Second-hand SUPERSTARS

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Second-hand Superstars

Level 29

Running Words 7125 **Text Type** Narrative (Imaginative)

Curriculum Areas Literacy; Personal and Social Capability; Sustainability

Oral Literacy Focus for Students

Key issues from the text to encourage critical thinking and stimulate group discussions:

1 Discuss reasons why Mia was so unpleasant to Sasha when her friends and other students were nearby.

2 Explain why students at some schools are not required to wear a uniform

3 Suggest volunteer work that students your age could do on a regular basis

4 Discuss the influence that Miles had on the outcome of the fashion show.

5 Discuss why fashion is very important to some people.

Written Literacy Focus for Students

Key issue from the text to present in visual and written form to an audience:

1 Research the topic 'Recycling in the Future'.

2 Prepare a speech that would be suitable to present to children aged 5–7 years. Include actual examples.

3 Edit and revise your text.

4 Present your speech at an assembly.

5 Critically evaluate your presentation.

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 29	Book	Narrative	*Tennis Club Tension*
Level 30	Book	Narrative	*Darwin Wong Goes to China*

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Chapter 1

The Hat and Scarf

"Wow, it's so cold!" shivered Sasha, pulling her new purple scarf tightly around her neck as she walked across the schoolyard with her best friend, Kaz. She adjusted her hat to cover her ears. The winter sun shone brightly, but a freezing wind blew across the yard, scattering a few brown leaves left over from autumn and whistling around the corners of the school building.

It was lunchtime. Some kids were playing basketball on the nearby court, leaping and shouting as they ran about. Others were sitting on benches, eating or talking as they watched the game.

Kaz stuck her hands deeper into the pockets of her coat. "It feels cold enough to snow," she grumbled. "I don't like winter."

Sasha smiled. "I love days like this, even if it is cold. It's so sunny and bright."

"Well, that beautiful hat and scarf you've got are probably keeping you warmer than me," replied Kaz.



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"Mum bought them for me at the op shop last week," said Sasha.

Sasha's mum volunteered at the local second-hand store twice a week. Sometimes, Sasha went with her and looked through all the clothes and other items that people had donated to the store. When they were sold, the money went to charity.

"Your mum finds some great stuff at that shop," said Kaz.

The girls stopped to watch the basketball game for a minute. One player leapt high in the air, throwing the ball through the hoop with ease.

"Go, Marcus!" yelled two girls at the side of the court. Their names were Mia and Anna, and they were Marcus's friends. All three played basketball for a local club, outside of school. They were popular at school, too.

Mia turned around and stared at Sasha and Kaz as they walked towards the court. Suddenly, she pointed at Sasha and yelled, "Where did you get that hat and scarf? They look just like my sister's. Hey, they *are* my sister's! My grandma knitted them for her."

Everyone turned to look at Sasha. Even the kids playing basketball stopped for a moment and stared.

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Sasha froze and put her hand up to the scarf. "These are mine," she murmured. "My mum gave them to me. You must be mistaken."

Mia walked over, shaking her head. "No, I'm not," she insisted. "That's definitely my sister's hat and scarf. They were too old, so Mum bought her new ones and donated these to the second-hand store near our school. Your mum works there, right?"

Anna sniggered.

Sasha blushed and hung her head. "So what if they're second-hand?" she whispered. "The store has lots of good recycled clothes, and my mum helps out there as a volunteer."

"Yuck, I wouldn't wear someone else's dirty old clothes," said Mia.

"They're not dirty!" exclaimed Kaz, who could see poor Sasha was embarrassed. "Everything at that shop has been checked and cleaned before being put on sale."

"Get your own clothes, Sasha," laughed Marcus, bouncing the ball at the side of the basketball court. "It's not cool to wear other people's old clothes."

"What do you know?" Kaz asked angrily. "Didn't you bring a stinky old basketball singlet to school that a famous player gave you?"

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"That's different," said Mia. "That was a collectable item from a celebrity, not old clothing from an op shop."

Sasha was so upset that she pulled off the hat and scarf, and quickly walked away. The bell rang for class to begin and she pushed them into her school bag, so nobody could see them.

The rest of the day passed slowly, and when home time finally arrived, Sasha raced out of the schoolyard ahead of the other kids. She was worried that somebody would say something horrible about her hat and scarf again.

"Sasha, wait for me," called out Kaz.

But Sasha didn't hear her because she was running so fast. She didn't stop until she got home.



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Chapter 2

Chris's Clever Idea

Sasha's dad had made her favourite meal for dinner – spaghetti bolognaise. He was a fantastic cook, and when he made a big pot of spaghetti, the whole family sat down together to eat it. Sasha had two older sisters and a brother. Her sisters, Kerrie and Kate, didn't live at home. They shared a flat together near their work, but they visited often. Sasha's big brother, Chris, lived in a small unit at the back of their house that he called his "studio". Chris was a musician. He played guitar in a band called "Chris and the Terriers" and was hoping to be famous some day. He always said he was just waiting for his "big break".

"Come on, Sasha, eat up!" laughed Dad, as he scooped large helpings of spaghetti onto everyone's plates. "I know it's your favourite."

Sasha tried to smile when her mum gave her some crispy garlic bread, but she wasn't hungry and couldn't eat much. She excused herself from the table as soon as she could and went to her room.

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One day at school, Sasha is teased for wearing second-hand clothes. Sasha's brother, Chris, comes up with an idea to cheer her up and show everyone how wearing recycled clothing can benefit people and the planet. Sasha's best friend, Kaz, is keen to help out, too.

With the assistance of a mystery guest, their plan might just work!



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Narrative (Imaginative)

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