

# Author Study

## Lesson Sequence 1

### Purpose:

Critically evaluate an author's themes, characters and writing style.  
Make connections between the reader's own response to the books and relive and reflect on events in their own lives.

### Lesson 1

#### Author Immersion (For example, Graeme Base)

##### Whole class:

Read What is an Author Study.ppt (in bundled file).

##### Independent:

Divide class into groups of four. Give one or two books to each group. Ask students to look at them, read them and discuss their impression of the author. Exchange books among groups and continue until each group has read and looked at two to three.

##### Whole Class:

Discuss and record students' impressions of the author on the board.  
Questions to guide this discussion include:

- What do you think this author's interests are? What makes you think this?
- Where do you think he gets his ideas and inspiration? What makes you think this?
- Does his work remind you of anything else you have seen or read? What and how?
- Where do you think this author comes from? Why?

### Lesson 2

#### Author Immersion (For example, Dr Seuss)

Divide class into groups of four. Give one or two books to each group. Ask students to look at them, read them and discuss their impression of the author. Exchange books among groups and continue until each group has read and looked at two to three.

##### Whole class:

Discuss and record students' impressions of the author on the board.  
Questions to guide this discussion include:

- What do you think this author's interests are? What makes you think this?
- Where do you think he gets his ideas and inspiration?  
What makes you think this?
- Does his work remind you of anything else you have seen or read?  
What and how?
- Where do you think this author comes from? Why?



## Lesson 3

### Independent Author Study Project Introduction

#### Whole class:

Read a Jeannie Baker book. Class discussion. Topics to guide:

- Literary concepts like character, plot, setting, point of view, use of imagery, metaphor and word choice.
- Biographical clues about the author found in the books
- Students' own response to what was read.

#### Independent:

Read another Jeannie Baker book. Complete a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting the two books. (Use Venn diagram.doc).

## Lesson 4

### Whole Class Author Study Biography

#### Whole Class:

Prior to viewing the author's biography, whole class discussion. Questions to guide:

- What do you think Jeannie Baker looks like?
- How old do you think she is?
- How do you think she comes up with her ideas or images?
- How do you know this based on what you have read?

View <http://static.booktopia.com.au/pdf/9781406309140-1.pdf>

And <http://www.jeanniebaker.com/http://www.jeanniebaker.com>

## Lesson 5

### Whole Class Jeannie Baker (or other author)

#### Response Project

#### Whole Class:

Introduce project options. (Based on different learning styles).  
See Author Study Jeannie Baker project.pdf

#### Independent:

Decide what each student will do. Begin planning.

## Lesson 6 onwards

### Working independently on projects

Teacher conferences with students.

## Final lesson

### Present Jeannie Baker Author Study projects

Teacher completes Author Study Teacher Assessment (in bundled pdf).

Students complete and attach Author Study Student Checklist (in bundled PDF) to the front of their projects and hand in.

