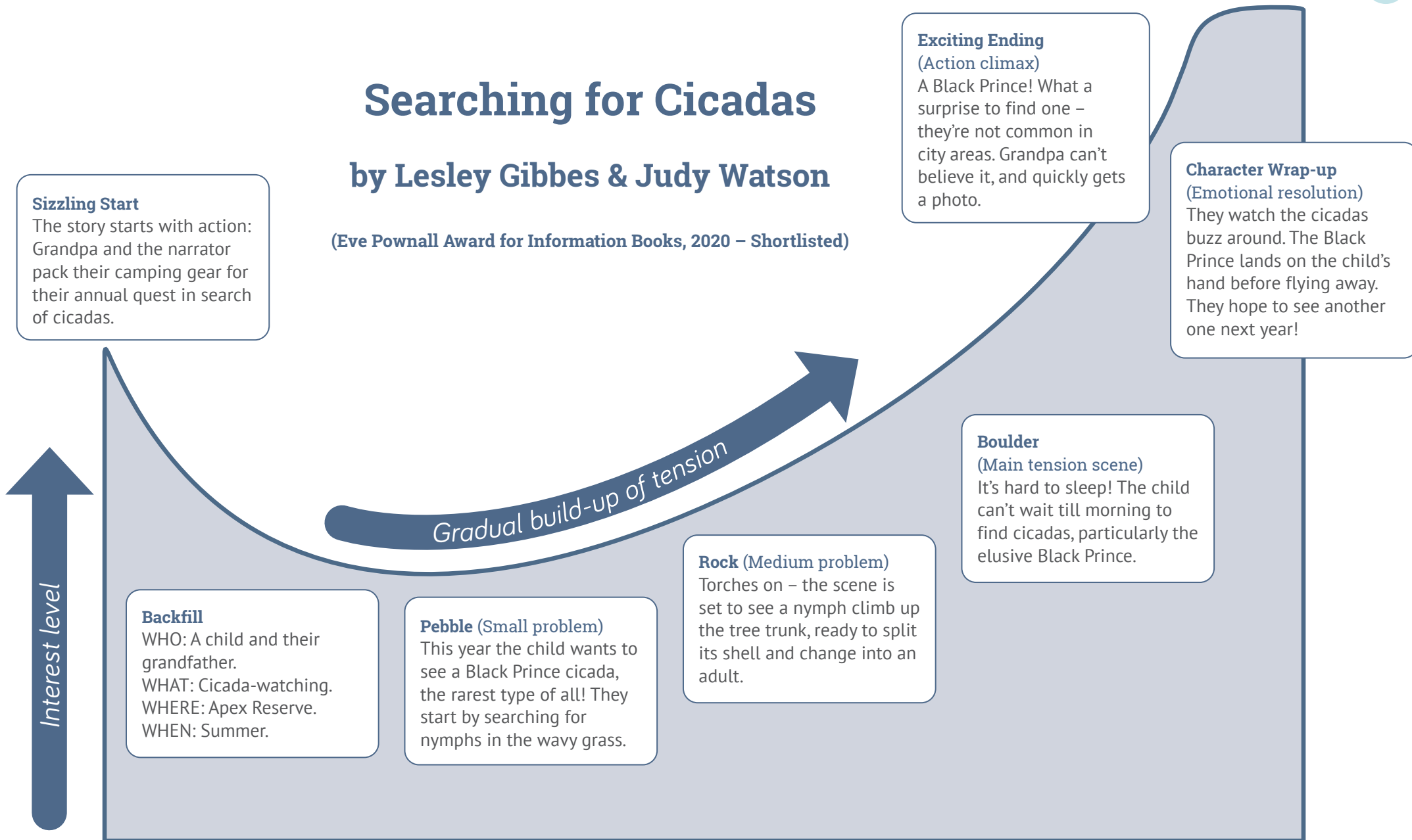


Searching for Cicadas

by Lesley Gibbes & Judy Watson

(Eve Pownall Award for Information Books, 2020 – Shortlisted)



Sizzling Start

The story starts with action: Grandpa and the narrator pack their camping gear for their annual quest in search of cicadas.

Backfill

WHO: A child and their grandfather.
WHAT: Cicada-watching.
WHERE: Apex Reserve.
WHEN: Summer.

Pebble (Small problem)

This year the child wants to see a Black Prince cicada, the rarest type of all! They start by searching for nymphs in the wavy grass.

Rock (Medium problem)

Torches on – the scene is set to see a nymph climb up the tree trunk, ready to split its shell and change into an adult.

Boulder

(Main tension scene)
It's hard to sleep! The child can't wait till morning to find cicadas, particularly the elusive Black Prince.

Exciting Ending

(Action climax)
A Black Prince! What a surprise to find one – they're not common in city areas. Grandpa can't believe it, and quickly gets a photo.

Character Wrap-up

(Emotional resolution)
They watch the cicadas buzz around. The Black Prince lands on the child's hand before flying away. They hope to see another one next year!