

# DAYCARE

## DISASTERS

My mother runs a daycare,  
She's so wonderful with kids.  
And every day, when I get home,  
She tells me what they did.

"Scott put play dough in his ears,  
Then ate a huge mud pie.  
Mitch smeared lunch all down the walls,  
Then rubbed some in his eye!

Cassie took some scissors,  
Then cut off her teddy's ears.  
And when they wouldn't go back on,  
She collapsed in floods of tears!

Jill wrecked Kelly's artwork,  
Holly washed her hands with glue.  
Nathan poured his glass of milk  
Into Jemima's shoe!

Bob bit Harry on the hand,  
Ali kicked her toe.  
Julie cried for hours and hours,  
What for? I'll never know!"

My mother runs a daycare,  
And she says it's really cool.  
But secretly, I'm quite relieved,  
That I can go to school!

Stephanie Mulrooney



# Classifying Vertebrates

Does it give birth to live young?

Yes

**Mammal**



No

Does it have feathers?

Yes

**Bird**



No

Does it have gills?

Yes

**Fish**



No

Does it lay eggs in water?

Yes

**Amphipian**



No

**Reptile**



# MAX'S ONE-MAN BAND

Max let the wind slam the front door shut behind him as he carelessly dropped his schoolbag in the hallway. Like a flash of lightning, he shot up the stairs to his bedroom. It had been a disastrous day at school! Max only got three out of ten in his spelling test and had felt totally confused in maths. He had tripped and fallen flat on his face during sport. To make it worse, the caterpillar he had captured for his science investigation had escaped.

Max was a kid just like you. Every morning, he got out of bed, did all the things a schoolkid needs to do to get ready, and trudged to school. Max tried his best every day, but he was starting to think he was not good at anything. He wasn't a fast runner or a good speller. What's more, he found most subjects difficult or boring.

When people asked Max what he liked to do, he stared at the ground, searching for an answer. The only activities he really enjoyed were making things and making music. But what use was that?

Still, after his disastrous day, the first thing Max had done was race home to continue planning, designing and building his very own one-man band.

It had all started when Mrs McCreedy asked the class to design a musical instrument. Since then, Max had collected old instruments, wire, string and cardboard boxes. Finally, his creation was complete.



Max heaved the large bass drum (made from a cardboard box) onto his back. He adjusted the wires so that his harmonica was just below his mouth, and he picked up his guitar. Max was ready to take his one-man band for a test run. There was just one thing left to do...

"Mum, could you please help me attach these balloons?" he asked.

Max took his first step. The drum beater, connected to the foot pedal, beat the drum loudly! Max took a slow, deep breath. He blew softly into his harmonica. Next, he strummed his guitar. Before long, all parts of the one-man band were working together in perfect harmony.

Max's one-man band filled the streets with cheerful music. The neighbours whistled and clapped as he passed by. His bright balloons swayed in the breeze, and Max felt like a superhero.

The next day at school, all the kids had heard about Max's one-man band. Mrs McCreeley gave Max a certificate for being a curious and creative learner.

From that time on, when anyone asked Max what he enjoyed doing, he replied confidently, "I like making things and making music."





# SPIDERWEB PLATES

## AIM

To make a spider and their web using paper plates and wool. This activity helps you to work on your fine motor skills.

## MATERIALS

- 1 x disposable paper plate
- 1 x hole punch
- Wool
- Black paint
- Black paper
- 2 x googly eyes
- 8 x pipe cleaners cut to 2 to 3 cm lengths
- Craft glue
- Hot glue gun with glue (to be used with adult supervision)



## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Take the piece of black paper and cut a circle with an approximately 5 cm diameter to make the 'spider body'.
2. For the legs, take the pipe cleaners and hot glue them onto your spider body. Bend them slightly to give them joints.
3. Craft glue the googly eyes onto the top of your spider's body.
4. Cut the inside of the paper plate so that only the outside edge is left as a 'frame'.
5. Paint the frame black and leave it to dry.
6. Once dry, hole punch the frame in at least five evenly spaced places.
7. Thread the wool through one of the holes in the frame and tie it off. Thread the rest of the wool through the other holes, weaving them across the middle. Make them cross in different directions to resemble a web.
8. Hot glue the spider to the wool in the middle of the 'web'.
9. Use some more wool to hang your woven 'spiderweb'.

Are you feeling tired? Are you wishing there was another way to get around?  
There is another way!



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INTRODUCING

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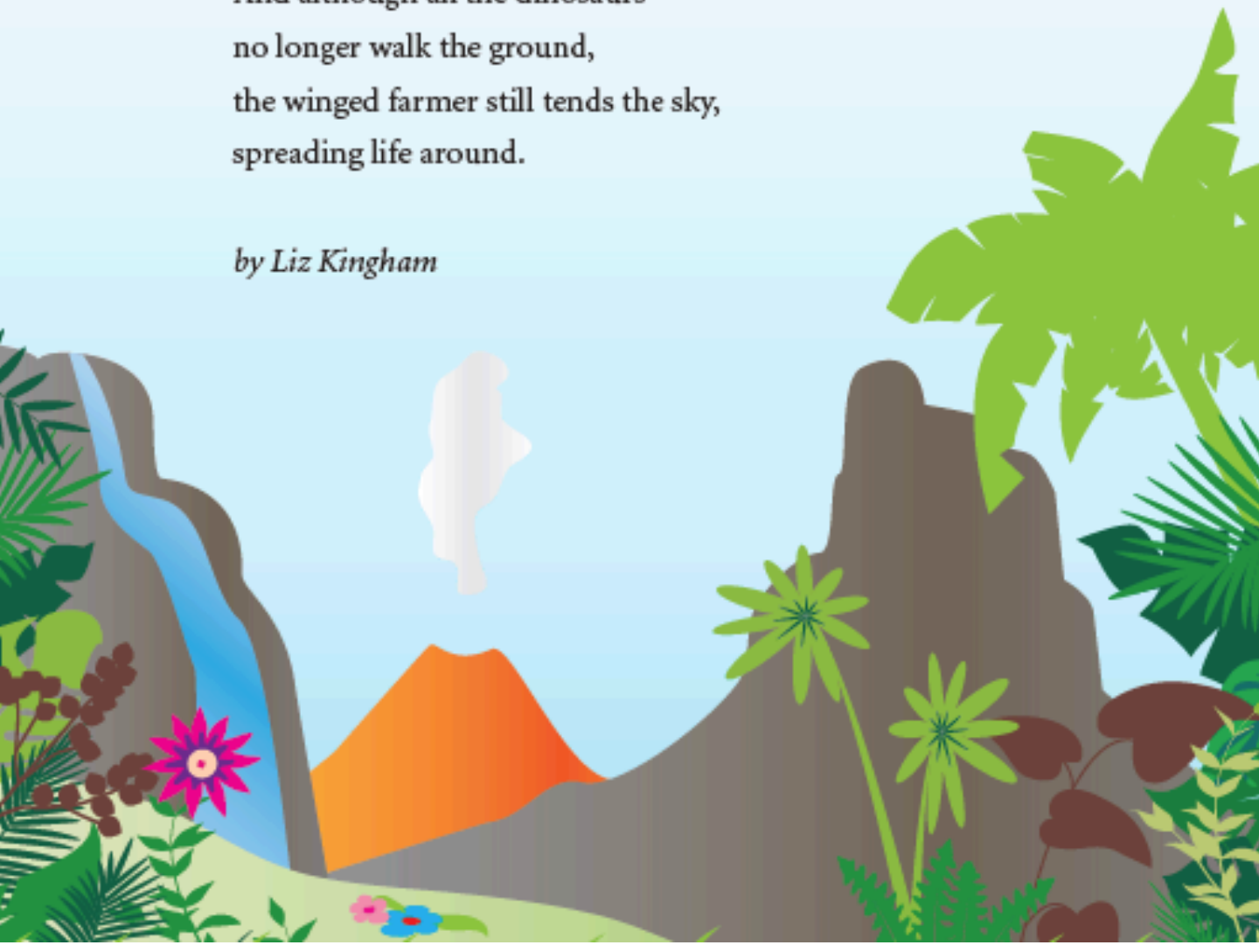
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We do not take responsibilities for any injuries caused by the Hovering Hoverboard. No training on how to use this product is offered. Fictional product only.

# Prehistoric butterfly

When T-Rex sniffed a flower,  
did he notice the small thing  
that fluttered by with pollened feet  
and splendid coloured wings?  
Did he know that this small creature  
was helping spread the seed,  
growing plants, for growing beasts,  
allowing them to feed?  
And although all the dinosaurs  
no longer walk the ground,  
the winged farmer still tends the sky,  
spreading life around.

*by Liz Kingham*





# RECESS RULES: True Friends





Winston,  
are you ok?



I guess  
so...



You know, I've been wondering why you're Friends with Maggie and Kenji... I heard them making fun of your lunch before. And now they're laughing at you tripping over.



Well I haven't got any other Friends...



But you're a kind person. You deserve better than that.

A good Friend doesn't do things to you that make you feel bad about yourself. And they help you when you need it.



You love to play soccer. My Friends and I often kick the ball around at lunchtime. Maybe you could join us tomorrow?

OK.  
Cool! Thanks Leila.

# Welcome to... AUSTRALIA!

From the beach to the bush, Australia is a country of contrasts. Come and explore the sights and delights of this Great Southern Land!

## Australia's Fast Facts

**Official Name:** Commonwealth of Australia

**Government:** Parliamentary constitutional monarchy

**Continent:** Australia

**Capital City:** Canberra

**Largest City:** Sydney

**Population:** Approximately 25 million

**Language:** English

**Currency:** Australian dollar



## A Multicultural Mix

Australia is a multicultural society. This means that it is home to people from many cultures around the world. In fact, one in four Australian residents was born outside of Australia! Some of the most popular countries of birth (besides Australia) include England, New Zealand and China.

## Location and Size of Australia

Australia is a continent located in the southern hemisphere. It is surrounded by ocean. The mainland of Australia covers an area of approximately 7.7 million square kilometres. It is almost as large as the United States of America, and about 32 times larger than Great Britain!

## Indigenous People and Culture

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the traditional custodians of the land of Australia. They live in harmony with the land, taking only what they need to survive. They have a deep knowledge of native plants and animals and have used this knowledge to sustain their populations for thousands of years. Before the arrival of the British in 1788, there were over 500 'nations' (cultural groups) around the continent. Each has their own way of life, including their own languages.

## Climate and Vegetation

Due to its size, Australia has a varied climate. The north of the country experiences a tropical (warm) climate. Some of Australia's largest rainforests, such as the Daintree Rainforest, can be found in the country's north. The south of the country experiences a temperate (cool) climate. Many native eucalyptus forests can be found in these regions. The large area in the centre of the country experiences an arid (hot and dry) climate. Apart from Antarctica, Australia is the driest continent on Earth. About 35% of the continent is considered to be desert!

## Famous Fauna

Due to its isolation, Australia is home to many animals that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Some of these include the kangaroo, the koala, the emu, the platypus and the echidna.



Chris Chapman/Shutterstock.com

## Natural Treasures

Australia is home to many natural wonders. Some of these include:

- The Great Barrier Reef
- The Blue Mountains
- Kakadu National Park
- The Daintree Rainforest
- The Simpson Desert
- The Pinnacles
- Uluru

## Fun in the Sun

Australia's warm climate means that Australians have plenty of time to spend outdoors. Bushwalking, swimming, cricket and tennis are very popular sports in Australia. They even have their own version of football, called Australian Rules Football.

## Did You Know?

Fraser Island (off the coast of Queensland) is the largest sand island in the world. It is known as K'gari to the traditional Indigenous owners, which means 'paradise'.

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Earth Watch

## THE PROBLEM WITH LITTER

Has a teacher ever asked you to pick up litter at school? Do they do this to annoy you? Do they do it so the area will look neat and tidy? Believe it or not, it is very important that people put their garbage in the right place. If they don't, litter creates a bigger problem than someone being annoyed or making a space look messy.

Litter is any rubbish or trash left in an open place. It is an issue because it stops materials being recycled, pollutes the environment, and spreads germs and diseases.

Littering is a waste of natural resources. Many of the items left lying on the ground could be recycled or reused in some way. If these items are not disposed of properly, brand-new items must be made to replace them. This means that more natural materials must be processed to make new items. These resources will eventually run out! It is also more expensive to make new items than to recycle or reuse old ones. Putting litter in the bin helps people save money and conserve resources.

Items that are left lying around ruin the natural environment.



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Garbage that washes into the sea can entangle marine animals.



Litter attracts pest animals, such as mice, flies and cockroaches.

Litter is a major cause of pollution. Abandoned rubbish eventually blows or washes into gutters and drains. It then ends up in a waterway such as a creek, stream, river or ocean, where it makes the water dirty or polluted. Animals and plants that live in the water then become sick. Sometimes, animals might even die when they get trapped in litter in the water. People and animals should not swim in or drink dirty water. Making sure rubbish goes in the right place helps keep the water clean for people, plants and animals.

Littering can spread germs and diseases that make people sick. Trash that is left outside will become dirty over time. Animals like mice, rats, flies and cockroaches are attracted to litter because it often contains food or looks like food. These creatures carry germs and diseases that may be harmful to people. When they rummage through litter, pest animals leave their germs and droppings behind, increasing the risk of disease.

Litter can cause resources to run out, can pollute water, and can spread illnesses. It is a huge problem! Fortunately, it is a problem we can fix. The whole planet will be a cleaner, healthier place if everyone puts their rubbish in the bin!



Putting trash in the right bin helps us save resources and care for our planet.

## An interview with Andy Griffiths



Andy Griffiths is well known as a writer of children's books. Here are some interesting things you might not know about him!

### **What do you like to do besides write?**

I go for long runs and bike rides beside the beach. An hour of exercise after a long day of writing helps me recharge. Then I'm ready to write some more.

### **Do you write using a computer or by hand?**

I write the first drafts of stories by hand, and then I transfer my drafts onto a computer. I like to write by hand when I travel. I find it very easy to lose myself in my journal when I am away from my usual distractions.

### **What super power would you like to have?**

X-ray vision as long as I could turn it off sometimes.

### **What is your favourite food?**

I'm never happier than when I'm drinking banana and blueberry milkshakes. And I love fish. But I don't like drinking fish milkshakes — they are just disgusting!

### **What is your favourite book?**

*Alice in Wonderland*. It has so many surprises and such silliness in it.

### **Do you write for adults too?**

Only if I really have to. I much prefer the freedom and fun of writing for children.

### **What do you say to kids who say, "Why should I read?"**

I quote the words of Dr Seuss: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

I've found this to be true in my own life.

ANDY GRIFFITHS

- 1) Q. How do all the oceans say hello to each other? They wave!
- 2) Q. What did one wall say to the other wall? I'll meet you at the corner!
- 3) Q. What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear!
- 4) Q. What do you call cheese that isn't yours? Nacho cheese!
- 5) Q. Where do cows go for entertainment? The moo-vies!
- 6) Q. Knock Knock. Who's there? Cows go. Cows go who? No, cows go MOO!
- 7) Q. What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground beef!
- 8) Q. What do you call a cow with two legs? Lean meat!
- 9) Q. What do you call a pig that knows karate? A pork chop!
- 10) Q. Why are ghosts bad liars? Because you can see right through them!
- 11) Q. What animal needs to wear a wig? A bald eagle!
- 12) Q. What do you call a fly without wings? A walk!
- 13) Q. Knock knock. Who's there? A little old lady. A little old lady who? I didn't know you could yodel!
- 14) Q. Why do bees have sticky hair? Because they use honey combs!
- 15) Q. What do you call an alligator in a vest? An investigator!
- 16) Q. Why can't you give Elsa a balloon? Because she will let it go!
- 17) Q. What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frost bite!
- 18) Q. What has four wheels and flies? A garbage truck!

