

# Rabbit Proof Fence Oxford Bookworms Library Zarlo

## Rabbit-Proof Fence: An Oxford Bookworms Library Edition Exploration

The powerful story of \*Rabbit-Proof Fence\*, adapted for the Oxford Bookworms Library, offers a compelling and accessible entry point into a significant piece of Australian history. This accessible edition, often sought after by learners of English as a foreign language (EFL) and readers seeking age-appropriate versions of impactful narratives, allows exploration of themes of resilience, cultural identity, and the devastating impact of colonialism. This article delves into the Zarlo edition’s specifics, examining its suitability for different learners, exploring the novel’s literary merit, and discussing its educational value.

### A Synopsis of the Oxford Bookworms Library Adaptation

\*Rabbit-Proof Fence\*, adapted by Doris Pilkington Garimara, recounts the extraordinary true story of three Aboriginal girls – Molly, Daisy, and Gracie – who escape from a government settlement in Western Australia in the 1930s. Stolen from their families as part of the forced assimilation policies of the time, these young girls embark on a daring 1,500-mile journey across the harsh Australian outback, guided only by their innate knowledge of the land and their unwavering determination to return home. The Zarlo edition, part of the Oxford Bookworms Library's graded readers, simplifies the language, making the story accessible to a wider audience of English language learners, whilst still preserving the emotional power and historical significance of the original narrative. This makes it particularly suitable for EFL learners at intermediate levels.

### Analyzing the Text: Language Level and Literary Merit

The Oxford Bookworms Library's reputation for high-quality graded readers is well-deserved. The Zarlo edition of \*Rabbit-Proof Fence\* carefully adapts the language to suit the target reading level without compromising the narrative's emotional depth. The vocabulary is carefully chosen, incorporating age-appropriate terminology and avoiding overly complex sentence structures. The simplified language enables readers to focus on the story's powerful themes and emotional resonance without getting bogged down by challenging vocabulary or intricate syntax. Despite the simplification, the narrative remains impactful, effectively conveying the harsh realities faced by the girls and the profound cultural significance of their journey.

This adaptation falls under the 'Library' series, which implies a focus on quality and faithfulness to the original narrative, thereby enhancing its credibility as a valuable learning resource. The story’s pacing, interspersed with moments of tension, suspense, and quiet reflection, makes it engaging for readers of varying backgrounds and experiences. This feature makes \*Rabbit-Proof Fence\* an ideal choice for students and readers across diverse age groups and linguistic proficiency levels.

### Educational Value and Implementation Strategies

\*Rabbit-Proof Fence\* offers immense educational value, extending beyond simple language acquisition. It provides a potent platform for discussing significant historical events, promoting critical thinking, and fostering cultural understanding. The narrative directly addresses topics including:

- **Colonialism and its impact:** The book serves as a powerful illustration of the devastating consequences of colonialism and the forced removal of Indigenous children from their families.
- **Resilience and determination:** The girls' incredible journey highlights their strength, determination, and unwavering commitment to their families and cultural heritage. This makes it an exceptional vehicle to promote discussions on resilience and perseverance.
- **Cultural identity and preservation:** The story underscores the importance of cultural identity and the enduring strength of Aboriginal culture in the face of adversity.
- **Geographical knowledge:** The detailed descriptions of the Australian outback provide an opportunity to explore geography and the challenges of navigating a harsh environment.

Teachers can use the book in various ways, including:

- **Vocabulary building exercises:** Focusing on key vocabulary and contextual clues.
- **Discussion-based activities:** Exploring themes, characters, and historical context.
- **Creative writing prompts:** Encouraging students to write from different perspectives or continue the narrative.
- **Research projects:** Investigating further into Australian history, the Stolen Generations, and Aboriginal culture.

The readily available online resources associated with the Oxford Bookworms Library and the broader historical context of the narrative further enhance its educational potential.

## Comparison with other Adapted Versions and the Value of the Zarlo Edition

Multiple versions of \*Rabbit-Proof Fence\* exist, but the Oxford Bookworms Library Zarlo edition stands out due to its careful balance between linguistic simplification and narrative fidelity. Other adaptations might oversimplify the plot or sacrifice the emotional impact in favor of ease of reading. The Zarlo edition avoids these pitfalls, making it a particularly valuable resource for English language learners who wish to engage with a challenging yet rewarding narrative. Furthermore, its availability within the widely recognized Oxford Bookworms Library lends it credibility and ensures accessibility for educators and students alike. The structured language and carefully selected vocabulary, typical of Oxford Bookworms editions, make it a truly valuable addition to any EFL curriculum.

## Conclusion

The Oxford Bookworms Library Zarlo edition of \*Rabbit-Proof Fence\* presents a compelling and accessible way to explore a crucial chapter in Australian history. Its carefully adapted language, coupled with the inherent power of the story, makes it an excellent resource for EFL learners and a valuable tool for promoting cultural understanding and critical thinking. The book’s lasting impact lies in its ability to evoke empathy, stimulate discussion, and leave readers with a deeper appreciation for resilience, cultural identity, and the enduring strength of the human spirit.

## FAQ

### Q1: What is the reading level of the Rabbit-Proof Fence Oxford Bookworms Library Zarlo edition?

A1: The Zarlo edition is typically geared towards intermediate learners of English as a Foreign Language. The vocabulary and sentence structure are simplified, making it accessible to students at this level, while still offering a challenging and engaging reading experience. The exact level is often indicated within the book's metadata or on the publisher's website.

### Q2: Is the Zarlo edition a complete adaptation or an abridged version?

A2: The Zarlo edition is an adapted version, meaning that the language has been simplified to suit the target reading level. While some minor adjustments might be made to the narrative flow to enhance readability, it aims to retain the core narrative and emotional impact of the original story. It is not an abridged version that significantly cuts the plotline.

### Q3: What makes the Oxford Bookworms Library version superior to other adaptations?

A3: The Oxford Bookworms Library is known for its rigorous editing and attention to detail. The Zarlo edition benefits from this quality control, providing a carefully balanced adaptation that prioritizes both linguistic accessibility and narrative integrity. Other adaptations might oversimplify the narrative or compromise the emotional depth of the story to achieve linguistic ease.

### Q4: How can I use this book in a classroom setting?

A4: This book lends itself to a variety of classroom activities. Teachers can use it for vocabulary building, discussions on key themes (colonialism, resilience, cultural identity), creative writing assignments (e.g., writing from the girls' perspective or continuing the story), and research projects exploring Australian history and Aboriginal culture.

### Q5: Are there accompanying teacher resources for the Oxford Bookworms Library edition?

A5: While dedicated teacher's guides are not always explicitly bundled, Oxford University Press often provides supplementary materials online, such as vocabulary lists and comprehension questions, making the book particularly valuable for classroom usage. Searching the Oxford University Press website with the book's title is recommended.

**Q6: What are the key themes explored in the novel?**

A6: The key themes revolve around family separation due to the Stolen Generations, the resilience and determination of Indigenous Australians, the importance of cultural identity and land connection, the harsh realities of the Australian outback, and the enduring power of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

**Q7: Is the book suitable for young adult readers outside of an educational setting?**

A7: Absolutely! While its accessibility makes it valuable for EFL learners, the compelling story and its powerful themes make it an engaging read for young adult readers generally interested in historical fiction, narratives of resilience, and social justice.

**Q8: Where can I purchase the Oxford Bookworms Library Zarlo edition of Rabbit-Proof Fence?**

A8: The book is widely available from online retailers such as Amazon, booksellers specializing in educational materials, and directly from the Oxford University Press website. Checking local bookstores may also yield results.

## **Rabbit-Proof Fence: A Journey Through Adaptation and Resilience - An Oxford Bookworms Library Exploration**

The Oxford Bookworms Library's adaptation of Doris Pilkington Garimara's "Rabbit-Proof Fence" offers a captivating journey into a significant fragment of Australian heritage. This condensed version, often utilized in scholastic settings, makes the powerful story accessible to a wider audience , particularly younger readers . Zarlo, the main character in the book, alongside her sisters and grandmother, embodies the unrelenting determination of Aboriginal people fighting for their claim to family and land. This paper will delve into the narrative merits of this version , its teaching value, and the enduring inheritance of the original novel .

The heart of the tale centers around the forced removal of three young Aboriginal girls, Molly, Daisy, and Gracie, from their family and community. They are taken from their dwelling and sent to a mission designed to assimilate them into white Australian culture . This is where the narrative truly grips , depicting the children's incredible journey as they escape from the mission and embark on a perilous voyage across hundreds of miles of harsh Australian countryside , guided only by their innate knowledge of the land and their unwavering commitment to return home.

The Oxford Bookworms Library edition, tailored for advanced beginner English language students , utilizes a reduced vocabulary and sentence structure. This allows the complex themes of the story more accessible without sacrificing the emotional impact. The straightforward language improves understanding for younger readers, enabling them to interact with the profound tale and its crucial moral.

The book is not merely a narrative of persistence; it's a potent commentary on the historical injustices suffered by Aboriginal Australians. It highlights the devastating consequences of the Stolen Generations policy and the enduring suffering inflicted upon individuals. Zarlo's quest transforms a symbol of resilience, of the power of familial bonds, and the unwavering connection to one's heritage land. The learners witness this resilience through Zarlo's actions , her unwavering focus on reaching her destination , and her resourcefulness in traversing the vast and unforgiving environment.

The narrator's technique is both touching and inspiring . The descriptions of the terrain are vivid , painting a picture of both the magnificence and the harsh realities of the Australian outback . The psychological journeys of the characters are equally compelling , captivating the audience into their difficulties and triumphs .

In an instructional context , "Rabbit-Proof Fence" offers invaluable chances for debate on topics such as historical heritage , social justice, and the importance of community ties. The book's straightforward language makes it appropriate for teaching use across a variety of ages, sparking thought-provoking discussions and critical contemplation. Teachers can use the book as a springboard for examining broader topics related to colonialism, reconciliation, and the ongoing fight for Aboriginal rights .

In summary , the Oxford Bookworms Library edition of "Rabbit-Proof Fence" provides an accessible yet powerfully affecting tale that explores themes of endurance , fortitude, and the fight for cultural legacy. Its adapted language makes it an invaluable resource for educational purposes, while its powerful tale remains universally relevant . The book's enduring lesson serves as a warning of the importance of recognition

for native communities and their heritage .

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### **Q1: What age group is this book most suitable for?**

A1: The Oxford Bookworms Library edition is tailored for intermediate English language learners, typically aged 11 and upwards, but can be enjoyed by older readers as well.

#### **Q2: What makes this version different from the original novel?**

A2: The Oxford Bookworms Library edition simplifies the language and sentence structure to make the story more accessible to learners of English as a second language. The core narrative remains the same.

#### **Q3: What are the key educational benefits of using this book in the classroom?**

A3: It provides a platform to discuss historical injustice, cultural identity, resilience, and the importance of family and community. It also enhances English language learning through engaging content.

#### **Q4: Are there any accompanying resources available for teachers?**

A4: While not explicitly stated, many educational publishers offer supplementary materials (worksheets, lesson plans, etc.) alongside their Bookworm editions. Checking the publisher's website or contacting them directly might yield further information.

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