

'... they seemed so different at first, the poet and the scientist: the former concerned with words, sentences, paragraphs; the latter with numbers, equations, graphs. In discussion, however, similarities emerged. Both have family commitments. Both aim for universal insight, observe the particular, use precision, focus on detail. Their work, never complete, explores relationships using analogy and metaphor to gain deeper understanding. They tell stories communicating unfamiliar concepts to the wider community. Progress is slow and incremental, like combing matted hair.'

'... use of sparse language means each word in these poems carries great weight. Readers and listeners must engage experience of their world and linguistic knowledge, filling in gaps to create understanding. Care in vocabulary choice ensures understanding is achieved. Such is the daily experience of children with reduced hearing and their communication partners. The opportunity to work together has been enriching. I feel privileged to have been a part of this project'.

Sarah Worsfold

II

Language of Touch

Corneas hear.
Sun powder on
voiceless currents.
Constrict. Dilate

A ribcage hears.
Sudden autumn
leaves, trace circles.
Contract. Expand.

Pores hear bloom on
the harbour wall.
Breathes tides to vessels inside
Inhale. Exhale.

Snow speaks static.
Crescendoes on
shafts, lashes, skin.
Floating. Flying.

Twilight speaks, steps
grass stippled blue,
wet between toes.
Rising. Falling.