



TIM BRAY THEATRE COMPANY

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Teachers' Resource Guide (Part 1)

Vivaldi's The Four Seasons



In collaboration with APO and UNITEC



Prepared by Rosemary Tisdall, Children's Literature Consultant, Getting Kids into Books



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GETTING KIDS INTO BOOKS



TEACHERS' RESOURCE GUIDE (PART 1)

for

Vivaldi's The Four Seasons

Prepared by Children's Literature Consultant (*Getting Kids Into Books*)

This Teachers' Resource Guide offers suggestions for classroom activities in relation to listening to and studying *Vivaldi's The Four Seasons* and to enhance the experience of attending the theatre production of *Vivaldi's The Four Seasons* by Tim Bray Theatre Company with a string quartet from The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra.

The questions and activities should be selected or adapted for the age level of your class. They will spark more of your own – this guide is certainly not definitive!

Part One of the Guide could be used in preparatory classroom work before the children see the show.

Part Two of the Guide, containing suggestions for follow-up activities after you have seen the show, will be sent to you later.

Key Competencies: Using Language, Skills and Texts, Thinking

	Listening, Reading and Viewing	Speaking, Writing and Presenting
Level One	<p>Processes and Strategies Students will: Acquire and begin to use sources of information, processes, and strategies to identify, form and express ideas. Recognise that texts are shaped for different purposes and audiences.</p> <p>Ideas Recognise and identify ideas within and across texts.</p> <p>Language features Recognise and begin to understand how language features are used for effect within and across texts.</p> <p>Structure Recognise and begin to understand text structures.</p>	<p>Processes and Strategies Students will: Select and use sources of information, processes and strategies with some confidence to identify, form and express ideas.</p> <p>Purposes and audiences Show some understanding of how texts are shaped for different purposes and audiences.</p> <p>Ideas Show some understanding of ideas within, across, and beyond texts.</p> <p>Language features Show some understanding of how language features are used for effect within and across texts.</p> <p>Structure Show some understanding of text structures.</p>
Level Two	<p>Processes and Strategies Students will: Acquire and begin to use sources of information, processes, and strategies to identify, form and express ideas. Recognise how to shape texts for a purpose and an audience.</p> <p>Ideas Form and express ideas on a range of topics.</p> <p>Language features Use language features, showing some recognition of their effects.</p> <p>Structure Organise texts, using simple structures.</p>	<p>Processes and Strategies Students will: Select and use sources of information, processes and strategies with some confidence to identify, form and express ideas.</p> <p>Purposes and audiences Show some understanding of how to shape texts for different purposes and audiences.</p> <p>Ideas Select, form, and express ideas on a range of topics.</p> <p>Language features Use language features appropriately, showing some understanding of their effects.</p> <p>Structure Organise texts, using a range of structures.</p>

The Production of *Vivaldi's The Four Seasons* by Tim Bray Theatre Company is a compilation of four musical pieces representing each season: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter.

Here is a YouTube link to the Amsterdam Sinfonietta playing *The Four Seasons* for your reference:
[Vivaldi's The Four Seasons](#)

1. Find out what you can about the composer, Antonio Vivaldi. This lovely picture book will help introduce him as a person, *I, Vivaldi* by Janice Shefelman, illustrated by Tom Shefelman. These websites will also give you an excellent introduction:

[classics for kids](#)

[kids britannica](#)

- *The Poesy Ring* by Bob Graham

Of course, some southern hemisphere-based stories help to reflect the seasons for us here in New Zealand, showing our own flora and fauna, for example; here are some to read:

- *A Kiwi Year: Twelve Months in the Life of New Zealand's Kids* by Tania McCartney, and Tina Snerling
- *Christmas in Summer* by Suzy Cato and Itty Bitty Beats, illustrated by Carla Martell (NZ)
- *A Summery Saturday Morning* by Margaret Mahy, illustrated by Selina Young
- *Grasshoppers Dance* by Juliette MacIver, illustrated by Nina Rycroft (NZ author & illustrator)
- *Uncle Vic's farm* by Raewyn Caisley, illustrated by Lisa Allen
- *Fifty Five Feathers* by Helen Taylor and Ben Brown
- *Seeking an Aurora* by Elizabeth Pulfod, illustrated by Anne Bannock
- *Hedgehog Howdedo* by Lynley Dodd
- *Cowshed Springtime: a Kiwi Counting Book* by Gavin Bishop
- *Maraea and the Albatrosses* by Patricia Grace, illustrated by Brian Gunson
- *Song of the River* by Joy Cowley, illustrated by Kimberley Andrews

The lending service at Services to Schools, National Library can help you source some of these and other books: <https://natlib.govt.nz/schools/lending-service>

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Key Competencies: Thinking, Participating and Contributing, Using Language, Skills and Texts

	Social Science
Level One and Two	Students will: Gain knowledge, skills, and experience to: Understand how the past is important to people (Understand how cultural practices reflect and express people's customs, traditions, and values)

19. Globally, there are many different celebrations that occur specifically because of a particular season. Find examples of these celebrations. Maybe there are some in your own culture you can share with the class. These books reflect a few examples:

- *Tāwhirimātea: a song for Matariki* by June Pitman-Hayes, illustrated by Kat Merewether, Maori lyrics by Ngaere Roberts (NZ)

- *The Promise of Puanga: A Story for Matariki* by Kirsty Wadsworth, illustrated by Munro Te Whata (NZ)
- *The Seven Stars of Matariki* by Toni Rolleston-Cummins, illustrated by Nikki Slade-Robinson (NZ)
- *The Shortest Day* by Susan Cooper, illustrated by Carson Ellis
- *Groundhog's Day Off* by Robb Pearlman, illustrated by Brett Helquist (North America and Canada)
- *Binny's Diwali* by Thrity Umrigar, illustrated by Nidhi Chanani (Hindu)

20. Here are some other celebrations based around seasons you might like to research.

- May Day (Europe)
- Samhain (Northern Hemisphere)
- Calan Gaeaf (Wales)
- Thanksgiving (US and other countries)
- Yalda Night or Chelleh Night (Iran)
- Dongzhi/Winter Solstice (Chinese)



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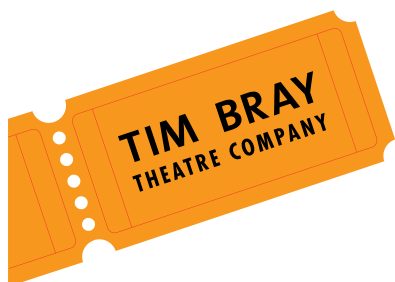
GETTING KIDS INTO BOOKS

Getting Kids into Books offers Author and Illustrator visits to schools to encourage literacy and reading across the spectrum of children's literature.

Rosemary Tisdall is a Children's Literature Consultant. She has a teaching diploma with a BA in Education, and a broad knowledge of and passion for children's literature. She is currently on secondment from her Team Leader of Reading Services role at Services to Schools, National Library, working with the Communities of Readers project.

She is a Trustee of the Storylines Children's Literature Charitable Trust, and Painted Stories (Te Tai Tamariki) an organisation that aims to preserve and archive New Zealand children's book illustrations.

Rosemary is also a Trustee of The Operating Theatre Trust (trading as Tim Bray Theatre Company) and suggests many of the titles for their productions.



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Unlocking **imagination**s today ignites
the **creative minds** of tomorrow

Tim Bray Theatre Company and *Vivaldi's The Four Seasons* supported by

