

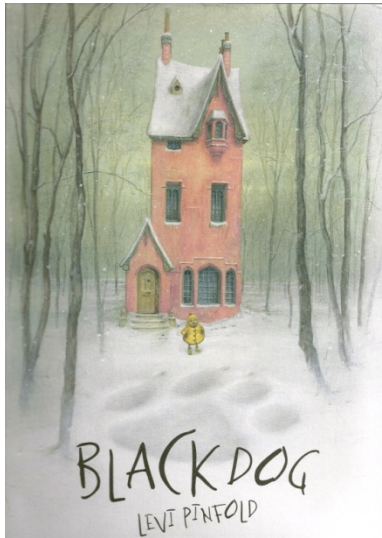
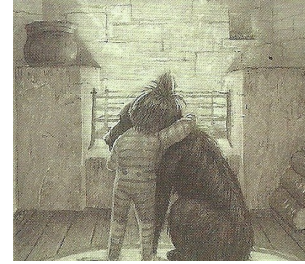
Notes to support Greenaway shadowing groups

Evaluating artistic quality: start with colour, line, shape and space

Title: BLACK DOG

Author and Illustrator: **Levi Pinfold**

Publisher: **Templar**



1. FIRST LOOK

Of all the books on the Greenaway list, this one is possibly the most visually complex. Start with a read through, without making comments, holding the book up so everyone can see the pictures as they listen. Each picture then deserves to be searched carefully in order to pick up all the details. For example, look at Maurice Hope's bedroom:

How many things can you see that are associated with:

- **fear?**
- **warfare?**
- **flight?**

Do these have any significance to the story?

2. LOOK AGAIN

*Tell each other your first responses to the artistic quality.

Try to explain why you like or dislike something.

*Is the black dog on the front cover? What is? If you have a hard back copy, take the dust-jacket off and see what is on the front cover.

*Study the full page pictures to find all the details of the family's life. Can you see:

- **a small, bright green octopus?**
- **a collection of model owls?**
- **a pink elephant shape?**

*Look closely at every visual aspect, i.e. end papers, font choices, title page and layout, as well as the pictures. Talk about how these extra graphics contribute to the overall impact of the book.



3. DID YOU SEE?

*Follow the story told in the small sepia pictures. How do they add more meanings to the words and images?

*When Small meets the great big Black Dog she asks: 'What are you doing here, you guffin?'

Find out what **guffin** means then work out why Small is not afraid of the dog.

Look up on the Internet 'black dog (ghost)' to find out about other tales.