

## Notes to support Greenaway shadowing groups

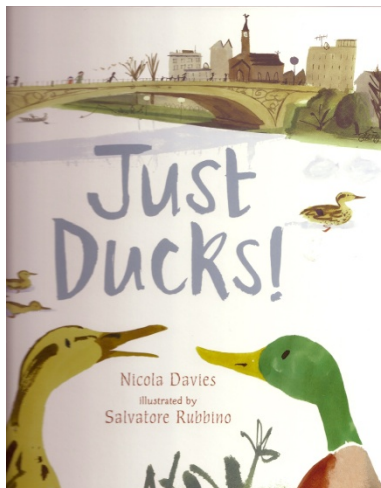
Evaluating artistic quality: start with colour, line, shape and space

# Title: JUST DUCKS!

Illustrator: **Salvatore Rubbino**

Author: **Nicola Davies**

Publisher: **Macmillan**



## 2. LOOK AGAIN

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

\*Try to explain why you like or dislike something.

\*In this book Salvatore Rubbino paints an artistic interpretation of being a duck –the ways it looks and moves. Do you think the pictures convey duck-like feelings?

\*Look at the water in the pictures.

How effective is the medium of paint to illustrate water?

\*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.

## 1. FIRST LOOK

This book is a narrative non-fiction text; i.e. a made up story which gives accurate information. Usually, non-fiction is illustrated with photography or drawings which are as close to reality as possible. In *Just Ducks!* the artist uses paint to explore and express the fluidity of the birds and their environment. Loosely flowing brushstrokes are speckled with splotches, dots and lines of colour that give an impression of lively movement – reminiscent of children's art work but, in fact, far more sophisticated and skilful. Do you like this illustration style?

## 3. LOOK FURTHER

Look in the library for other non-fiction books about animals. What different media are used to illustrate the books. Do they use the very free painting technique used in *Just Ducks!*?

Do your own illustration - painting, drawing or collage - of wild animals or birds. Do a display of the books and your artwork.