

Beneath the Surface
(Hachette Livre Australia)
Crew, Gary

Research Background

Beneath the Surface is based on research into the newly emergent genre of the post modern picture book (Anstey & Bull. See below) coupled with 20th Century trends in Science Fiction as evidenced in Peter Nicholls' *The Science in Science Fiction*. (Michael Joseph, London 1982) and Frederick Ordway's *Blueprint For Space: Science Fiction to Science Fact*. (Allen & Unwin. Sydney. 1992). In particular, *Beneath the Surface* raises issues of conspiracy theories relative to contamination of the Earth's water supplies by either alien invasion or by the Earth's own peoples, possibly as an act of war.

Research Contribution

Beneath the Surface is the sequel to the 1996 Children's Book Council of Australia Award winner *The Watertower* (1996) by the same creators. *Beneath the Surface* is a further innovation demonstrating the possibilities of the post modern illustrated book (specifically cited for its innovation in Dr Michelle Anstey, & Dr Geoffrey Bull in 'The Post modern Picture Book' in *Reading the Visual*, Harcourt NSW. 2000).

Research Significance

Beneath the Surface was Short-Listed for the Patricia Wrightson Prize in the NSW Premier's Awards. 2005.

Beneath the Surface won the *Aurealis* Speculative Fiction Award for Shorter Fiction in 2004.