

BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL 2020 SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Teacher Resources

Curated by Southern Cross University

Session Title

Teen Author: From Story Factory to Publication

Vivian Pham in conversation with Cath Keenan



About the author

Vivian Pham is a Vietnamese-Australian author living in Sydney. *The Coconut Children* is her first novel.

Relevant titles:

- *The Coconut Children* (2020)

Curriculum guidelines for teacher resources

Learning Areas: English

General Capabilities: Literacy, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding

Suitable for: Stages 4-6/ Grade 8-12

Activities and resources

The following activities and resources provide a link between the text *The Coconut Children* and the application of related topics such as friendship, romance, community, coming of age, refugees, adversity and intergenerational trauma presented in classroom and educational contexts.

Read and discuss:

- An extract from *The Coconut Children*: <https://www.penguin.com.au/books/the-coconut-children-9780143793830/extracts/2217-the-coconut-children>
- Q&A with Vivian Pham: <https://www.booktopia.com.au/blog/2020/03/04/read-a-qa-with-vivian-pham-author-of-the-coconut-children/>
- Sydney Morning Herald interview with Vivian Pham: <https://www.smh.com.au/culture/books/inspired-by-her-father-s-escape-teenage-debut-novelist-vivian-pham-is-set-to-become-a-voice-of-her-generation-20191230-p53nm3.html>
- The Guardian article on *The Coconut Children*: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/feb/29/vivian-pham-on-western-sydney-fan-fiction-and-the-coconut-children-i-hope-its-universal>
- Explore the Story Factory website: <https://www.storyfactory.org.au/>

Watch:

- SBS documentary: The History of Vietnamese Refugees to Australia: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hkUKXerM38>

Listen:

- FBi Radio *Race Matters* podcast: episode 50 with Vivian Pham: https://fbiradio.com/podcast/racematters/?hf_page=2

Note for teachers: If you encounter problems accessing the links, make sure you are logged into the G Suite app on the DoE portal before opening them. You may have to restart your computer for this action to be effective. At the time of publication the third party links contained in these resources have been checked for suitability, however we advise teachers to review the content independently. These resources are intended to be used as a guide only.