



2022  
**BYRON  
WRITERS  
FESTIVAL**

**Digital Schools Program**

**Teacher Resources**

Curated by Southern Cross University

## EMILY BITTO



### About the author

**Emily Bitto** is an award-winning writer of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. She has a Masters in Literary Studies and a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Melbourne. Her debut novel, *The Strays*, was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript, and the published novel went on to win the 2015 Stella Prize. Her second novel, *Wild Abandon*, was published in October 2021 by Allen and Unwin. It is currently longlisted for the 2022 ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year award and shortlisted for the 2022 ALS Gold Medal. Emily has been teaching creative writing for over a decade, and is currently a teacher and course advisor at the Faber Writing Academy.

**In this session**, Emily discusses the craft of writing with Sunil Badami. Emily talks about how she became a writer, and offers tips for getting started, battling self-doubt and finding your writing style and voice.

### Relevant titles

- *The Strays* (2015)
- *Wild Abandon* (2021) – note, this text has adult themes

### Curriculum guidelines for teacher resources

#### Learning Area(s)

English (Language, Literature and Literacy)

#### General Capabilities

Literacy, Critical and Creative Thinking

## Key Learning Outcomes:

**English (language devices and figurative language):** ACELT1623, ACELT1767, ACELT1630, ACELT1637, ACELT1772, ACELT1643, ACELT1774

**English (Creating Literary Texts):** ACELT1625, ACELT1632, ACELT1773, ACELT1814

## Suitable for

Stages 4-6 /Years 7-12

## Activities and resources

The aim of these resources are to provide a link between the texts and actual application of related issues/topics presented to the classroom. The following activities and resources provide a link between topics such as **writing techniques, storytelling, writing style and voice** for classroom and educational contexts.

### Read:

- *Writers on Writing* interview with Emily Bitto (2021): <https://writingnsw.org.au/focusing-on-the-sentence-level-of-writing-with-emily-bitto/>
- *Writers on Writing* interview with Emily Bitto (2018): <https://writingnsw.org.au/emily-bitto-on-writing-the-perfect-sentence/>

### Do:

- In-class writing exercises: <https://writingcenter.unc.edu/faculty-resources/tips-on-teaching-writing/in-class-writing-exercises/>

### Listen:

- The Garret *Writers on Writing* podcast with Emily Bitto (2021): <https://thegarretpodcast.com/at-home-with-emily-bitto/>

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.