



## TUMBLAGOODA 2 TEACHING NOTES

### Themes

- Australian & Western Australian history
- Western Australian geography
- Ancient landscapes
- Family
- Friendship
- Loss
- Alienation
- Biodiversity

### For Class Discussions

- 1) Imagine you are packing a suitcase for a stay away from home. What would you need to take? Divide your things under the titles 'Needs' and 'Wants'. Now compare your list with that of a friend or peer. Discuss how they are the same and how they are different.
- 2) In chapter 4, Mac invites George to come to the station where his aunty lives and works. Have you ever stayed on an Australian farm or station? Where was it and how big was it? What animals were there? What did you do? Describe any adventures or funny incidents you had while you were there.
- 3) In chapter 5, the Dohertys take possession of their first ever television. Discuss the technology in your home that you and your family use to entertain yourselves and/or to learn. What are the positives of technological advancement and what might be some of the drawbacks? Discuss the reasons behind your opinions.
- 4) In chapter 6, Aunty Maggie shows George and Mac the geographical location of the Ottoman Empire. What empire was behind the colonisation of Australia in the eighteenth century and why do you think Aunty Maggie might not be keen on the concept of colonisation or 'empire building'?
- 5) Imagine that you are interviewing a famous celebrity for TV. Think of the celebrity and what they do, then come up with a list of five questions you think your viewing audience would want to know about them. Consider issues of privacy and what might be reasonable or unreasonable for your audience to know.
- 6) Name three objects normally found in the sea. Discuss what family of organisms they belong to. Describe or draw their characteristics eg what they look like; what they like to eat; how they breed; how they protect themselves from predators; how long they can live. How might they be useful to humans?
- 7) Choose three of the following terms associated with mining and find out what they mean:
  - a) Seam
  - b) Stope
  - c) Shaft
  - d) Cage



- e) Kibble
  - f) Slimes
- 8) Describe an occasion when a precious thing of yours went missing. What was the object? What happened? Did you find it again and did others help you find it? How could you make sure you never lose this precious thing again?
  - 9) Discuss what your favourite jewel, gemstone or precious metal is and why.
  - 10) One of the themes of the Tumblagooda series is the importance of family and family connections. Discuss what family means to you? Which member(s) of your family do you particularly cherish and why?

### **Creative Writing and Illustration Activities**

- 1) Write a short adventure story in which a character is either going somewhere they've never been before; or doing something they've never done before. Remember to consider elements that may make your story more exciting and suspenseful. Try and craft your story so that it has an engaging beginning, middle and end (resolution). Alternatively, draw/illustrate at least six animals and/or objects your character will need or notice during their adventure.
- 2) Imagine you are told your family is moving to another country. Either draw the method of transportation to this new land; or write a short story from the 'I' point of view, in which you discuss where you're going and how you feel about the prospect of leaving your old town and friends behind.
- 3) Write a short story that opens with one of the following quotes from *Tumblagooda – the story of a strange missing thing*:
  - a) It was sleek. It was wonderful. It was hers.
  - b) *If I had a garden like this, I'd spend all my time in it.*
  - c) An orange glow from the dying campfire cast shadows over the thin fabric of the station tent.
  - d) *All he needs is a parrot on his shoulder and a sword!*

### **Learning Areas**

- English
- Humanities and Social Sciences