



# Queensland Museum Kids' Collection

**TEACHER NOTES AND PARENT SUPPORT MATERIAL  
LEARNING ACTIVITIES**





# Count Me First!

Teacher Notes and Parent Support Material



## Learning Activities

| PAGES   | TEACHING   | LEARNING  |
|---|--|---|
| Cover and title page  | Text prediction from title   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children discuss the children on the cover and predict where each child may live and present national costume and dress. Discuss how they can check their knowledge and ideas.</li> </ol> |
| Children choose one ornament (child from one country) and research deeper knowledge to present as a project or homework task. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Identity and costume</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• Learn 3 facts more... Learning facts from a research site.</li> </ul> | Children engage in new bird names and extend their knowledge with looking up these birds on the internet to learn three new facts about each bird.  |
| Discuss sequencing words  | Matching correct illustration to correct ordinal number.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discerning numbers</li> <li>2. Listing illustration</li> <li>3. Matching according to sequence of text</li> </ol>   |
| All pages   | Geography  | Children learn where each child lives by the direction of world maps, google etc...   |
| Music   | Performance Poetry   | Children use music file to support singing and presentation of text to song for fetes, concerts etc.<br>Children dress as children of the world for their performance.  |
| Museum Visit  | Museum excursion   | Children can visit these ornaments on level three at the South Bank Campus of the Queensland Museum.  |



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| Ordinal Number | Child of the nations |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 3rd            |                      |
| 10th           |                      |
| 7th            |                      |
| 8th            |                      |
| 1st            |                      |
| 5th            |                      |
| 2nd            |                      |
| 4th            |                      |
| 6th            |                      |
| 9th            |                      |



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## Performance Arts:

- Using the text of the book, make masks or costumes and perform the piece.
- There is a backing track for your class which is located at Queensland Museum Learning Link for this title. There is also a track with a solo voice demonstrating the vocal line to assist staff and children to sing along with the correct phrasing to the musical notes.
- Once children are confident with the lyrics, you can use the backing track with no voice over to perform [Count Me First!](#) for fetes, concerts, parent days, open days, grandparent days etc.

# A letter in the post...

We would love to hear from you... and your students.



**Email:** You can email the Author at: [donna@donnadyson.com](mailto:donna@donnadyson.com)

**Snail Mail:** You can mail a letter to the author care of the Queensland Museum Publishing Department.

Address your snail mail envelopes like this:

Author Mail: Donna Dyson  
Queensland Museum Publishing  
PO Box 3300,  
South Brisbane BC, Queensland 4101

Donna Dyson tries hard to reply to all class and student mail and you can expect your reply to be returned as soon as possible.

In many cases, [one class letter](#) is sent from the author to the class as a whole.

Individual questions or special comments relating to a few students may be included in this class letter.

The letters are always [written fresh](#) and respond to the student's interests. There is [no generic letter](#), so children can be specific.

You might like to [send images or utube link of your class performing](#) any of the titles of this series. Make sure you have a [media release](#) signed by your student's parents and cleared with your school administration, before sending us images please. These images may be used for marketing and promotion for QM learning on our website.

[We love hearing from you and your students!](#)  
[If your students need assistance with letter writing, a template follows.](#)

# Letter Writing:

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Your school **name** goes here

Your school **address** goes here

Your school **suburb, State and Postcode** go here

Leave this line with no writing on it here.

The date goes here. It is written like this example: 5th March, 2011

Leave two lines with no writing on it here\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_+\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mrs Dyson,

Write your letter here. You might want to write about your favourite part of a book Mrs. Dyson wrote, or about your favourite book you have ever read. You might like to ask a question about writing or how books are made which is not covered on her website.

Tell Mrs Dyson about your story writing at school , what you enjoy and are good at in school, your sports, hobbies or pets. Mrs Dyson loves hearing all of your thoughts and news. She tries hard to write back to you as soon as possible. She **can not write to your home mailbox**, but she will send you a **snail mail** letter back through your school. Make sure you write your full name, class and school name very carefully. This is how Mrs Dyson's letter will find you.

If you write by **email** to Mrs Dyson, she will simply reply by your email address as long as it is a school email. Mrs Dyson **will not reply to home email addresses or facebook sites**. Proofread your email with your teacher who will assist you to send your email so that your school email address is correct. This makes it easy for Mrs Dyson to easily reply to you or your class.

Author visits from Mrs Dyson, are arranged with your teacher /school librarian / head of curriculum or principal. Mrs Dyson does enjoy visiting schools, but sometimes she is unable to reach all schools. **Doctor Dan** from the book **Your Shipwreck Adventure** is unable to visit schools, but he **does reply** to all emails. Remember there really is a Doctor Dan! When you finish all the news you end your letter with an ending such as **kind regards, or yours truly, or yours sincerely**.

**Kind regards,**

Then you sign your name here in your fanciest signature.

*Sam Smith*

Mrs Dyson likes you to PRINT your name very clearly in your best writing at the end.

Sam Smith. (Well done! Now it is time to post or email your letter!)

