

Tuesday 9th March

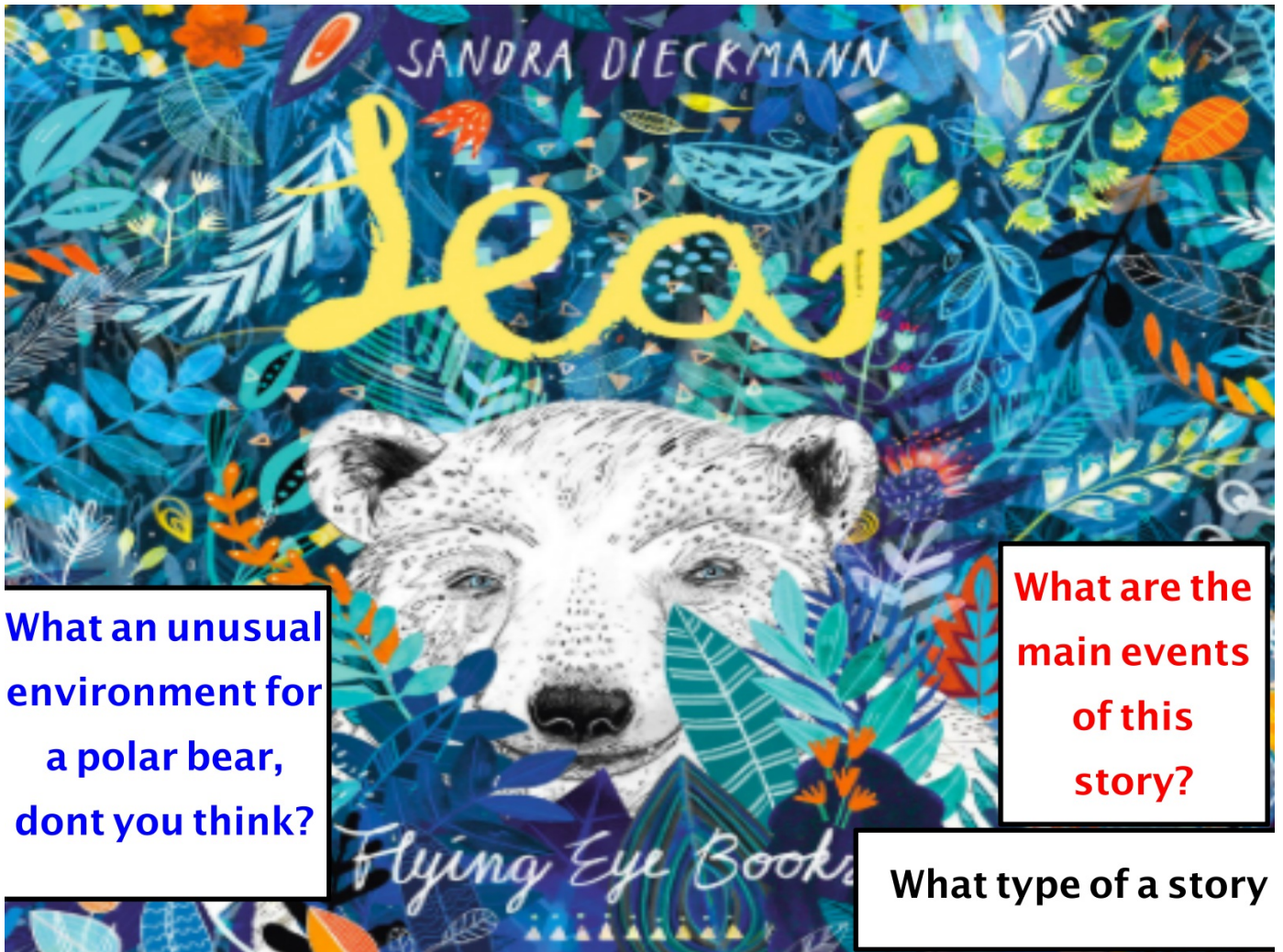


Where are the oceans and where is the land?

Where do you live?

Can you name the continents?

Whats at the northern tip of our world and who lives there?



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

What are the main events of this story?

What type of a story



**What was your
favourite part of
the story?**

What surprised y

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

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Leaf

BY SANDRA DIECKMANN



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Which character do you feel is the most important on this page?



What can you see? Is it like anything youve read before?

Which is the most powerful character? Are they the same? What do the size and posture of the two creatures tell you about the relationship and emotions?



1. What words might they use to describe the polar bear or the crow?
2. Why has the artist used these colours?
3. How does this make you feel?
4. Where have the animals come from and where are they going?
5. strange, creature, it – what does this tell you about the crows initial attitude towards the polar bear? How does the language set the bear up as the other and disempowered from the very beginning?
6. How do authors choices describing the bear as carried upon the dark waves make the reader feel?



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. Why does it have to make its home in the old, overgrown cave?
2. Why will no one approach the bears cave?

Stomping around the forest, the creature collected leaves every day.
Big leaves and small leaves, round leaves and colourful ones.



As he looked around the forest with
a searching eye, the animals would flee in fear.





They named him LEAF, not only after the creature's odd habit, but because they wanted him to leave. No one, they thought, should have to live in fear.

Every day they discussed the stranger, but no one was brave enough to talk to him.



One day, fox called out to the other
animals as Leaf burst through the forest.
He ran very fast and was covered
in hundreds of beautiful leaves.
They had NEVER seen anything like it!



With a giant... ROOoAR!



...Leaf leaped off the edge of the hill and flew...



...for a moment at least, before tumbling down into the lake.
Soaking wet, the beast stomped back to hide once again in the dark cave.





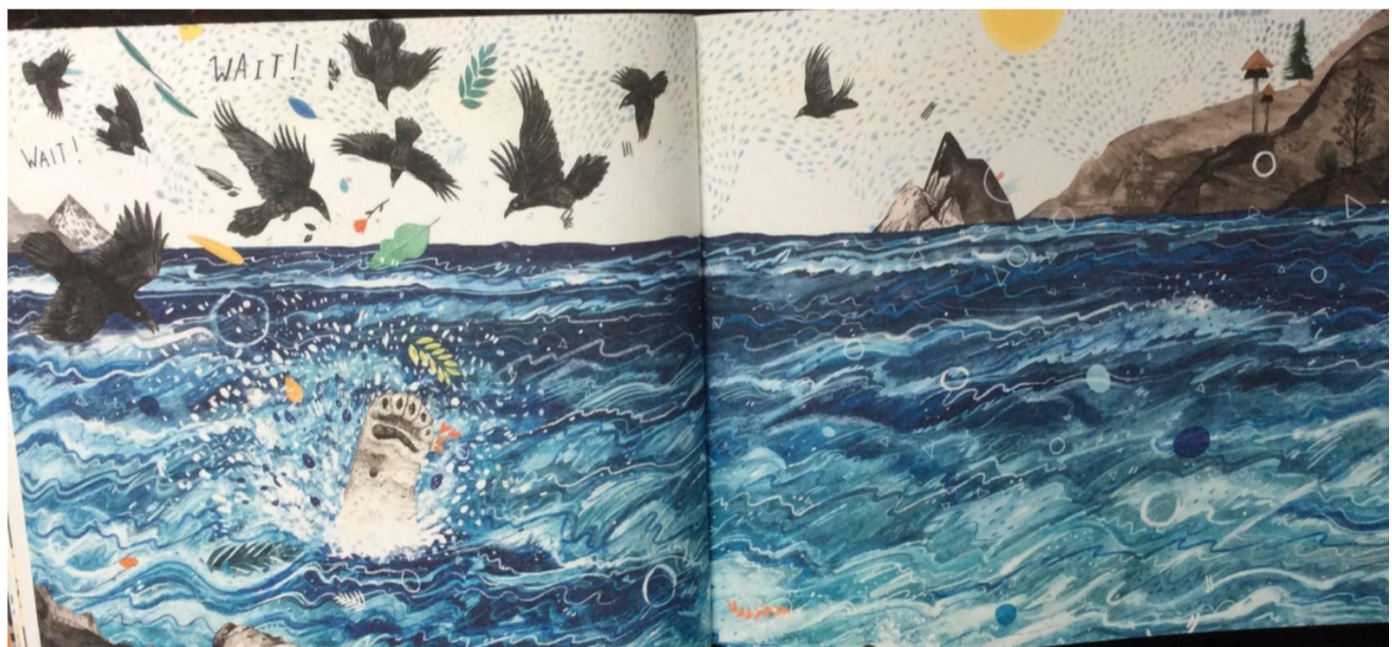
A meeting was called to decide what to do about this strange situation. The crows suggested talking to him,

but everyone looked to the ground and shook their heads. So they decided nothing - only that they didn't agree!



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.





1. What are the animals thinking as they listen to his story?
2. What does the positioning and posture tell you about how the animals feel?
3. Compare this pages illustration to page 8. What are the similarities and differences?

Similarities	Differences

1. How have the animals attitudes changed?
2. Why have they changed?
3. Who has had to change to have this impact?
4. Did Leaf ever do anything to endanger the other animals – and if he hadnt done anything wrong the why were they so scared of him?
5. How do you feel those animal feel now?

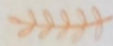
Whiteboard

...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...

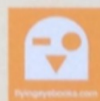


'Dieckmann beautifully weaves together some of today's most difficult themes into a deceptively simple tale.'

- Kirkus Reviews, STARRED REVIEW

'A beautiful debut.'

- Guardian



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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.	



1. Which is the most powerful character? Are they the same? What do the size and posture of the two creatures tell you about the relationship and emotions?
2. What words might they use to describe the polar bear or the crow?
3. Why has the artist used these colours?
4. How does this make you feel?
5. Where have the animals come from and where are they going?
6. 'Strange', 'creature', 'it' - What does this tell you about the crow's initial attitude towards the polar bear? How does the language set the bear up as 'the other and disempowered from the very beginning'?
7. How do author's choices describing the bear as **carried** upon the **dark** waves make the reader feel?

