

TIMELESS

KELLY CANBY

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YEAR LEVEL: K-3

ABOUT THE BOOK

Emit (whose parents turned back time to name him) is surrounded by busyness. Dad is too busy to read stories, Mum is too busy to play games and Emit's brother and sister are simply too busy doing nothing to do anything, at all. Emit tries everything he can think of to get more time, he tries to catch it, wait for it, but it's not until Emit tries to buy some time that he learns the secret which is, if you want time, you have to make it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kelly Canby is an award-winning, internationally published illustrator and author. Kelly was born in London, but has lived in Australia since the age of three, which is probably around the same age she started playing with pencils and crayons, and it was probably only a few years after that that she decided playing with pencils and crayons was something she wanted to do for the rest of her life. Her books include *Rodney*, *The Hole Story* and *Little Light*.

THEMES

- Family
- Lifestyles
- Perseverance

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM OUTCOMES

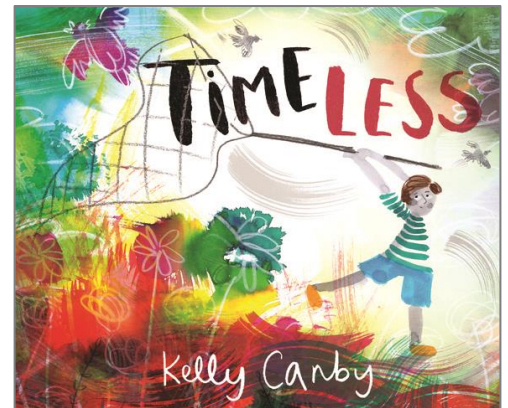
K-3 English

K-3 Humanities and Social Sciences

K-3 Visual Art

USEFUL WEBSITES

- Author's website: kellycanby.com
- Author's Instagram: [instagram.com/kelly_canby](https://www.instagram.com/kelly_canby)
- Author's Facebook: [facebook.com/KellyCanbyArt](https://www.facebook.com/KellyCanbyArt)
- Author's Twitter: twitter.com/kelcanby



CLASSROOM IDEAS

Discussion questions

1. Before reading the book, look at the cover and read the title. What do you think this story will be about? Who do you think will be the main character?
2. The title of this book is *Timeless* – what does the word ‘timeless’ mean? The cover design shows that there is a double meaning in the title. By using two different colours, the word ‘timeless’ has been broken into ‘time’ and ‘less’. What does this tell you about the story?
3. The very first and last pages of a book are called endpapers. This book’s endpapers feature shops with ‘pun’ names. What is a pun? Which is your favourite pun from this book? Explain why these puns from the book are funny:
 - a. Olive Yew, marriage celebrant
 - b. C. Good, optometrist
 - c. Holly Day, travel agent
 - d. Frida Livery’s Postal Service
4. Can you come up with your own pun name for a shop or business?
5. What does it mean that Emit’s parents ‘turned back time to name him’? (p. 11)
6. Describe the character of Emit. Do you and Emit have anything in common?
7. What activities does Emit want to do with his family? What activities do you like to do with your family?
8. What do you think Emit’s parents do for work? What clues can you find in the illustrations?
9. What is a ‘mint’? (p. 22) Why did Emit think he may find time at the museum, art gallery, mint or bank?
10. The advertisement on page 26 reads, ‘This year, give the gift of time’. Emit thinks this means you can buy time at a shop. Look at the pictures on the advertisement. What does it really mean?
11. What does ‘filled to the brim with excitement’ mean? (p. 26) Can you think of another way to say this?
12. What does the shopkeeper mean when she says, ‘If time is what you want, you have to make it’? (p. 30) How can you *make* time?
13. How does Emit make time at the end of the book? Do you think this is a real way to make time, or is it symbolic?
14. Emit’s shop is called ‘Quality Time’. (p. 32) What does the word ‘quality’ mean? What is ‘quality time’?
15. This book includes many common sayings about time. Make a list of sayings from the book, then add any others you know.
16. Discuss with a partner or small group what you think these sayings from the book mean:
 - a. ‘Time is precious’
 - b. ‘Time stands still’
 - c. ‘Give the gift of time’
17. Do you ever feel like you don’t have enough time? What takes up your time?
18. What things do you like to spend time on? What things do you not like to spend time on?
19. What lesson does Emit learn in this book? Do you think anyone else learnt this lesson? How can you tell?
20. What question(s) would you like to ask author and illustrator, Kelly Canby?

Creative writing

1. Divide a large piece of paper into three sections. Write or draw what happens in the beginning, middle and end of the story.
2. If you had an extra hour each day, what would you do with it?
3. Write a short review for this book (or use symbols, like emojis, to express your thoughts). Include whether you enjoyed the book and who else might enjoy it.
4. Write a poem based on the saying, ‘time flies’ (p. 13).
5. Imagine Emit sees the shopkeeper again after the end of the book. What do you think he would say to her?

Humanities and Social Sciences

1. The first spread shows the members of Emit’s family. (pp. 1–2) How is Emit’s family similar or different to your own?
2. Emit’s family is very busy. Discuss with a partner or small group: In general, do you think families in the past (i.e. when your parents or grandparents were children) were more or less busy than they are today? Would the answer be the same around the world?

3. What technology can you see Emit's family using? Do you think technology has increased or decreased busyness?

Visual Art

1. How would you describe the style of the illustrations in *Timeless*? What medium (i.e. paint, pencil, digital, photography, etc.) do you think the illustrator used to create the artwork? Why do you think this medium was chosen?
2. The selection of colours used in a piece of art is called the colour palette. What colour palette has the illustrator used in this book? Why do you think these colours were chosen? How do they make you feel?
3. Some of the illustrations show how busy the characters are. How do the illustrations help create a feeling of busyness?
4. What is negative space? Has the illustrator included negative space in the illustrations? What is the effect?
5. Which is your favourite illustration from the book? Why?
6. Create an artwork in a similar style to *Timeless*. Did you enjoy creating art in this style? Which parts were easy and difficult?
7. The spread on pages 17–18 shows members of Emit's family over time. Draw three boxes on a large sheet of paper to represent picture frames, then draw pictures of a person or family at different times in their life. For example, you could draw a picture of yourself as a baby, toddler and now, or the same person as a child, teenager and adult.