

Teaching Notes: THE HAPPY MASK

Written by Aimee Chan
Illustrated by Angela Perrini
Published by Little Steps Publishing



SYNOPSIS

Maggie doesn't want to wear her mask. She thinks masks make people look mean. So Dad has an idea for how Maggie can show people how she really feels and still stay safe.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Aimee Chan is a magazine editor and writer. Her work has appeared in publications and websites all over the world including *Harper's BAZAAR*, *CNN*, *ELLE*, *The Weekend Australian* and *Cosmopolitan*. She likes reading, travelling and spending time with her friends and family, although not necessarily in that order. She lives in regional New South Wales, Australia. **Website:** www.aimeechan.com

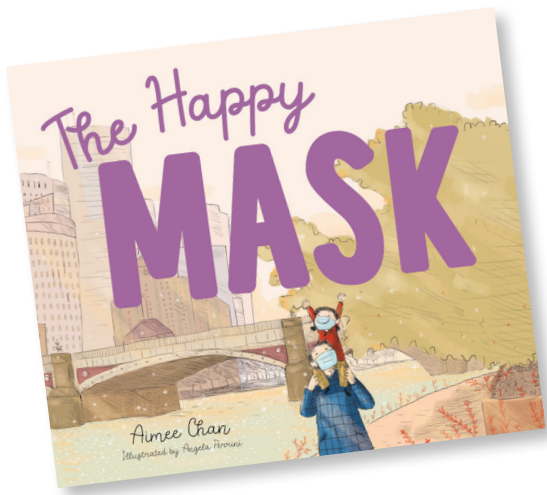
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Angela Perrini is an artist who also teaches drawing. Her illustrations have been published in several children's books. Angela creates contemporary images that are watercolour based and digitally finished. She has a degree in Art History and lives in Puglia, Italy. You can find her on Facebook @angelaperriniillustrations, Instagram @angelaperrini_illustrations and Twitter @angelaperrini.

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ANOTHER BOOK BY AIMEE & ANGELA





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EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

The Happy Mask is a joyful and inspirational book which shows how resilience and imagination can win in the face of adversity.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

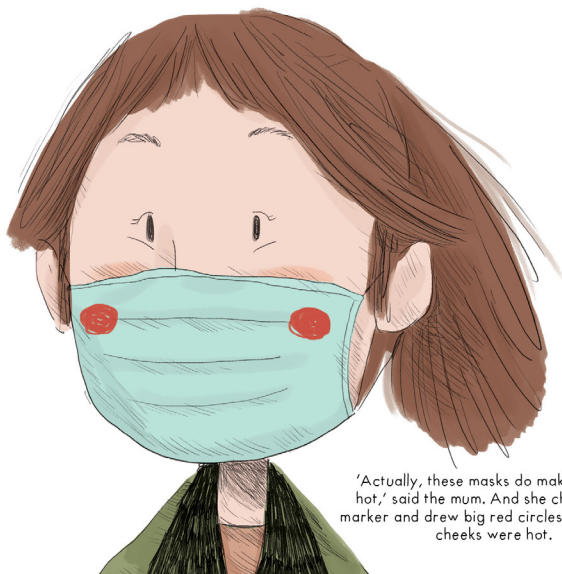
Read the book together, asking questions throughout.

1. Look at the cover of the book together. What do you think the story might be about?
2. How did you feel at the beginning of the lockdown in 2020? Were you shocked? Scared? Confused?
3. Were you happy to wear a mask or did it feel a bit strange at first?
4. How does Maggie feel about wearing a mask at the beginning of the story and how does she feel at the end of the story?
5. Once Maggie starts feeling happy, she is able to help others feel happy. Have you ever felt this way?
6. If you could draw something on your mask, what would you draw?
7. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?



The boy drew a big open mouth with lots of teeth and then a big empty space where his front tooth was missing. He was laughing so much when he did it that his lines went all squiggly.

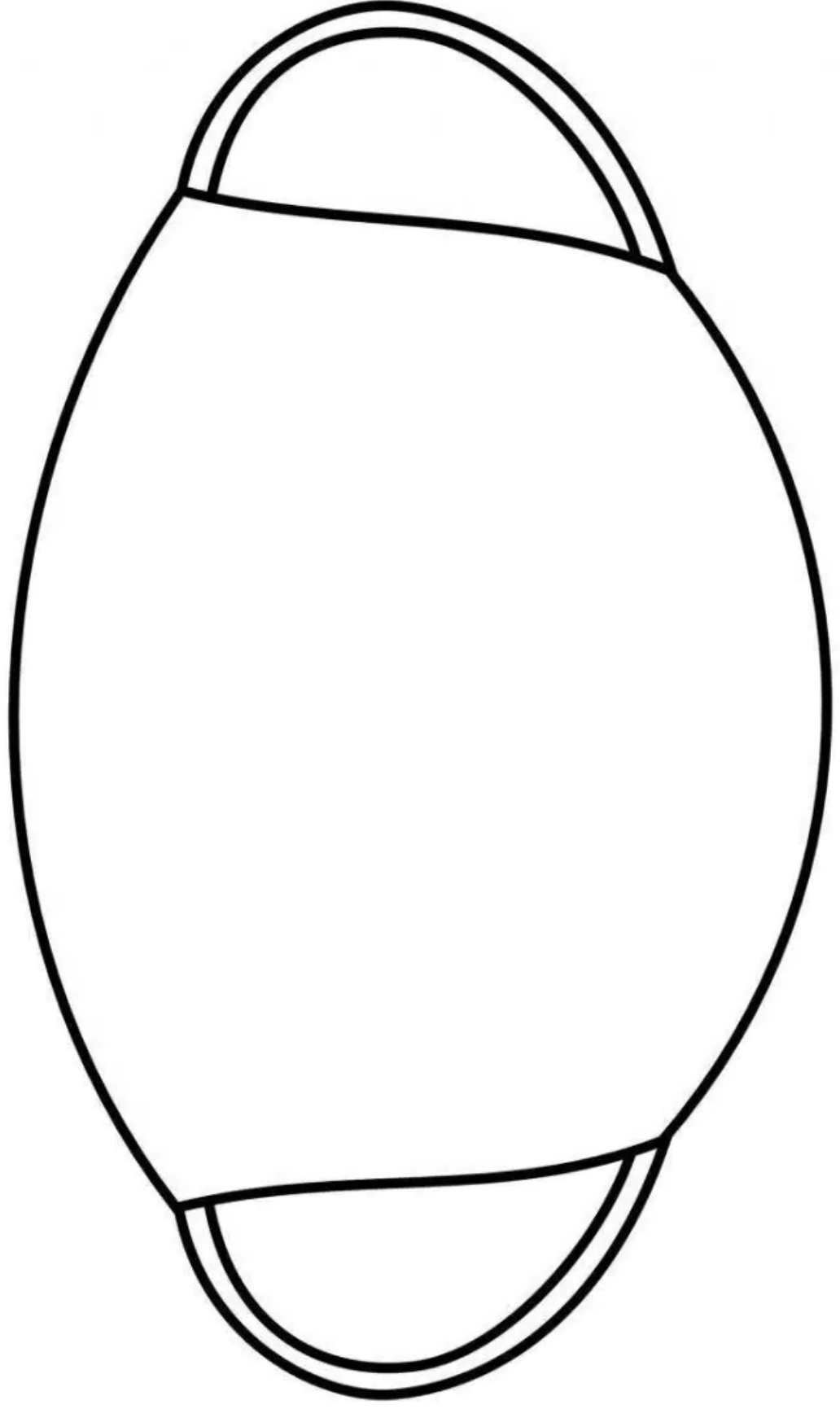
'Would you like to draw on your mask too?' Maggie asked the mum.



'Actually, these masks do make me very hot,' said the mum. And she chose a red marker and drew big red circles to show her cheeks were hot.

DESIGN YOUR OWN HAPPY MASK

Design and colour your own happy mask. Get some inspiration from the ideas in the story or create your own idea. Maybe you'll draw an animal face!



WRITE A HAPPY MASK POEM

Write an acrostic poem using the words HAPPY MASK. An acrostic poem is a poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word. You could write about all the different things you did in lockdown to keep happy or stay in touch with your family and friends.

H
A
P
P
Y
M
A
S
K

HOW ARE YOU FEELING? WORDSEARCH

Find all the words below in *The Happy Mask* wordsearch. Then, tick the feelings that you have felt!

C	E	E	O	S	C	D	D	T	T
P	E	V	C	H	E	E	K	Y	E
O	O	A	R	R	Z	T	Q	I	I
E	E	R	O	Y	H	A	P	P	Y
E	O	B	S	D	E	R	R	A	I
I	W	R	S	S	O	T	Z	E	T
I	Y	L	A	U	S	S	T	K	D
H	N	S	D	R	T	U	A	R	N
D	H	I	A	N	U	R	U	S	R
T	G	I	R	L	P	F	E	R	T

BORED
BRAVE
CHEEKY

CROSS
FRUSTRATED
HAPPY

PROUD
SAD



SOLUTION TO WORDSEARCH

C	E	E	O	S	C	D	D	T	T
P	E	V	C	H	E	E	K	Y	E
O	O	A	R	R	Z	T	Q	I	I
E	E	R	O	Y	H	A	P	P	Y
E	O	B	S	D	E	R	R	A	I
I	W	R	S	S	O	T	Z	E	T
I	Y	L	A	U	S	S	T	K	D
H	N	S	D	R	T	U	A	R	N
D	H	I	A	N	U	R	U	S	R
T	G	I	R	L	P	F	E	R	T

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