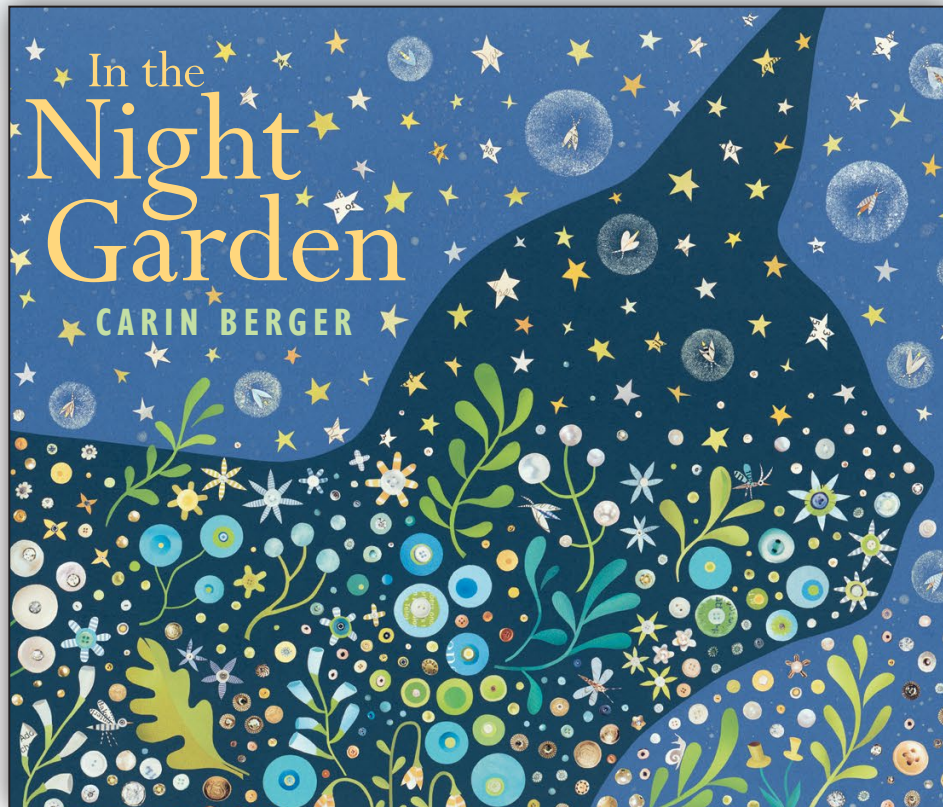


# HOLIDAY HOUSE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



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## *In the Night Garden* by Carin Berger

- ★ “A magical nighttime world. . . .  
Spellbinding.” —*The Horn Book*
- ★ “Perfect amalgamation of  
soothing text and image.”  
—*Kirkus Reviews*
- ★ “Elegant, dazzling, and serene.”  
—*Publishers Weekly*
- ★ “Readers will want to return to  
this beautiful picture book over  
and over again.”  
—*School Library Journal*
- ★ “In tandem, the text and art  
endow nighttime with a sense of  
whimsy and wonder.” —*Booklist*
- ★ “Sweet, gentle bedtime story.”  
—*BookPage*

## ABOUT THE BOOK

A gentle, collage-illustrated bedtime read about the often mysterious and always beautiful experiences to be found in nighttime spaces.

In the night garden, nothing is as it seems and everything is made new. Blinking stars and pale moonlight might reveal a lone cat tiptoeing across a roof, luminous flowers unfurling in the cool air, a mama fox escorting her sleepy cubs home. Listen closely and you might hear the wind blowing through the trees, the murmur of a slow stream, or the gentle song of crickets and bullfrogs, lulling you to sleep.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- The setting of a book is when and where it takes place. Identify the setting of this book. How does the cover art reflect the night setting?
- Identify the large shape in the cover art. Explain how a cat is an appropriate animal for a night garden.
- Follow the cat throughout the book. How does the direction the cat is walking draw the reader to the next page? Point out the pages where the cat is resting.
- Note the page with the flying bats. How does the artist create the flight path of the bats? Note the different moons in the book. Compare the new moon and the harvest moon.
- The illustrations are created in collage. What is a collage? Identify the various items used to create the artwork. How do you think the circle or bubble around the fireflies was created? Discuss how the artist illustrates wind.
- Discuss how the book calls upon the senses of touch, smell, sight, and hearing. What words in the text reference sight, hearing, and smell? Explain how the collage technique creates texture.
- Study the girl's room at the end of the book. Discuss the pictures on the wall. What do you see through the window? How many things in the girl's room did you see earlier in the book? Explain how the last double-page spread brings the book to a conclusion. How is this a bedtime story?

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Carin Berger** is the award-winning author and illustrator of almost a dozen picture books for children. She and her family divide their time between NYC and Cupcake, their home in the Hudson Valley. Carin spends all her spare time tending her garden. Cupcake makes an appearance in and was the inspiration for *In the Night Garden*.