



My Dog Bigsy

INDIVIDUAL ARTWORKS

Based on
My Dog Bigsy by Alison Lester

MY DOG BIGSY — Alison Lester

This lovely animal story provides an opportunity for students to create both individual and collaborative artworks. Students can respond by making **My Dog Bigsy** or extend the structure of the story by exploring the adventures of **their own or imagined pet**. Students can create a pet portrait with annotated notes using alliteration for the features of their pet or create a story map of a day in the life of their pet.

Materials

- 200 gsm Cartridge paper – for presentation
- Cartridge paper
- Fabric
- PVA glue
- Glue stick
- Pencil
- Koh I Nor watercolours
- Black oil pastel
- Watercolour brush
- Niko pen
- Water

How to make

- Review the first double page spread with the text, “**This is my dog Bigsy**”. Take particular note of how Alison Lester forms her simple line animal drawings, the features of **Bigsy**, and the use of arrow notes accompanied by descriptive language and alliteration to describe Bigsy’s features.
- Brainstorm and list the features that could be noted in a pet drawing (*whiskers, ears, head, tail, paws, tummy, spots, fur, hair, nose, eyes*).
- Referring to Lester’s page layout cut and glue (PVA) a strip of textured fabric at the base of the presentation cartridge paper to represent the ground. A good tip when collaging fabric is to pre glue it to backing paper.
- Assist students with sizing and onto cartridge paper draw the outline of Bigsy or their own pet and include a shadow line.
- Demonstrate how to use watercolours and a selected palette. Students then paint selected features and the shadow line of Bigsy or their pet. Set aside to dry.
- Outline the pet shape and details such as paws, eyes and whiskers with black oil pastel.
- Cut the pet shape out and glue (glue stick) onto the presentation cartridge, with the animal touching the collage fabric.
- Using a niko pen title the work – **MY PET** and add arrow lines with detailed notes about the pets features.

