SYNOPSIS
The Prince travels the world looking for the perfect bride. He looks everywhere until he finally returns home with no wife. Then one day there is a knock at the palace door: Could this be his princess?

THEMES
The Princess and the Pea is all about not judging someone just by his or her appearance.

WRITING STYLE
The Princess and the Pea was written by Hans Christian Andersen, and first published in 1835. In this retelling of a classic fairy tale Alex Field has simplified the original story for a younger audience with a focus on action and dialogue.

ILLUSTRATOR STYLE
Helene Magisson’s has used a colour palette of green and orange, both warm colours. The green throughout the book is indicative of the importance of the pea in the story. The clothes are from the time when the story was written rather than modern day. There are hints to the past when parents would sew clothes for their children.
AUTHOR BACKGROUND
Alex has written numerous articles for print and online media. She has written five picture books including the Mr Darcy series. The first three books in the Happily Ever After series will be released this year.

ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND
Helene is a French-Australian illustrator who was awarded first prize in the illustration category of the 2013 CYA conference. The Princess and the Pea is Helene’s second published book.

STUDY NOTES
1. Discuss the sequence of events in this story and explain how thinking about sequence as you read helps to understand the story.
2. Look at the structure of fairy tales by using familiar plots and characters. Students can create their own short stories using these devices. Work collaboratively in groups.
3. Which countries listed in the book have princesses today? Write down the names of three princesses in the world today. Which countries do they come from?
4. What does it mean to judge a book by its cover? Discuss if this is a theme in the book and write a paragraph on a time you didn’t judge a book by its cover.
The Princess and the Pea Count the Mattresses

Can you count how many mattresses and quilts are on the bed?

Name: .............................................    Number of mattresses and quilts: .................................

from The Princess and the Pea illustrated by Helene Magisson, published by New Frontier Publishing
www.newfrontier.com.au
The Princess and the Pea Word Search

Can you find all the words?

Name: ............................................................................................    Class: ...............................................
Solution

S + + + + I + + + + + + S P + + + + + +
S + + + + + T + + + + S + A + + + + + +
E + + + + + + T + P E + + L + + + + + +
C + + + + + + + E R R + + A + + + T + +
N M + + + + + + T H + I + C + + + + E +
I + R + + + + T + + G + N E + + + + + A
R + + O G + A + + + + + A + C + + + + + +
P + + N T M + + + + + + P + E + + + + + +
+ + I + + S + + + + + + S + + + + + +
+ K + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
L O N D O N + + + + + + + + + + + + I + +
P E A + + + + + + + + + + + + + + T + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + A + + + +
N + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + L + + + + + +
E + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + Y + + + + + +
E + + + + + + + + + + + + A + + + + + + + + +
U + + + + + + + + + + + + R + + + + + + + + +
Q + + + + + + + + + + + T + + + + S I R A P

(Over, Down, Direction)

ART(11,18,S)
ITALY(18,13,SW)
KING(2,10,NE)
LONDON(1,13,E)
MATTRESS(6,8,NE)
PALACE(14,1,S)
PARIS(20,20,W)
PEA(1,14,E)
PRINCE(10,3,SE)
PRINCESS(1,8,N)
QUEEN(1,20,N)
SPAGHETTI(14,9,NW)
STORM(6,9,NW)
TEA(18,4,SE)

www.newfrontier.com.au
Colour the Princess and the Peas

Name: ............................................................................................    Class: ..............................................................................

from The Princess and the Pea illustrated by Helene Magisson, published by New Frontier Publishing
www.newfrontier.com.au