story invites you to search for details, such as counting cats in Lucy's house. What other interesting details can you find in the illustrations?
- The illustrations are made from carefully cut pieces of paper. This Japanese style of creating artwork is called 'kirigami'. What shapes can you see in the pictures? Can you spot circles, rectangles or triangles?

ACTIVITIES

- Draw a house that shows something you love. For example, if you love animals, you might draw your house in the shape of your favourite animal. What might you draw on the inside of your house that reflects your theme?
- Create a house using paper-cut shapes in the style of kirigami. When everyone has finished, place the houses together to create a class neighbourhood.
- Many of the houses in the book contain lots of small objects to notice. Count the objects you can see in the illustrations. (For example, you might count cats at Lucy's house, cakes at Georgina's house, windows, machines and so on.) Share your answers with the class, write the number you found, or draw some of the objects you counted.
- Sam's father has invented a machine that can make any drink in the world. Draw your own invention of a machine that makes something amazing. Write a label to tell your classmates what your machine creates.
- Molly and Tom live in a treehouse. As a class, create a large treehouse mural on a big sheet of paper. Draw, paint or cut out pictures from magazines to design your own bedroom in the treehouse. What would you put in your room? What else will be in your treehouse?
- In groups, role-play visiting different houses from the story. What might happen when you arrive?

CURRICULUM LINKS

English

Foundation

- AC9EFLY02 – Engage in conversations and discussions, sharing ideas and listening to others.
- AC9EFLA02 – Recognise that texts have meaning and are made up of words and images.

Year 1

- AC9E1LY02 – Engage in discussions about texts, using language to share ideas and opinions.
- AC9E1LE02 – Discuss characters, settings and events in stories.

Mathematics

- AC9MFN01 / AC9M1N01 – Count, represent and compare numbers through activities such as counting objects in illustrations.

Visual Arts

- AC9AVA0C01 / AC9AVA2C01 – Explore ideas and make artworks using imagination and observation.

Humanities and Social Sciences

- AC9HSFK01 / AC9HS1K01 – Explore familiar places such as homes, schools and neighbourhoods.

Design and Technologies

- AC9TDEFP01 / AC9TDE1P01 – Generate and communicate design ideas through drawing or modelling.

