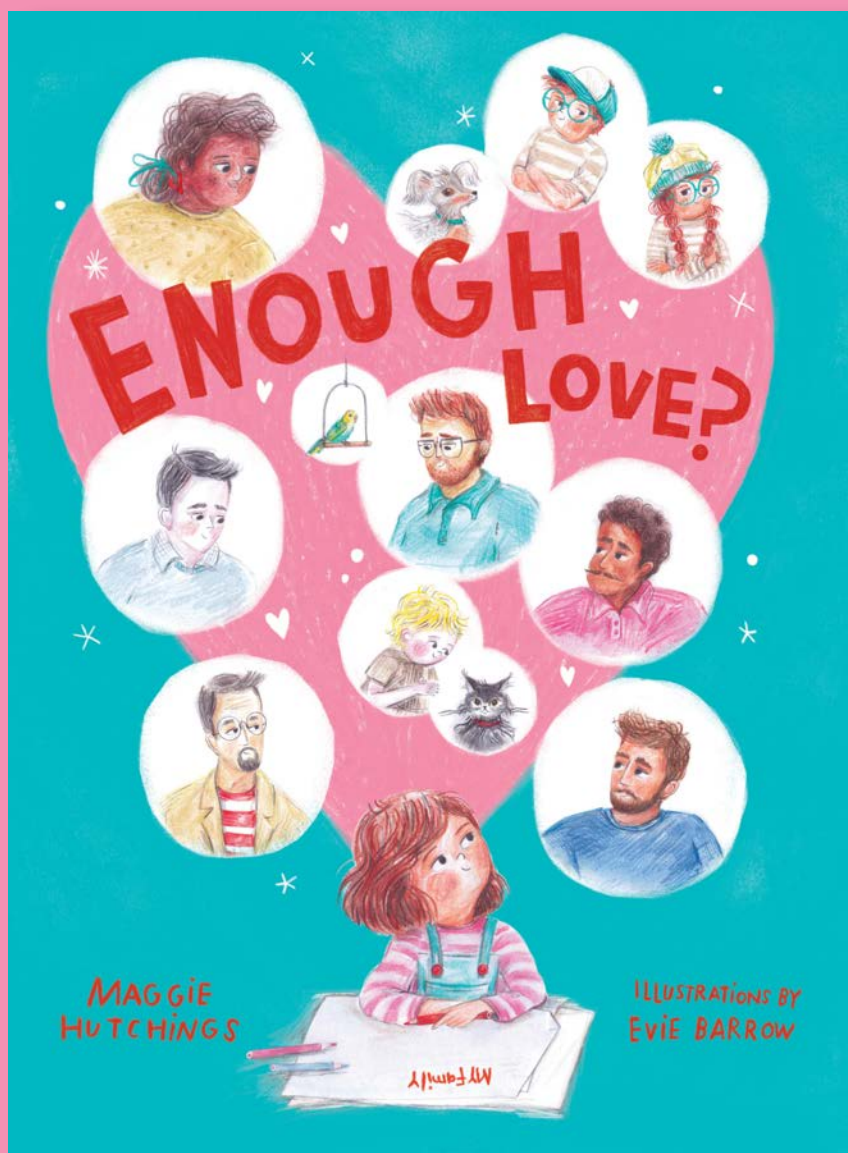


Teachers Notes and Activities



Written by
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Illustrated by
Evie Barrow

Suitable for
Ages 3-7

Themes
Family changes
Self-worth and identity
Sharing love

Contents of this pack

- Overview of *Enough Love?*
- Before we begin reading
- Key themes
- When we've finished reading: discussion points in key curriculum areas
- Final reflections
- Two activities: drawing and writing

Enough Love? synopsis

Willa had
one dad
one mum
one home
and a bird.

And that was enough.

So when Willa's parents split up, she's pretty sad. But at least they are still all hers. Until Dad meets Kevin and Willa's family starts to grow ... and keeps on growing. When will enough be enough? Or is there always room for more love?

Full of heart and bursting with warmth, *Enough Love?* is the funny and moving new picture book from the creative team behind *I Saw Pete and Pete Saw Me*.

About the author

Maggie is a counsellor, writer and artist who spends her weekends covered in paint! She is also a famously mad aunt, nanna and mother who talks to herself out loud and falls over a lot in the garden. Maggie writes stories with heart and soul for children and adults that encourage kindness, hope and resilience.

About the illustrator

Evie Barrow is an artist and illustrator based in Melbourne, Australia. Evie is inspired by the lovely ordinariness of daily life, Mallee country and the beauty of textures and imperfections. She uses a combination of textiles and colour pencils to make her art.

Find this book at our website:

<https://affirmpress.com.au/publishing/enough-love/>

Before we begin reading

- Have a look at the front cover; what do you think this book will be about?
- How many characters are on the cover?
- Who do you think all of the characters in the bubbles are?
- Who do you think is the main character in this story and why?

Key themes

Family changes

Many children experience changes in their family unit, and Willa is one of them. Throughout this book, Willa's family expands, which is a lot for her to come to terms with. She has new siblings to love and play with, and new parental figures to develop a bond with. By the end of the book, Willa has accepted the growth in her family and is looking forward to meeting her newest sibling. This book is a great resource for any child who is experiencing family changes and would benefit from seeing this reflected in literature.

Self-worth and identity

When Willa's family changes, she questions her own place in the family unit, and whether or not she is 'enough' for her parents to love. But this is Willa's worried reaction to the changes around her rather than a real reflection of what is happening for her family. This book can be used to discuss how it is natural for us to feel anxious or that we have done something wrong when circumstances change and feel out of our control. Willa learns that she has nothing to worry about: she is loved enough by her parents and they will always love her, and she comes to accept that adding new people into the family will not take that away.

Sharing love

Despite the changes happening within Willa's family, one thing stays constant: the love that the people in Willa's life have for each other. We see this in the way that the adults remain friends with each other, welcoming new partners and new children into their lives. We also see it in the way that Willa's mum encourages Willa to think of love as an infinite resource that can be shared with anyone. This book can be used as a tool to show that we can still be kind to each other even if our circumstances change, and that we always have room for more love to share with others if we want to.



When we've finished reading

Comprehension

- We know that Willa loves to draw! What kind of pictures does she draw in this book? How do the pictures change from the beginning to the end? What does this tell you about the story?
- After Mum and Dad get divorced, new people come into Willa's life. First of all, there's Kevin. And then there's Hooper. Why did Dad and Kevin decide to separate?
- Do we still see Kevin and Hooper later in the book? Why do you think that is?
- Hooper is a newborn baby when we meet her! Can you find the pages where she's growing up? What does that show you about time in this book?
- Willa is happy that Mum is still all hers, even after Dad has met someone new. But on pages 20 and 21, Mum now has Pietro. Study this picture: what is Willa doing? How might she feel in this moment? Why is Willa so upset when her Mum meets Pietro?
- When Willa asks her mum, 'Aren't I enough?' the letters on the page are large and red. Why might that be? How do you imagine Willa is asking this question?
- Mum asks Willa if she 'has room for more love'. What do you think this means? By the end of the book, has Willa found room for more love?
- On pages 29 and 30, we see Willa's big, wonderful family! Do you remember who is who? What is everyone doing in this picture? How does Willa look here?

Numeracy

- At the start of the book, how many people and animals are in Willa's family?
- By the end of the book, how many people and animals are in Willa's family?
- On page 14, Willa and Dad have baked cupcakes! How many cupcakes can you count?
- Willa loves to draw! On pages 18 and 19, Willa is drawing a picture with pencils. How many pencils can you count in this scene? Go through the whole book and see if Willa uses these same pencils or different ones for all of her pictures.
- We know that Willa has a bird. But can you find other birds in this book? How many?



- We see early on that Mum enjoys gardening. Count all the pages that contain flowers and plants. You might want to include Willa's drawings of flowers and plants too!

Knowledge and understanding of the world

- In this book, we see love shared among lots of people. How many people do you love?
- Families can look very different. Is your family like Willa's? If not, have you met families like Willa's?
- On page 31, Willa is shown taking a picture to the fridge. On the pages before that, her mum has a big tummy. When you put these things together, what does this mean for Willa's family? Who would this be a picture of?

Social and emotional development

- At the start of this book, we see Willa with her mum and dad. She mentions that they were 'happy together'. Look again at the picture here: what makes you think that her mum and dad are happy here?
- On page 4, we see Willa with a huge blue cloud above her head. What do you think the blue cloud means? How do you think Willa feels in this moment? Why?
- Has there been a time when your family changed? Perhaps you had a new sibling, or your parents separated. How did you feel in this time? If this happened a while ago, do you still feel the same way now?
- Willa admits that she didn't want to like Cora and Karl, but she does end up liking them. Is it possible to change our minds about people once we get to know them? Has this ever happened for you?
- Willa has to make room for more people in her life, and this means that there are more people to share her parents with. Do you think Willa enjoys sharing her parents with other people? Does she change her mind about this in the book?
- As families grow, we have more people to love. Do we all have room for more love?

Final reflections

- Do you have any questions about this story?
- Did you enjoy this story?
- If you could ask Willa a question, what would it be?
- What was your favourite picture in the book and why?

Activity One: My family portrait

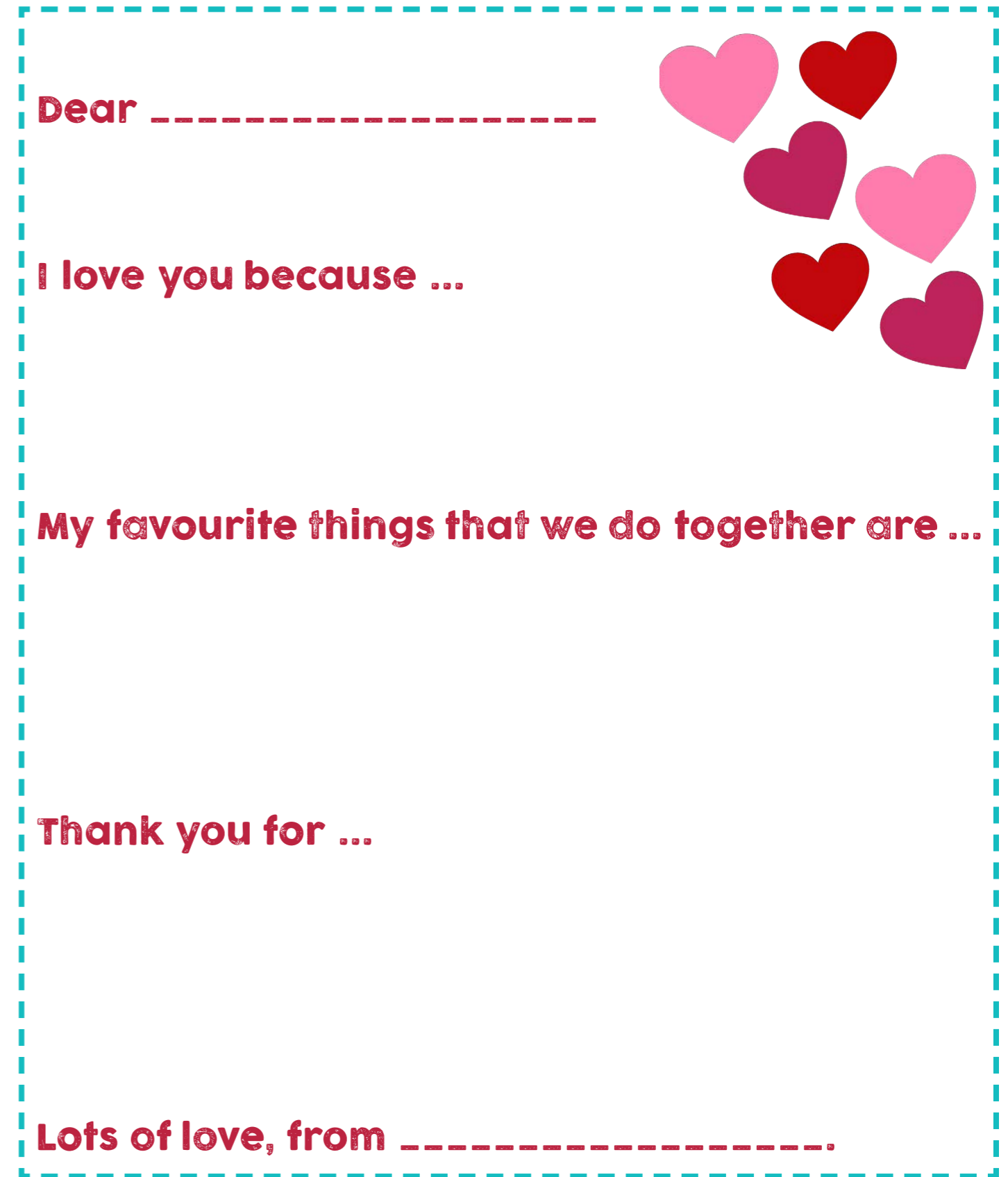
Take inspiration from Willa and draw or paint a family portrait of your own. You might want to draw yourself with a family member, a carer or pet. You could draw all of your family members, if they'll fit on the page! Or if you'd prefer not to do that, perhaps you can draw a picture of you and a friend instead? Grab a pencil, pen or paintbrush and get started! You can use the space below, or find a spare piece of paper.



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Activity Two: Love letters

Is there someone or something in your life that you're bursting with love for? It might be a family member or carer, a friend, a pet, a toy or even a favourite tree. Whatever or whoever it is, you might want to write a letter to tell them how much you appreciate them. You can make your own letter or fill in the space below.



Dear -----

I love you because ...

My favourite things that we do together are ...

Thank you for ...

Lots of love, from -----

