

SANDRA DIECKMA

Thursday 11th March

Leaf

What an unusual environment for a polar bear, dont you think?

What are the main events of this story?

Flying Eye Books



For DORIS WHO COULDN'T STAY
I still see YOUR green EYES in all THE leaves.



'Deeper meaning resides in the fairy tales told to me
in my childhood than in the truth that is taught in life.'
— Friedrich Schiller

Leaf is © Flying Eye Books 2011.

This paperback edition published in 2018. First published in 2011
by Flying Eye Books, an imprint of Nickrow Ltd, 23 Westgate Street, London E8 3RL.

Text and illustrations © Sandra Dieckmann 2011.

Sandra Dieckmann has asserted her right under the Copyright, Design and
Patents Act, 1988, to be identified as the Author and Illustrator of this work.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any
form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any
information and storage retrieval system, without prior written consent from the publisher.

*E8 10 9 1 5 3

Published in the US by Nickrow (US) Inc,
printed in Poland on FSC® certified paper.

ISBN 978-1-911113-73-9



Order from: www.flyingeyebooks.com

Leaf

BY SANDRA DIECKMANN



Flying Eye Books

London | New York





It was unlike anything the animals of
the wild wood had seen before. It made its
home in the old, overgrown cave on the hill.

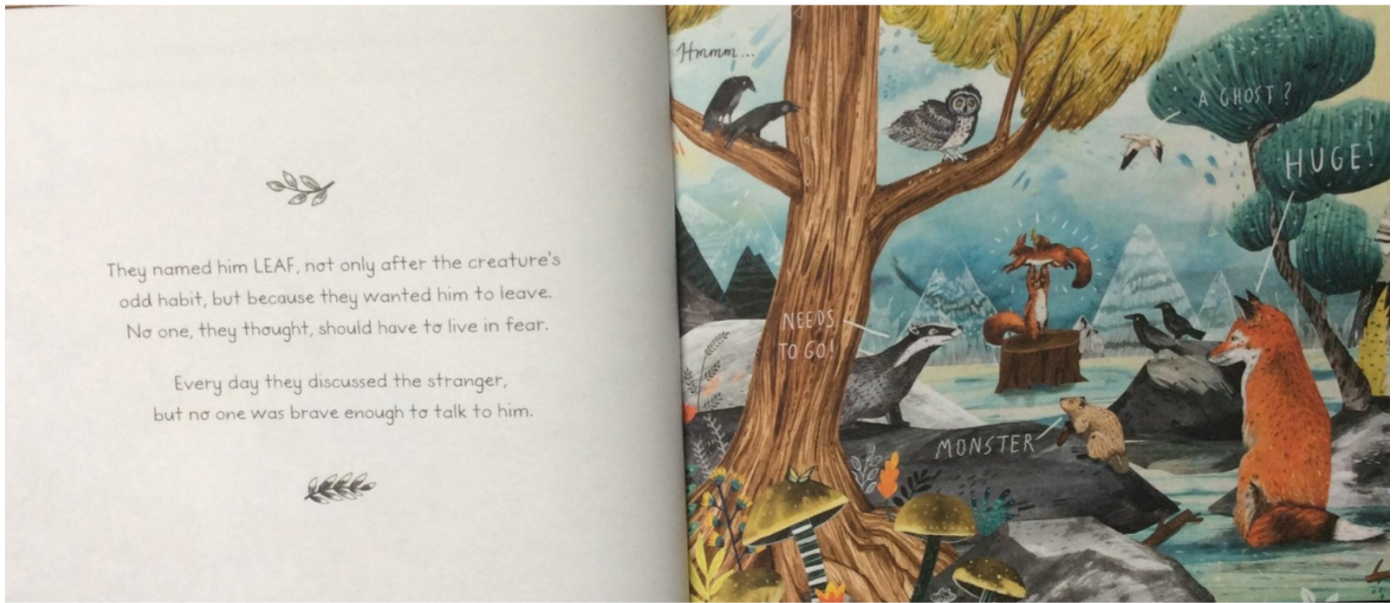
No one had lived there for as long as they could
remember, and no one dared approach now.





1. Do you think the animals are right to be afraid of him? Why/why not?

2. If we only saw the animals fleeing and the exclamation Run! what might we have imagined that they were escaping from?



1. What are they all thinking and feeling? Why might that be?
2. Is Leaf making them live in fear? Why/why not?
3. Consider the badger's response – 'Needs to go!' Why might the badger feel this way? Are they considering Leaf's rights and needs? Are they being fair and treating him humanely?



1. If you were a witness to this event, how would you describe this scene to another animal?



1. How has the authors choice of words changed till this point to describe Leafs movements? e. g. burst through, stomping through the forest, ran very fast, etc.



1. How would Leaf feel if he knew they were all gathering behind his back to talk about him? What should have the other animals have done?
2. Look at the difference between the crows are saying and what the other animals are responding with. Why do they have such a difference of opinion? Why might the crows be more likely to see Leafs vulnerability?



A few days passed, and Leaf burst out of the cave again. This time he didn't stop running at the hill, but ran all the way through the wild wood to the edge of the great cliff. He jumped off and flew...





The sea spat him out just like the day he arrived.
Only now the clever crows decided it was
time to talk to the very sad and lonely Leaf.
They let him speak and at last they all listened.





Leaf told them how he had drifted over from far across the sea, where the ice was melting. After all, he was only a polar bear wanting to go back to his family.

Just someone who wished he could fly back home.
How silly they had all been for not talking to him sooner!



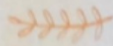
And so it was decided. The crows would help Leaf and fly him home...

...and the animals promised to tell Leaf's story to everyone who would listen, so that no polar bear would ever get lost again.





When a white bear washes up on the edge of the wild wood, the other animals fear and avoid him. Then one day, they watch as he attempts something incredible...

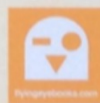


'Dieckmann beautifully weaves together some of today's most difficult themes into a deceptively simple tale.'

- Kirkus Reviews, STARRED REVIEW

'A beautiful debut.'

- Guardian



GBP 15.99 / USD 26.99 / CAD 210.99
ISBN 978-1-91171-72-7



50899



Thursday 11th March

Discuss the way that descriptive language and small details are used to build an impression of an unfamiliar place.	○
Discuss the relationship between what characters say and feel and what they do.	○
Comment upon the use of the authors language.	○



1. How has the author's choice of words changed till this point to describe Leaf's movements? e.g. 'burst through, stomping through the forest, ran very fast, etc.
2. 'The sea spat him out just like the day he arrived. Only the clever crows decided it was time to talk to the very sad and lonely Leaf. They let him speak and at last they all listened.' Why might the crows be described as clever?

